

Name: _____
English 12

Date: _____
Period 1

THE LANGUAGE OF LITERATURE: BRITISH LITERATURE

UNIT ONE: THE ANGLO-SAXON AND MEDIEVAL PERIODS: 449-1485

- 1.1.12.D:** Demonstrate comprehension / understanding before reading, during reading, and after reading on a variety of grade level texts to support understanding of a variety of literary works from different cultures and literary movements.
- 1.2.12.A:** Evaluate and critique text organization and content to determine the author's purpose and effectiveness according to the theses, accuracy, thoroughness, logic, and reasoning
- 1.3.12.C:** Analyze the effectiveness of literary elements used by authors in various genres.

The Anglo-Saxon Period: Historical Context

Key Ideas: Britain's early years were dominated by successive waves of invaders. Among them were the Anglo-Saxons – a people who gave us the first masterpieces of English literature.

Centuries of Invasion (19-20)

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Early Britain

Centuries of Invasion
Anglo-Saxons

Vikings

The Norman Conquest (20)



Cultural Influences

Key Ideas: Early Anglo-Saxon literature reflected a fatalistic worldview, while later works were influenced by rapidly spreading Christianity.

The Spread of Christianity (21)

Literature of the Time (22)	A Changing Language (23)
Key Ideas: Anglo-Saxon literature often focused on great heroes such as Beowulf, though sometimes it addressed everyday concerns.	
The Epic Tradition	A Different Language
	The Growth of English
Reflection on Common Life (23)	

BACKGROUND ON BEOWULF

 IMPORTANT CHARACTERS	 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

LITERARY DEVICES



ALLITERATION

A large, empty rounded rectangular box for writing a definition or example of alliteration.



CAESURA

A large, empty rounded rectangular box for writing a definition or example of a caesura.



BLOOD FEUD

A large, empty rounded rectangular box for writing a definition or example of a blood feud.



WEREGOLD

A large, empty rounded rectangular box for writing a definition or example of weregold.