

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

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| <p>1. <i>An evil person, spirit, or monster</i> is called _____.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ a fiend Ⓑ a rebel Ⓒ a warrior Ⓓ an earl <p>2. When Beowulf learns that King Hrothgar's men have been attacked by Grendel, he _____.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ waits to see if someone else will go to help the king Ⓑ is fearful of Grendel and is nervous but decides to help the king Ⓒ orders his men to go ahead and see if they can defeat Grendel first Ⓓ does not hesitate to leave his land and help the king | <p>3. Spoils are _____.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ things that are given as a gift for an act of bravery Ⓑ things that are taken by force or stolen Ⓒ things that are special and must be kept locked up Ⓓ things that are given by a king <p>4. What is Beowulf's main problem when fighting Grendel's mother?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ She has powers and casts a spell on him. Ⓑ His sword is useless against her. Ⓒ He cannot see in the darkness of her hall. Ⓓ She has other monsters with her to fight Beowulf. |
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5. What conclusions can you draw about Beowulf's character on the basis of his actions in the story?
 - Ⓐ He fights monsters only for fame and treasure.
 - Ⓑ He is worried only about protecting his own men.
 - Ⓒ He is brave and wants to use his strength for good.
 - Ⓓ He admires men who are stronger than himself.
6. Which word is a synonym for **perish**?
 - Ⓐ rule
 - Ⓑ fight
 - Ⓒ die
 - Ⓓ study
7. Which detail from the story shows that Beowulf's men care for him?
 - Ⓐ They celebrate when Grendel's mother is defeated.
 - Ⓑ They build a strong boat to sail to help the king.
 - Ⓒ All but one of his men run from the dragon.
 - Ⓓ They stay at the pool's edge even when King Hrothgar's men leave.
8. On the basis of the story, what can you tell about King Hrothgar?
 - Ⓐ He is well-liked and good to his men.
 - Ⓑ He is lazy and does not want to fight Grendel alone.
 - Ⓒ He cares only about himself.
 - Ⓓ He is not very brave and will not fight in battle.

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9. Which of the following events happens first?

- Ⓐ King Hrothgar's closest friend is killed.
- Ⓑ Beowulf wrestles with Grendel in the golden hall.
- Ⓒ Beowulf kills the dragon that has been attacking his people.
- Ⓓ Beowulf plunges into the pool to find Grendel's mother.

10. Why does King Hrothgar call for Beowulf after Grendel's mother attacks his men?

- Ⓐ The king does not want to put himself or his men at risk.
- Ⓑ Beowulf is the only man strong enough to defeat Grendel's mother.
- Ⓒ The king wants Beowulf to set a trap for Grendel's mother.
- Ⓓ The king wants Beowulf to train his men so they can defeat her.

11. **Extended Response:** Why does Beowulf order his men to wait for him on the mountainside while he faces the dragon alone?

12. **Extended Response:** Who is Wiglaf, and why is he important in the story?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Beowulf

Main Comprehension Skill: Analyze Character

1. Ⓐ Vocabulary
2. Ⓓ Sequence Events
3. Ⓑ Vocabulary
4. Ⓑ Problem and Solution
5. Ⓒ Analyze Character
6. Ⓒ Vocabulary
7. Ⓓ Main Idea and Details
8. Ⓐ Analyze Character
9. Ⓑ Sequence Events
10. Ⓑ Cause and Effect
11. Students' responses will vary but should include the idea that Beowulf feels it would be shameful to fight the dragon with a large group of men since, in his youth, he was able to slay Grendel and Grendel's mother alone.
12. Students may note the following:
*Wiglaf is one of Beowulf's men.
He is the only man who stood with Beowulf in the face of the dragon.
Wiglaf was crucial in the slaying of the dragon, which might not have been killed otherwise.*