

Name _____

Beowulf the Epic Hero Answer Key

(Sample Responses)

| Trait | Example from <i>Beowulf</i> | Significance in Anglo-Saxon Culture |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Bravery | Beowulf fights Grendel with his bare hands. | Courage in battle was the highest honor for a warrior. |
| Strength | He rips off Grendel's arm in combat. | Physical might symbolized a hero's ability to protect the community. |
| Loyalty | He aids Hrothgar out of respect for past alliances. | Loyalty (comitatus) was central to warrior-lord relationships. |
| Sense of Duty | He chooses to fight the dragon even in old age. | Heroes were expected to protect their people, even at great cost. |
| Pursuit of Glory | He seeks fame and treasures to be remembered. | Lasting reputation was seen as the only form of immortality. |