

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Beowulf Across Myths Answer Key

(Sample Responses)

| Comparison                       | Similarities   | Differences  | Cultural Value Revealed  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Beowulf &amp; Hercules</b>    | Both possess superhuman strength and defeat monsters.                      | Hercules atones for sins; Beowulf seeks glory and loyalty.                       | Shows Anglo-Saxon focus on fame and service over atonement.                      |
| <b>Beowulf &amp; Thor</b>        | Both fight monstrous beings (Thor vs. giants, Beowulf vs. Grendel/Dragon). | Thor is a god; Beowulf is a mortal hero.   | Anglo-Saxons valued human bravery even more than divine power.                   |
| <b>Beowulf &amp; Gilgamesh</b>   | Both confront mortality and seek lasting fame.                             | Gilgamesh fears death; Beowulf accepts wyrd (fate).                              | Emphasizes Anglo-Saxon acceptance of fate over resistance.                       |
| <b>Beowulf &amp; King Arthur</b> | Both lead men and embody heroic ideals.                                    | Arthur relies on chivalry and justice; Beowulf on physical strength and loyalty. | Reveals warrior-based values versus later medieval ideals of honor and morality. |