

Values of the Danes and Geats Answer Key

(Sample Responses)

1. Beowulf fights Grendel without weapons to prove his courage and fairness, reflecting the Anglo-Saxon value of bravery in combat and the idea of honorable battle.
2. The loyalty between Beowulf and his men shows comitatus, the code that bound warriors to support their lord in battle, highlighting trust and duty as key values.
3. Beowulf's acceptance of wyrd reveals that the Anglo-Saxons believed destiny was inevitable and that true heroism lay in meeting fate with honor.
4. Treasure and gift-giving symbolized honor and bonds of loyalty; Anglo-Saxon kings were expected to share wealth to show generosity and secure loyalty.
5. Beowulf's great burial mound reflects the importance of legacy and remembrance, as Anglo-Saxons believed lasting fame was the only form of immortality.