

# Summer Reading Assignment

## 12<sup>th</sup> Grade British Literature

### Read the following works:

- ***Beowulf*, Author Unknown, translated by Burton Raffel**

\* Purchase the "Signet Classics" version ISBN: 978-0451530967

- [Beowulf \(Signet Classics\): Raffel, Burton, Frank, Roberta: 9780451530967: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/Beowulf-Signet-Classics-Raffel-Burton-Frank-Roberta-9780451530967/dp/0451530967)

- ***Grendel*, by John Gardner**

\*See separate document

All assignments must be submitted in TEAMS under British Literature by September 2, 2022. You can begin working on these assignments now. You will be able to submit assignments in TEAMS during the first week in August. If you are new to the school or have trouble with TEAMS, you may email your summer work to Mrs. Nelson at [bnelson@timothychristian.org](mailto:bnelson@timothychristian.org). You may also email her if you have any questions about the assignment.

**Directions:** Read *Beowulf* and *Grendel* and complete the assignments. All work will be graded.

**Assignment 1:** Annotate *Beowulf* by completing at least 20 Double Entry Journal responses. \*See supplemental document with directions for how to write a Double Entry Journal.

**Assignment 2:** Annotate *Grendel* by completing at least 5 Double Entry Journal responses. \*See supplemental document with directions for how to write a Double Entry Journal.

**Assignment 3:** Define the following literary terms, using Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary:

- Epic
- Epic Hero
- Tragic Flaw
- Point of View including:
  - First Person
  - Second Person
  - Third Person
    - Limited
    - Omniscient

**Assignment 4:** In a well-developed essay of 700-900 words, analyze the differing points of view in each version of Grendel's tale. Reflect and evaluate how the point of view reflects the audience's interpretation of the events. Consider both the nature of an epic poem and the effectiveness of the differing points of view.

You must have at least one direct quote per paragraph in your paper from either primary document. No secondary sources are required, however, *if* you use a secondary source, it **must** be reliable (no

SparkNotes, Wikis, or any encyclopedias), cited properly and the entry must be on your works cited page. MLA format (including a Works Cited Page) is required.

## **Tips on Writing a Point of View Essay**

- *Analyzing Point of View*
  - You should read the narrative pieces and take notes on the writer's use of point of view in each piece. A writer uses a particular point of view to tell different perspectives of a story. As a result, it is important to pay close attention to the effect that the narrative's point of view has on various aspects of the story and on the story as a whole.
- *Writing a Thesis Statement and an Introduction*
  - Your introduction should provide a hook, brief background on your paper, transition into your topic and main points that will be argued/discussed in your paper, and finally your thesis statement.
  - The analysis of the narrative's point of view should be written in one succinct thesis statement which is customarily found at the end of your essay's introduction paragraph. The thesis statement should relay the main argument about the author's use of point of view and the effect it has on certain aspects of the narrative. Since you will be reading two pieces, you will also be comparing the use of point of view in both and determine how it changes the story because of the differing perspectives. An example thesis statement might touch on how a first-person perspective is too limiting, and as a result you might conclude that this style of narration causes a level of untrustworthiness, tension, or anxiety in the reader.
- *Writing your Body Paragraphs*
  - Once you have analyzed the narrative's point of view and developed your thesis, the rest of your essay should expand from there. Your body paragraphs should support your thesis statement by providing evidence from the novel to illustrate how (using the previous example of a thesis statement) the first-person perspective demonstrates unreliability and subjectivity. You might proceed to analyze the perspectives of both pieces, and then compare or contrast the overall effect of each perspective on the story.
- *Writing your Conclusion*
  - Your conclusion should restate a reworded version of your thesis statement. Your conclusion should also consist of a summary of the main points previously argued in your paper. Finally you might conclude with a statement about which perspective is more reliable or useful—some analytical piece that you leave with the reader.