

Beowulf

Anglo-Saxon (tr. Francis B. Gummere)

How does the poem make the fight feel decided by character before it is decided by strength?

TOTAL TIME	TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION
30 minutes	Lines 711-851 - Grendel enters Heorot and meets Beowulf

TEACHER SETUP

Open the work in the Enhanced Reader and cue the span using the START and END anchors below.

START	Then from the moorland, by misty crags, with God's wrath laden, Grendel came.
END	Grendel's grasp--under the vaulted roof.
PASSAGE ID	sec-beowulf-711-851-01

THE MOVE

Analyze how epic contrast establishes moral and heroic stakes inside an action sequence.

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Grendel enters expecting helpless victims; Beowulf waits deliberately. The physical encounter matters because the poem has already contrasted appetite, fearlessness, and chosen restraint.

MARK

Underline Grendel's expectations. Circle details showing Beowulf's preparation or control. Box the moment Grendel realizes the encounter is different.

NOTICE

- What does Grendel expect when he enters?
- How does Beowulf's stillness function as action?
- When does the balance of power change psychologically?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does the poem make the fight feel decided by character before it is decided by strength? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response. Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.

STRONG ANSWER

The fight is framed as a collision between predatory certainty and disciplined courage. Beowulf's control reverses Grendel's expectations before the physical outcome is complete.

EVIDENCE

Use one detail of Grendel's expectation and one showing Beowulf's control.

WATCH FOR

Do not summarize the fight blow by blow. Explain how contrast shapes its meaning.

SOLO

Read independently.

SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 12 · LESSON 345

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WORK	Beowulf
TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION	Lines 711-851 - Grendel enters Heorot and meets Beowulf

Your teacher will open or cue the work in the Enhanced Reader. Use the location and verbatim anchors below to confirm the assigned span.

START

Then from the moorland, by misty crags, with God's wrath laden, Grendel came.

END

Grendel's grasp--under the vaulted roof.

READ / LISTEN TO THE ASSIGNED PASSAGE SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration and highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the assigned passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. **MARK** Underline Grendel's expectations. Circle details showing Beowulf's preparation or control. Box the moment Grendel realizes the encounter is different.
2. **NOTICE** What does Grendel expect when he enters? How does Beowulf's stillness function as action? When does the balance of power change psychologically?
3. **THINK** Answer provisionally: How does the poem make the fight feel decided by character before it is decided by strength?
4. **WRITE** Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.
5. **CLOSE** Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.