**Name:**

**“Beowulf” Study Guide**

**Exam date: Tuesday, November 1, 2016**

**Resources you can use:**

1. The notes you take during the presentations **(if you’re goofing off during other people’s presentations you lose the 5-point curve on your test)**
2. Any notes you take from my summaries on the homework website *(I will post a summary of each story on sossenglish.weebly.com in a clickable document titled “Beowulf Summaries”)*
3. This study guide sheet *(it will be posted on the homework website in case you lose it)*

**YOU WILL NOT GET TO USE THE BOOK ON TESTING DAY!**

**What to take notes on during presentations:**

1. Highlights/significant action and setting of each story
2. Character traits
3. General understanding of how their story helped make the entire poem an epic

**Types of questions that will be on your exam: (multiple choice, matching, short response)**

1. **Plot (setting, action, character goals and circumstance)**
2. **Character development (Beowulf, Grendel, Grendel’s mother, the dragon)**
3. **Understanding vocabulary words as they are used in the quote provided**
4. **Categorizing examples provided with the epic characteristic they best fit**
5. **Understanding the 3 battles within the epic**
6. **Which characters are Geats, which characters are Danes, and which are neither**

**Background information on the text:**

Setting: 6th century Scandinavia

Originally told in Old English

Who ruled the Danes?

Hrothgar ruled the Danes.

The Danes were suffering Grendel’s attacks and word of mouth caused Beowulf and 14 other Geats to go help.

Who ruled the Geats?

Higlac is king of the Geats.

Beowulf was a Geat.

What is Beowulf doing?

Embarking upon a journey to help the Danish King Hrothgar and his army as they fight the monster Grendel.

Who is Grendel?

A swampland creature that has been terrorizing Hrothgar’s mead hall (named Herot) for 12 years.

How many battles are in this epic and what are they?

3 (Grendel, Grendel’s Mother, and the Dragon)

What is the national significance of this piece?

It pays homage to the Geats and uses Anglo-Saxon bravery and loyalty as primary traits. Christianity (which later impacted the once Pagan Anglo-Saxons) is also used to show the impact of life, legacy, and afterlife.