

Composition Examination on *Grendel*

Directions: Using your own paper, answer in complete sentences. Restate the question as part of your own answer.

1. Quote the various phrases Grendel uses to describe himself. What do they reveal about his self-image and how it was developed?
2. How does Grendel's first meeting with men affect him? Why does he fear them more than he fears the bull?
3. As a detached observer, what does Grendel learn about Hrothgar and his theories? What shocks Grendel about man's behavior to other men and to nature?
4. Why does Hrothgar build Heorot, the Hall of the Hart?
5. From the dragon's point of view what is man? What is man's mind?
6. According to Unferth, what is heroism? What is poetry?
7. How is Wealtheow like the Shaper's song? How is she different?
8. What threats surround Hrothgar after Hrothulf's arrival? How is Hrothulf like a scorpion?
9. What is Grendel's opinion of religion?
- 10.. Explain the saying "Tedium is the worst pain."
11. In what ways are Beowulf and Grendel alike?
12. How does the last chapter echo lines, events, characters, and images from early chapters?
13. Pick one of the following statements made by the dragon and explain it in your own words:
 - a. "Knowledge is not cause."
 - b. "Connectedness is the essence of everything."