

Grendel Objective Quiz

1. Grendel lives
 - (A) in a forest.
 - (B) beneath a swamp.
 - (C) in a cliffwall.
 - (D) in the depths of a river.
2. Grendel shares his home with
 - (A) his brother.
 - (B) a band of marauding monsters.
 - (C) a gray wolf.
 - (D) his mother.
3. Grendel raids the human settlement
 - (A) every spring.
 - (B) only when extremely hungry.
 - (C) in revenge for the day Unferth dim wittedly attacked a young Grendel.
 - (D) at the dragon's request.
4. The opening to Grendel's home is guarded by
 - (A) two towering statues.
 - (B) a thick line of deadly thorn bushes.
 - (C) a school of firesnakes.
 - (D) a roaming pack of wolves.
5. Grendel's mother
 - (A) has never spoken.
 - (B) admonishes Grendel for his senseless brutality.
 - (C) regrets saving Grendel from the thanes.
 - (D) spends most of her days roaming in the forests.
6. Hrothgar comes to power because
 - (A) his incredible physical strength intimidates his neighbors.
 - (B) his wife's beauty earns him many friends.
 - (C) he was supported by the dragon in his early campaigns.
 - (D) he understands that to grow he must make allies of his neighbors.
7. The dragon collects gold because
 - (A) he finds that covering his belly with jewelry makes him nearly invulnerable.
 - (B) it is a completely meaningless thing to do.
 - (C) he hates men and wishes to impoverish them.
 - (D) his natural insecurity makes him immensely greedy.
8. Grendel's war with Hrothgar lasts
 - (A) seven seasons.
 - (B) just over twelve years.
 - (C) through a long and bitter winter.
 - (D) most of Grendel's life.
9. The Shaper is
 - (A) a gifted goldsmith.
 - (B) the most powerful of the gods worshipped by the thanes.
 - (C) a prophet who declares himself holy among men.
 - (D) a harper of unusual ability.
10. Grendel is never harmed by the thanes because
 - (A) the dragon has placed a charm upon him, rendering him invincible to human weapons.
 - (B) his incredible speed allows him to kill dozens of men before any can raise a defense.
 - (C) the men believe Grendel was sent by the gods.
 - (D) his body is covered in thick, tough fur that protects against most blades.
11. When Grendel first refuses to kill Unferth, Unferth
 - (A) follows Grendel to the mere and demands an honorable death.
 - (B) leaves the kingdom in shame.
 - (C) asks the other men to use him as a shield.
 - (D) attempts to stab Grendel in the left eye.

- 12.** Grendel hates Wealtheow because
- (A) she is a source of comfort to the hated Hrothgar.
 - (B) her beauty serves as a constant reminder of the spiritual hideousness of mankind.
 - (C) she is blatantly unfaithful and, in Grendel's eyes, a fraud.
 - (D) she mocked his monstrosity in their first encounter.
- 13.** Hrothulf seeks power by earning the support of
- (A) the warrior class.
 - (B) peasants.
 - (C) leaders of neighboring tribes.
 - (D) Grendel.
- 14.** According to the Shaper, Grendel
- (A) is a god and should not be harmed.
 - (B) is a member of the cursed race of Cain .
 - (C) kills men as a sacrifice to devilish forces.
 - (D) will die at the hand of a terrible stranger.
- 15.** Wealtheow cannot sleep at night because
- (A) the sexual demands of Hrothgar disgust her.
 - (B) she is terribly unhappy and misses her home.
 - (C) she is worried that Grendel will attempt to kill her.
 - (D) the constant attention of the watchful guards disturbs her.
- 16.** Red Horse believes
- (A) that Prince Hrothulf's ideals make him perfect for the throne.
 - (B) in the absolute truth of human religion.
 - (C) only in himself and his family.
 - (D) that no social system can long subsist without corruption.
- 17.** Grendel never completely wipes out Hrothgar's kingdom because
- (A) the humans have learned to hide well.
 - (B) he does not want to eliminate his only source of amusement.
 - (C) the core of Hrothgar's army always holds out.
 - (D) thousands of people flock to Hrothgar's aid.
- 18.** In his encounter with the old priest, Grendel
- (A) pretends to be a great god.
 - (B) nearly forsakes his brutal lifestyle.
 - (C) kills an acolyte for sport.
 - (D) undergoes a spectacular change.
- 19.** In his final words, the Shaper
- (A) assures Grendel that he does not have long to live.
 - (B) foretells the return of prosperity.
 - (C) advises Hrothgar to let Wealtheow return to her home.
 - (D) openly declares his love for the wife of another man.
- 20.** Beowulf arrives
- (A) in secrecy, disguised as a peasant.
 - (B) alone, mounted upon a massive steed.
 - (C) by sea, leading an army of thousands.
 - (D) without ceremony, flanked by fourteen powerful warriors.
- 21.** Beowulf describes his incredible feats of strength
- (A) in order to win the respect of Hrothgar's men.
 - (B) casually, without pretense or embellishment.
 - (C) somewhat reluctantly, obviously upset that they haven't preceded him.
 - (D) in a private conversation with Unferth.
- 22.** When he approaches the meadhall on the night of Beowulf's arrival, Grendel finds the Geats
- (A) apparently asleep.
 - (B) alert and ready for battle.
 - (C) quarreling among themselves.
 - (D) praying silently together.
- 23.** In battle, Grendel finds that Beowulf
- (A) is no match for him in strength but makes up for it in sheer cunning.
 - (B) relies heavily upon intimidation to weaken his opponents,.
 - (C) is incredibly strong and merciless.
 - (D) is too concerned with appearances to be truly effective.

- 24.** As his death approaches, Grendel
- (A) stubbornly maintains that his defeat was an accident .
 - (B) weeps for the creature he should have become.
 - (C) attempts to enlist the beasts of the forest to his aid.
 - (D) bitterly concedes victory to the dragon.
- 25.** Grendel believes his mother must be part human because she
- (A) feels guilty of some ancient crime.
 - (B) sometimes consorts with humans in a nearby village.
 - (C) was once beautiful in a human way.
 - (D) dreams strange dreams.
- 26.** Hrothgar's thanes believe Grendel's raids are
- (A) punishment for some unknown sin.
 - (B) tests of their valor.
 - (C) prophecies of an afterlife.
 - (D) dangerous only in the springtime.
- 27.** As a child, Grendel is trapped
- (A) by crafty men.
 - (B) between the trunks of two oak trees.
 - (C) in a vicious trap set to catch wild boar
 - (D) underwater for days.
- 28.** When men see Grendel for the first time, they believe he is
- (A) a spirit.
 - (B) a monster.
 - (C) an angel.
 - (D) dead.
- 29.** Grendel learns human history by
- (A) looking at the pictures woven into the tapestries.
 - (B) listening to songs of battles.
 - (C) forcing exiles from human settlements to explain it to him.
 - (D) talking with the dragon.
- 30.** The gift the Shaper delivers that holds Hrothgar and his thanes in thrall is the gift of the
- (A) gold.
 - (B) his beautiful daughter.
 - (C) language.
 - (D) religion.
- 31.** Grendel lays seige to Hrothgar's meadhall for
- (A) ten yerars.
 - (B) twelve years.
 - (C) fifteen years.
 - (D) twenty years.
- 32.** Grendel strides into Hrothgar's camp carrying
- (A) his mother.
 - (B) a body he has stumbled ober in the forest.
 - (C) a captured wild boar.
 - (D) a corpse he is taking home to eat.
- 33.** Grendel appears in the midst of Hrothgar's celebration
- (A) determined to expose the hypocrisy he sees.
 - (B) looking for a meal.
 - (C) seeking a mate.
 - (D) begging to be accepted.
- 34.** According to the dragon, the Shaper saves humanity by
- (A) making people feel good about themselves.
 - (B) recording its history.
 - (C) providing an illusion of reality.
 - (D) translating their dreams.
- 35.** The dragon jokes that when he is killed, he will be mourned by
- (A) conservationists.
 - (B) treasure hunters.
 - (C) eccentrics.
 - (D) everyone.
- 36.** The dragon pities Grendel for being caged in
- (A) loneliness.
 - (B) violence.
 - (C) a limited mind.
 - (D) hope.
- 37.** The dragon's final advice to Grendel is to
- (A) improve his character.
 - (B) seek out gold.
 - (C) makes amends to Hrothgar.
 - (D) find a mate.

- 38.** The dragon puts a charm on Grendel so that after his visit, Grendel is
(A) immortal.
(B) invulnerable to human weapons.
(C) capable of understanding poetry.
(D) somehow more human.
- 39.** Grendel begins his war with Hrothgar when Grendel realizes
(A) Hrothgar means to attack Grendel's realm.
(B) he will be attacked by Hrothgar whether or not he means any harm.
(C) he cannot conquer his violent rages.
(D) he cannot escape wyrd.
- 40.** Grendel defeats Unferth the first time with
(A) his fearsome claws.
(B) apples.
(C) splintered furniture in the meadhall.
(D) human weapons.
- 41.** Grendel torments Unferth by
(A) torturing him.
(B) haunting his dreams.
(C) sparing his life.
(D) singing.
- 42.** Hrothulf is Hrothgar's
(A) brother.
(B) son.
(C) uncle.
(D) nephew.
- 43.** Hrothgar intends to buy Ingeld's fealty with
(A) many sacks of gold.
(B) gifts of land.
(C) Hrothgar's daughter Freawaru.
(D) a sacred oath.
- 44.** In his old age, Hrothgar realizes
(A) he will never defeat Grendel.
(B) the partial attainment of his youthful goals have become traps.
(C) material wealth is meaningless.
(D) his whole life was misdirected.
- 45.** Grendel tells himself that he continues to hound Hrothgar because he
(A) believes he is responsible for Hrothgar's nobility.
(B) hates Hrothgar.
(C) desires Hrothgar's wife.
(D) he does not know what else to do.
- 46.** During the long winter, Grendel suffers the most from
(A) hunger.
(B) nightmares.
(C) boredom.
(D) loneliness.
- 47.** Representatives of the geats arrive on an errand to
(A) pay tribute to Hrothgar.
(B) beg Hrothgar for military reinforcements.
(C) give Hrothgar advice on how to get rid of Grendel.
(D) arrange a state marriage.
- 48.** Grendel believes his place in the universe is
(A) a hole.
(B) the mere.
(C) a dark corner.
(D) nowhere.
- 49.** As Grendel is dying, he screams for
(A) the Shaper.
(B) his mother.
(C) Hrothgar.
(D) the dragon.
- 50.** As he dies, Grendel is surrounded by
(A) Geats.
(B) Hrothgar's thanes.
(C) animals of the forest.
(D) firesnakes.

Matching: Some answers may be used more than once. Some may not be used at all.

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|---------------------|------------|---------------------|
| A. The bull | F. Shaper | K. Red Horse |
| B. Wealtheow | G. Ork | L. Grendel's Mother |
| C. Hygmod | H. Unferth | M. Hrothulf |
| D. Grendel's Shadow | I. Grendel | N. Beowulf |
| E. Hrothgar | J. Men | O. The ram |

- _____ 51. Stretches his blinding white wings and breathes fire.
_____ 52. Anger's child
_____ 53. Political theorist and revolutionary
_____ 54. Put on the Shaper's idea of hero like a merry mask
_____ 55. A thinking animal stripped naked of former illusions
_____ 56. Grendel's only friend and comfort
_____ 57. Character who never speaks
_____ 58. Pattern-makers
_____ 59. Chief of the priests
_____ 60. Had the manners of a half-tamed wolf
_____ 61. His power overran the world
_____ 62. Had the voice of a dead thing
_____ 63. The harvest virgin
_____ 64. His body was a disguise for something infinitely more terrible.
_____ 65. Kept a bear on a chain
_____ 66. Adviser to Hrothulf
_____ 67. Fought Grendel by instinct, a blind mechanism ages old
_____ 68. Provides an illusion of reality
_____ 69. Had eyes slanted downwards like a snake.
_____ 70. Holy servant of the common good
_____ 71. Sideways-Walker
_____ 72. Warns Grendel to "Beware the Fish"
_____ 73. Young king who challenges Hrothgar's rule
_____ 74. Signals the coming of Spring
_____ 75. Priest with whom Grendel has a conversation.

Quote Identification: On the lines provided, identify the speaker of the following lines.

- _____ 76. "You want the word... That's what you've come for."
_____ 77. "Now sing of walls! Sing!"
_____ 78. "I'm a machine, like you. Like all of you."
_____ 79. "I've never seen a live hero before. I thought they were only in poetry."
_____ 80. "I had a chance. I knew I had no more than that. It's all a hero asks for."
_____ 81. "I know all the mysteries... I am the only man living who has thought them all out."
_____ 82. "Dool-dool."
_____ 83. "Tedium is the worst pain."
_____ 84. "Pick an apocalypse. Any apocalypse."
_____ 85. "Beware the fish."

Extra Credit: Answer in the space provided.

The “two great dark realities” are _____ and _____.

What does it mean to see the dragon?