**Grendel – Summer Reading Exam**

**Part I – Matching. Do not draw lines.**

1. Unferth  
   A. Hrothulf’s Political Counselor

2. The Shaper  
   B. Can see into the future

3. Hrothgar  
   C. Priest with whom Grendel has a conversation

4. Red Horse  
   D. Sister of Hygmod and wife of Hrothgar

5. Hrothulf  
   E. The archetypical ‘bad guy;’ the protagonist

6. Dragon  
   AB. Thane who travels to Grendel’s home

7. Wealtheow  
   AC. Blind poet who provides an illusion of reality

8. Ork  
   AD. Nephew of the king, considers a revolution

9. The Stranger (Beowulf)  
   AE. The only one to successfully battle Grendel

10. Grendel  
    BC. He unites his warring neighbors and builds roads

**Part II – Multiple Choice. Choose the best answer.**

11. How many years does Grendel’s battle with the humans last?  
    A. Eternally  
    B. Twelve  
    C. Twenty  
    D. Thirty

12. Who or what is Hart?  
    A. The Shaper’s real name  
    B. Hrothgar’s meadhall  
    C. Hrothgar’s sword  
    D. The name of the cave Grendel lives in

13. What type of animal is Grendel observing at the very beginning of the novel?  
    A. A goat  
    B. A ram  
    C. A dragon  
    D. A bull

14. “It is a matter of fact that I have never killed _________ in all my life, and never will,” admits Grendel.  
    A. A woman  
    B. A cow  
    C. A deer  
    D. A bear

15. What instrument does the Shaper play?  
    A. The guitar  
    B. The harp  
    C. The flute  
    D. The oboe
16. Where do Grendel and his mother live?
   A. In an underground cave
   B. On a mountaintop
   C. In a tree trunk
   D. In a lake of snakes

17. Grendel believes that his mother must be part human because…
   A. She was once beautiful in a human way
   B. She sometimes trades with humans in other villages
   C. She feels guilty of an ancient human crime
   D. She appears human, but is larger and has more hair

18. What do the humans think Grendel is when they find him stuck in a tree?
   A. A bear
   B. A tree spirit
   C. A Keebler Elf
   D. An ape

19. What is the dragon’s final piece of advice for Grendel?
   A. Read more literature
   B. Heed the shaper’s words
   C. Find gold and sit on it
   D. Meditate to overcome anger

20. Grendel learns human history by…
   A. Looking at the pictures woven into the tapestries
   B. Listening to songs about battles
   C. Forcing his captors to explain it to him
   D. He knows it by intuition

21. Who, according to The Shaper, is Grendel’s ancestor?
   A. Scyld Shefing
   B. Cain
   C. Abel
   D. The Dragon

22. The gift the shaper delivers that holds Hrothgar and his Thanes in thrall is…
   A. Gold
   B. His daughter
   C. Language
   D. Religion

23. What objects does Grendel throw at Unferth when they battle?
   A. Knives
   B. Rocks
   C. Apples
   D. Wooden God Figures
24. How does Hrothgar become married to Wealtheow?
   A. Grendel brings her to him
   B. Unferth brings her to him
   C. She is a peace offering from a rival king
   D. He took her after pillaging her village

25. Who is the only person who seems happy about Ork’s vision of The Destroyer?
   A. Wealthow
   B. Hrothgar
   C. Beowulf
   D. The Fourth Priest

26. What animal continues to climb up the cliff, even after Grendel pelts it with stones?
   A. A Dragon
   B. A Deer
   C. A Bull
   D. A Ram

27. Who is Breca?
   A. Wealthow’s hunter husband before Hrothgar comes for her
   B. The Shaper’s assistant
   C. The priest who prays for a destroyer
   D. Beowulf’s childhood friend, who challenges him to a swimming contest

28. Which of these does Grendel compare to wolves when he says “no wolf was so vicious to other wolves?”
   A. His own race of monsters
   B. Wolverines
   C. Humans
   D. Dragons

29. Grendel begins his war with Hrothgar when he 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. That Hrothgar is loved by all, which upsets Grendel the outcast

30. Where does Grendel find himself at the very end of the novel?
   A. At the end of the same cliff as Chapter 1
   B. In his mother’s cave
   C. At the meadhall
   D. At the tree that trapped him as a child

31. What does Beowulf force Grendel to do during their battle?
   A. Bow down to Hrothgar
   B. Say a prayer
   C. Apologize to the Danes
   D. Make up a song about walls
32. Who plots to overthrow Hrothgar in a revolution?
   A. Frewaru
   B. Hrothulf
   C. Beowulf
   D. Unferth

33. The orphan son of his dead brother, Hrothgar raises him even though he’s a danger to his own children’s succession.
   A. Hygmod
   B. Ingeld
   C. Hrothulf
   D. Unferth

34. During the long winter, Grendel suffers the most from what?
   A. Hunger
   B. Nightmares
   C. Boredom
   D. Ceaseless rage

35. Grendel discovers that he can’t be hurt by the Danes because of…
   A. A charm put on him by the Dragon
   B. A lucky emerald that he finds
   C. His mother’s spell
   D. His immortality

36. Hrothulf becomes friends with a peasant who teaches him that all government is…
   A. Necessary to prevent turmoil
   B. To be overthrown so the people can rule
   C. Inherently evil
   D. For the good of the people governed

37. The story is told from whose point-of-view?
   A. Beowulf
   B. The Shaper
   C. A 3rd Person Narrator
   D. Grendel

38. Representatives of the Geats arrive on an errand to do what?
   A. Pay tribute to Hrothgar
   B. Beg Hrothgar for military reinforcements
   C. Give Hrothgar advice on how to get rid of Grendel
   D. Band together and get Dragon’s gold.

39. How, in Grendel’s eyes, does Beowulf manage to best him?
   A. God helps Beowulf
   B. The dragon gives Beowulf a charm
   C. He tricks him unfairly
   D. Beowulf was the better person
Part III – Line Identification. *Identify the speaker of the following lines.*

40. “You improve them, my boy! Can’t you see that yourself? You stimulate them! You make them think and scheme. You drive them to poetry, science, religion, all that makes them what they are as long as they last.”
   A. Grendel's mom  
   B. The Shaper  
   C. Ork  
   D. The Dragon

41. “You make the world by whispers, second by second. Are you blind to that? Whether you make it a grave or a garden of roses is not the point. Feel the wall: is it not hard? Hard, yes! Observe the hardness, write it down in careful runes, Now sing of walls!”
   A. Wealtheow  
   B. The Dragon  
   C. Beowulf  
   D. The Shaper

42. “The King of Gods is the ultimate limitation…and his existence is the ultimate irrationality…No reason can be given for the nature of God, because that nature is the ground of rationality.”
   A. Hrothgar  
   B. Red Horse  
   C. Ork  
   D. Breca

43. “The total ruin of institutions and morals is itself an act of creation. A religious act. Murder and mayhem are the life and soul of a revolution.”
   A. The Dragon  
   B. The Shaper  
   C. Unferth  
   D. Red Horse

Part IV – True (A)/False (B)

44. Grendel briefly considers suicide.
45. When Grendel is young, his mother tells him stories in their home.
46. Grendel is sometimes moved by the poetry he hears from the meadhall.
47. Grendel slays Wealtheow in the meadhall to spite the Thanes.
48. Grendel attends The Shaper’s funeral.
49. The Danes are pleased the Geats have come to save them from Grendel’s savage attacks.
50. Many philosophies and beliefs systems are symbolically represented in this novel.