

Reading 4 Questions

1. On the cliff note it tells you he was on the Baltic Sea side of Geatland.

2. We find out that Unferth is a kin-killer. Kin-killing is a constant theme in this poem.

Kin-killing is the ultimate sin.

3. It implies that Unferth was too afraid to go and try to kill Grendel. Otherwise, one of them would be dead.

4. He is old and tired. He is probably sick of this monster being around for so long and is leaving the hall to the foreigner because he doesn't know what else to do.

We are supposed to pity Hrothgar. Just like how we wonder why both Grendel and Unferth are alive, we wonder why Grendel and Hrothgar are both alive.

5. They both have some sort of monster they are fighting, and both monsters are lurking in the shadows.

Reading 5 Questions

1. Beowulf's men were useless in the fight because they were using weapons, unlike Beowulf who used his bare hands. Grendel is protected from all weapons.

2. I think it's very interesting how they keep claiming that Hrothgar was "blameless". Also, I believe, because of how much the poet insists the king to be blameless, that he might be someone to blame. The first time we read the phrase "What a good king he was." was at the beginning of the book, referring to Shield Sheafson now the poet is referring to Hrothgar.

3. Its foreshadowing another monster like Grendel. Telling you the fight isn't over yet.

A kin-killing monster will manifest from within the hall to finish what was started.

4. Grendel and Gollum seem extremely similar, both have human-like features, they both lurk in dark places, and both eat people.

The Saxon love riddles and the chapter in the hobbit we just read is all about riddles.

Reading 6 Questions

1. The center of the story is Hildeburh, we are meant to focus on the tragedies and losses that occur in her life.

The poet wants us to focus on the blood-feud and see through the perspective of the woman who lost everything.

2. The poet introduces us to Wealhtheow, who talks about how her family will be kinder to each other after Hrothgar dies.

We know Heorot will be destroyed by treachery, by placing Unferth in the center of the family group the poet makes sure to emphasize this point.

3. Grendel is where the theme of kin-killing keeps coming up because he is the descendant from Cain. His mother brings the theme of revenge because she is getting revenge for her son's death.

4. In both books they escape one problem just to run into another. There is no end to the monsters and the fighting.