

Kara Barton- 09/29/23

Old English reading 7 Questions:

1. Beowulf feels that you should take revenge. He tells the king to finish the feud. The poet has shown that revenge is costly, for example Grendel's mother avenging Grendel. Maybe the poet thinks that you should be careful taking revenge. *The poet shows that revenge is mostly useless but can also be seen as noble and honorable.*
2. Beowulf's men wouldn't go home if he dies because of their loyalty to Beowulf. They most likely would stay there to finish the last mission by serving Hrothgar. *The men would need to stay with Hrothgar to preserve their honor and not be thought of as cowards since their leader is dead.*
3. The swords in the battle between Grendel and Grendel's mother were useless because of their tough skin. Except for one sword which Beowulf found and used to kill Grendel's mother. Afterwards the sword melted by the heat of the blood, but the hilt of the sword remained intact.
4. The similarities between Tolkien and Beowulf are the character Beorn and Beowulf having the same root name meaning bear.

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Old English reading 8 questions

1. The example of Heremod is meant to illustrate what a bad king would be since he was greedy and turned on his own followers. This ties in with the theme of treasure because it is not shared. Also, you will be left all alone. Hrothgar tells Beowulf to guard against pride. He uses the imagery of a thief coming to steal in the night and destroying things, and this reminds him of Grendel.
2. Similarities with Tolkien have to do with the description of Mirkwood. Mirkwood is a dark and mysterious place, it's the same type of a place Beowulf goes to get Grendel's mother.

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Old English 9 questions

1. The poet is saying that the peace weaver is not always successful, that man is too rotten and will always make trouble. *The poet thinks that when there is a blood feud there is nothing that can fix it and it will likely be avenged.*
2. In Tolkien there is the relationships of Fili and Kili to Thorin. It is the same as the relationship of Beowulf to Hygelac. They are very special family relationships.