

Reading #10 Questions:

1. Beowulf has been king for 50 years when the dragon appears. Beowulf is now an old man, maybe not as strong as he used to be. He is now in the same position that Hrothgar was when Grendel was plaguing his people.
Fifty years is the exact amount of time Hrothgar had been king before Grendel showed up. Hrothgar and Beowulf were in the same position but had different reactions to it.
2. Beowulf is very careful to be a loyal and good person and king. He waited until the rightful heir to the throne was dead before he accepted the throne.
Beowulf took Hrothgar's advice against the pride that leads to treachery.
3. The other times we have heard "A good king that was", it was referring to different kings. It was referring to Shield Sheafings and then Hrothgar.
Beowulf is a contrast to earlier "good kings" who might have been fine kings, but there was irony when they were called "good kings." Beowulf, meanwhile, is a truly "good king."
4. There is a dragon hiding in a mountain with a bunch of treasure.

Reading #11 Questions:

1. He tells his men to stay out of the fighting and knowing he is about to die, he goes in to fight the dragon alone.
He is fighting a serpent. He has twelve men with him.
2. An unnamed thief (Bilbo) steals a golden cup, enraging the dragon, and causing him to go down to the village and destroy it.

Reading #12 Questions:

1. Treasure is given, and valor is expected in return. The treasure is supposed to seal the deal, so his men will be loyal to him.
The king would then acquire more treasure through valor. It is a circle. Treasure for valor, valor for treasure.
2. Beowulf avenged himself. There is no blood feud or need for revenge because both the dragon and Beowulf are dead.
3. The rest of the company will be outcasts for the rest of their lives. No other ring-giver will take them. They abandoned their king in his time of need and they will pay for it.
Beowulf hand-chose them.

4. Bard shows a lot of similarities to Beowulf. They both battled the dragon and won. They are both brave, strong, and wise. They both make (or would make) good kings.

When Bilbo and the dwarves are at the dragon's lair, they all want to send Bilbo in alone. All of them expect Balin, who volunteers to come in with Bilbo. This reminds me of when all of Beowulf's men flee, except for one man.