

## AP Literature and Composition Summer 2021 Assignment

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**Summer Assignment:** The AP Literature and Composition course will be challenging, yet rewarding, and we look forward to being on this adventure with you. This summer we want you to continue to engage in literary rigor as you prepare to enter your final year of high school and advanced placement language arts. You should ideally have your assigned literary works completed **by the first day of class** since we will be writing a timed essay and collecting creative work based on the summer readings during the second week of the grading period. By now, you know well the importance of annotation when studying literature. While studying the required summer reading selections, please take note of plot level questions, vocabulary queries, personal reactions, the author's style, meaningful patterns and repetition, contrasts and shifts in space, time, tone, and perspective, symbolism, connections to other literature, language "gems," etc.

### Required Reading: You Are Required to Read 2 Selections this Summer

1. *Beowulf* [translated] by Seamus Heaney, 2000, **OR** *Beowulf* [translated] by Gareth Hinds, 2007
2. *Grendel* by John Gardner, 1970

### Motifs/Symbols/Thematic Ideas in Required Reading:

It will behoove you to take note of motifs, symbols, and thematic ideas as you read; **there will be reading comprehension assessments over both works** and an in-class timed writing with a focus on the novel *Grendel* within a few weeks after school begins

To get you started:

	Beowulf	Grendel
Motifs	Monsters Oral Tradition The Mead-Hall	Cycle of Seasons Cycles of Zodiac Machinery
Symbols	The Golden Torque The Banquet Hall Monsters	The Bull The Corpse Hart
Thematic Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The Importance of Establishing Identity</li><li>● The Family and Tribe: Unity and Identity</li><li>● Heroic Code: Points of Tension</li><li>● The Warrior versus the King</li><li>● Duality of Evil</li><li>● Treasure: The Desire for Material Wealth</li><li>● The Confrontation of Mortality</li><li>● Repetition and Change</li><li>● Christianity &amp; Paganism</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The Power of Storytelling and Language</li><li>● World as It Is vs World Shaped by Art</li><li>● Pain of Isolation and Alienation</li><li>● The Monster as Human, the Human as Monster</li><li>● Deconstruction of Heroism</li><li>● The Crossroads of Competing Beliefs and Philosophies</li></ul>

