

## Incoming seniors (English IV non AP)

Required: *Beowulf*  
*Grendel*

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Required: Character Analysis Journal Entries

- Identify evidence about the character (word, actions, reactions)
- Use quotation marks around quotes and cite page numbers.
- Based on the evidence, make an inference (your opinion) about the character.
- Write commentary that explains how and/or why the evidence leads to or supports the inference.
- Use journal entries, to be done over the summer, to write a character analysis essay upon return to school.
  - The journal and your inferences become the basis for assertions (thesis statement and topic sentences).
  - The best evidence is integrated into writing for textual support of assertions.
  - The commentary is expanded and developed.

Choose a minimum of ten (20) passages from each text you are reading over the summer that seem to indicate a certain tone or characteristic about Beowulf. Then, do the same for Grendel. You will have a total of 40 entries (20—Beowulf; 20—Grendel).

The student journal example below is based on the first paragraph from “The Scarlet Ibis” by James Hurst—FOLLOW THE JOURNAL ENTRY EXAMPLE BELOW.

<i>Evidence</i>	<i>Inference—Commentary</i>
“His eyes were round with wonder as he gazed about him, and his little hands began to stroke the rubber grass. Then he began to cry” (191).	<u>Sensitive, appreciative</u> —Doodle reacts emotionally to the wonders of nature; moved to tears of joy at the beauty of simple things. He is attuned to nature and in awe of its beauty.
“My lies were scary, involved, and usually pointless, but Doodle’s were twice as crazy. People in his stories all had wings and flew wherever they wanted to go” (193).	<u>Imaginative, dreamer</u> —Doodle’s fantasies reveal his vivid imagination as well as his desire to be able to move freely and easily. Through his imagination he can escape the physical handicaps that hold him down in real life.