

Anglo-Saxon Period / Beowulf

Study Guide

Anglo-Saxon Period

1. The first peoples began to inhabit the Island, when?
2. Roman invasions unsuccessfully began in _____ and were led by _____.
3. The Roman invasion was completed in _____ and was led by _____.
4. The Romans conquered lands as far north as the line known as _____ where they were held back by the Scottish Picts (Northern Celtic warrior tribes).
5. The Roman military presence protected the native Celts from _____.
6. Problems back in Rome called the British stationed Roman forces back in _____ (date).
7. Left behind by the Romans, most significantly, were their systems of _____ & _____.
8. The Germanic invasions began in _____ by the West Germanic tribes, the _____, _____, _____, & _____.
9. The Celtic peoples were driven west to _____ and north to _____.
10. The second Latin influence was brought about by the Christianization of the island beginning in _____ by _____ who was commissioned by Pope _____.
11. One of the major advantages to the monasteries was that they were the centers of _____.
12. The Viking invasions began in _____ (date)
13. The Viking invasions lasted until _____ when King _____ defeated the Viking leader _____ and signed the treaty of _____ establishing _____.

The Anglo-Saxons and the Epic Hero

14. The most honored attributes of an Anglo-Saxon warrior were _____ & _____.
15. The social gathering place and center of Anglo-Saxon communities were called _____.
16. Anglo-Saxon ballads (stories told in song), were performed by _____,
17. The Anglo-Saxon peoples believed in an idea known as _____.
18. What are the characteristics of an Epic?
19. What are the characteristics of an Epic Hero?

Beowulf

20. Who did Grendel descend from?
21. Grendel attacks _____ hall, ruled by King _____.
22. In the first attack, Grendel slays _____ men.
23. How long did Herot stay empty?
24. Why did Beowulf want to go battle Grendel?
25. How many men did Beowulf take with him?
26. How does Beowulf battle the demon?
27. What does Beowulf do to Grendel?
28. What does Beowulf do with his "trophy"?
29. Where does Beowulf find Grendel's mother?
30. Why can't she harm him?
31. What does Beowulf use to battle Grendel's mother?
32. After slaying the mother, what does Beowulf do next?
33. Beowulf later became _____ of the Geats.
34. Why does the dragon attack the Geats?
35. How would Beowulf prefer to battle the dragon?
36. Who was the one Geat to stay behind with Beowulf?
37. As Beowulf lies dying, what does he give to Wiglaf?
38. What is Beowulf's last request?
39. What is done with Beowulf's body?
40. What else is buried with Beowulf's remains?

Essay 20 Pts.

Write an essay discussing how Beowulf (both the story and the character) is representative of Anglo-Saxon life and of the Epic/Epic Hero.