**Anglo Saxon Unit Study Guide**

You are responsible for knowing the story of ***Beowulf*** fully, all of the background information, the connections between *The Last Kingdom* and *Beowulf*, the literary devices and how to identify them in the literature. You will need to know all the important characters, their role in the story, and the values each represents.

Shield Shiefson Cain

Beow Halfdane

King Hrethel Unferth

King Hrothgar Wiglaf

Beowulf Hygelac

Wealhtheow Ecgtheow

Grendel Breca

Grendel’s Mother

Study all of your notes taken in class, the powerpoint on my blog (you have guided notes from class over it), and review your notes over:

“The Wanderer”

“The Conversion of King Edwin”

article over King Alfred

“The Year 1000”

You will be expected to identify literary devices in a poem you have not read before and in selections from *Beowulf.*

Why would scops be regarded as equals to warriors in Anglo Saxon cultures?

What are the four main sources of Anglo-Saxon literature and which one has a known author? You must know everything about each of these sources for the test including what types of literature were found in each one.

1.

2.

3.

4.

What are the 7 characteristics of an epic hero? How do Beowulf and Ragnar both qualify as epic heroes?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

What are some examples from *Beowulf* that let us know it has both Christian and Pagan influences?

Define the following.

* Scop
* Vernacular
* Wergild – “man-price. The gold or restitution owed to someone who has been injured by another. The alternative to payment could be a blood-feud if payment is not accepted by the injured person or, in case of death, the family of the person who was killed.
* Alliteration
* Caesura
* Kenning
* Epithet
* Repetition
* Understatement
* Pagan – anyone who is not a Christian

Explain who Grendel’s ancestors were and how their actions determined his Fate as a lonely, outcast monster.

Give an example of the four characteristics of Anglo-Saxon literature and give an example of each one from **Beowulf** or “The Wanderer”**.**

1. Love of adventure -

2. Awe of natural beauty -

3. Love of word-play -

4. A sense of the importance of honor –

Why is Alfred the only king to receive the title “The Great” and list the reasons why he was so deserving of this title.

Know the difference between Roman England and Anglo-Saxon England.

Explain how a culture’s political structure, religious beliefs, and values influences the literature it produces and give examples.

Explain why the Anglo-Saxon period was known as the “Dark Age.”