Senior Literature

Nicolia

**“Beowulf” Essay**

**Beowulf Rough Draft Outline: 50 points; Final draft: 100 points = 150 points**

Choose one of the following essay prompts. Make sure you formulate a clear thesis about your chosen topic. (Use your Beowulf chart to provide evidence in order to support your claims).

1. Write an essay in which you compare and contrast Beowulf with other epic heroes found in other literature, comics, or movies.
   1. In this essay, you will be arguing what makes Beowulf MORE epic than other epic heroes.
   2. Discuss 3 specific traits (use the trait chart for your evidence)
2. Write an essay in which you analyze Beowulf as an epic hero.
   1. What qualities ***truly*** characterize Beowulf as an epic hero?
   2. What characteristics make us question Beowulf as an epic hero?
      1. This essay is all about proving or disproving Beowulf’s epic hero status
      2. Both good and bad qualities should be discussed in the analysis.
3. Discuss the role of monsters in the poem “Beowulf” and how they reinforce Beowulf as a true epic hero.
   1. How does the monster’s role reinforce the heroic code?
      1. Three monsters (Grendal, Grendal’s Mother, and the Dragon) should be introduced discussed and analyzed.
   2. What might the relationship between the hero and monsters in “Beowulf” say about the relationship between good and evil, between the victorious and defeated, between the glorified and honored, and the cast-outs and ostracized?

This essay should be:

* Organized (include an introduction, at least 3 body paragraphs, and a conclusion)
* Contain evidence (direct evidence from text cited in proper MLA format), and contain plenty of explanation, elaboration, and analysis.

In addition, **MLA is required**---make sure that your header contains your last name & the page number, the essay is double-spaced, and that the first page has the “MLA Header” (Name, Teacher, Class, and Date). Your title should be centered (don’t underline or put in bold).

**Complete the Rough Draft Outline Attached (50 pts.) by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Typing Final Draft (100pts.): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**