

Background

1. What year was *Grendel* published?
2. *Grendel* is an American novel.
3. *Grendel* is a Post-Modern novel.
4. One of *Grendel*'s thematic concerns is the division/definition of _____, _____, and _____.
5. *Grendel* examines the power of _____ and _____.
6. *Grendel* like *Beowulf* gives no sympathy to outsiders and enemies.

Chapter 1

7. Why does Grendel hate the ram?
8. Grendel sometimes describes himself using alliterative kennings.
9. Grendel hates himself for continuing to kill the Danes.
10. Chapter One explains why Grendel hates the Danes.
11. The Danes do not have any religious beliefs about Grendel.
12. How does Grendel describe his mother in Chapter One?

Chapter 2

13. The opening paragraph of Chapter Two is concerned with what theme of the novel?
14. How does Grendel describe his childhood?
15. Grendel has a lot of friends in the forest when he is a child.
16. Why does the Bull attack Grendel?
17. Where is Grendel during the attack?
18. How does Grendel survive the Bull's attack?
19. What is one of the Danes' explanations for Grendel?
20. What is the other explanation?

Chapter 3

21. At the beginning of Chapter Three, Grendel explains that the business in the oak tree is why he hates the Danes.
22. What does Grendel say about humans compared to wolves?
23. Grendel admires the humans' boasting and thinks they are heroic.
24. Who is Shaper?
25. Grendel never sees humans flee from battle.
26. On page 36, Grendel says "I was sickened, if only at the waste of it..." what is "it?"
27. What does Hrothgar discover about war and its benefits to him?
28. What does Grendel say about the new Shaper?

Chapter 4

29. Chapter Four returns the narrative to the "now" of Chapter One.
30. Why doesn't Shaper go to a better mead hall?
31. Why do Shaper's songs make Grendel so angry?
32. According to Grendel, what motivates Shaper?
33. Grendel begins to believe the lies about himself.
34. What sociological term describes the change that goes on in Grendel's mind?
35. Ironically, what linguistic skill does Grendel learn from humans?

36. What does Grendel do at the end of Chapter Four?

Chapter 5

37. Where does Grendel go in Chapter Five?
38. Which word best describes the Dragon?
39. Does the Dragon's wisdom save him from greed?
40. The Dragon is arrogant.
41. Does the Dragon think the humans have reason and logic?
42. What does the Shaper shape?
43. According to the Dragon, what does Grendel give the Danes?
44. What is Dragon's final advice to Grendel?

Chapter 6

45. In Chapter Six, Grendel tries to befriend the Danes.
46. What two things does Grendel envy in the Danes?
47. Grendel quotes the Bible.
48. Grendel gets personal satisfaction from attacking Herot.
49. Who is Unferth?
50. What does Unferth claim he is fighting for?
51. How does Grendel defeat Unferth?
52. Why does he do this?
53. Is Unferth able to understand Grendel's language?
54. Grendel kills Unferth.
55. Why does Unferth come to Grendel's cave?
56. What characterizational purpose does Unferth serve in the novel?

Chapter 7

57. "My enemies define themselves (as the dragon said) _____."
58. What does the quote above mean?
59. How does the point of view change in Chapter Seven?
60. What does the change in point of view illustrate?
61. What transaction is made between Hrothgar and the Young King?
62. How does Grendel feel about Wealthow?

Chapter 8

63. Who is Hrothulf?
64. Why is Hrothulf dangerous?
65. What does Hrothulf's speech about the tree show?
66. Does Hrothulf argue that any violence is privileged over another?
67. What does Hrothulf argue for?
68. "Rewards to people who _____."
69. "Public force is _____."
70. What does Hrothgar think about his wealth and wife?
71. Does Grendel say anything that foreshadows the coming of Beowulf?

Chapter 9

72. Who is Ork?
73. Does Grendel kill him?
74. Who does Grendel tell Ork he is?
75. What do the priests think of Ork?
76. What are the priests concerned with?

Chapter 10

77. "The gods made this world for _____!"
78. Who is sick and dying in Chapter 10?
79. What does this death symbolize?
80. What "lie" is the old woman telling the children?
81. What does the death struggle of the goat show about the goat (as opposed to Unferth)?
82. Gardner uses Grendel's Mother to foreshadow the arrival of Beowulf.

Chapter 11

83. Grendel has a sense of déjà vu when he sees Beowulf.
84. What does the word "tedium" mean in the following quote: "Tedium is the worst pain."
85. The Danes are very happy that Beowulf comes.

Chapter 12

86. What is the last scene of the book?