

Omnibus Writing Assignment

Beowulf -- A Description

due January 21, 2021

I have come into a sum of money and desire to publish the best of scenes from the Anglo Saxon classic *Beowulf*. You have been recommended as having the expertise to undertake this challenge.

In a well-polished short piece between 150 and 200 words in length (no exceptions, please don't ask), describe either a scene of action or a description of place from *Beowulf*.

If you choose to describe **action**, pick out the most striking elements of motion, direction, velocity and force to make that action compelling.

If you choose to describe a **place**, be certain to show point of view, depth, size and be aware of how you're ordering the details (spatially, temporally or in terms of order of impressions).

For either type of description, be sure to use vivid diction, words that convey a mood (likely ominous), and try to include as many senses as are appropriate. Also, in the grand tradition of epic storytelling, I'd like you to include at least two well-chosen similes. Of course, I'm certain that you'll avoid clichés like the plague! At least, give them the cold shoulder.

The unavoidable checklist (to be stapled to/or emailed with your paper):

I used the

_____ a temporal approach **or**

_____ an order of impressions approach **or**

_____ a spatial approach

_____ I have included the elements of place or of action in my description.

_____ I have chosen words that convey a mood.

_____ I have used vivid diction to make the description paint a clear picture.

(more on back)

_____ I have included 2 similes.

_____ My paper is between 150 and 200 words in length

_____ I have read it aloud to check for errors and for smoothness of style.