

## Beowulf and Grendel Comparison

Beowulf and Grendel differ in qualities as well as share similarities, and by comparing the characteristics of both, one can recognize that Grendel is a foil to Beowulf. Grendel is a ruthless monster that is full of hatred. The statement "On the marsh, from the foot of misty Hills and bogs, bearing God's hatred, Grendel came, hoping to kill anyone he could trap on his trip to high Heorot" (Line 233-235) shows how much an insensitive demon Grendel is and reveals his evil motives. On the other hand, Beowulf is a brave, loyal and honourable hero who saves Heorot. Beowulf declares: "I swam in the blackness of night, hunting monsters out of the ocean, and killing them one by one" (Line 155-158). His statement represents his courage and strength. Beowulf's self-assurance and ego enhance his heroic ambitions. Grendel is not welcome to any celebrations that are held in the Heorot and only hears the noise and cheer, which arises his jealousy. Even though Beowulf and Grendel's characteristics vastly differ, they still share a few similar traits. Beowulf and Grendel both depict a bland personality. They both are violent, and neither are ordinary people. Beowulf's noble qualities stand out only because of Grendel. "Beowulf, a prince of the Geats, had killed Grendel, ended the grief, the sorrow, the suffering forced on Hrothgar's helpless people by a bloodthirsty fiend" (Line 352-355). This statement implies that if there were no evil for Beowulf to stop, he would not be able to portray his heroic traits. Grendel is a foil to Beowulf as Beowulf's reputation is prominent by defeating Grendel.