**Literature V4**

**Links**

**Caedmon’s Hymn**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29v\_a**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29v_a)

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVm4m10zCG0**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVm4m10zCG0)

**Sutton Hoo**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=np0pD1wW_Bo>

**Trailer Beowulf**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DaShOr5AeKA

**First lines of Beowulf:**

<https://vimeo.com/40671018> start + start 1.05.25

Benjamin Bagby Fragment page 8 in Old English:

Scop (Old English term): reciter of poetry, attached to court on a relatively permanent basis

**Text fragment 1 in Old English**

ða com of more under misthleoþum

Grendel gongan, godes yrre bær;

mynte se manscaða manna cynnes

sumne besyrwan in sele þam hean.

Wod under wolcnum to þæs þe he winreced,

goldsele gumena, gearwost wisse,

fættum fahne. Ne wæs þæt forma sið

þæt he Hroþgares ham gesohte;

næfre he on aldordagum ær ne siþðan

heardran hæle, healðegnas fand.

Com þa to recede rinc siðian,

dreamum bedæled. Duru sona onarn,

fyrbendum fæst, syþðan he hire folmum æthran;

onbræd þa bealohydig, ða he gebolgen wæs,

recedes muþan. Raþe æfter þon

on fagne flor feond treddode,

eode yrremod; him of eagum stod

ligge gelicost leoht unfæger.

Geseah he in recede rinca manige,

swefan sibbegedriht samod ætgædere,

magorinca heap. þa his mod ahlog;

mynte þæt he gedælde, ærþon dæg cwome,

atol aglæca, anra gehwylces

lif wið lice, þa him alumpen wæs

wistfylle wen. Ne wæs þæt wyrd þa gen

þæt he ma moste manna cynnes

ðicgean ofer þa niht.

**Alliteration, Caesura, and Kennings**

BY [MRSSCALES207](https://mrsscales207.edublogs.org/author/mrsscales207/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20all%20posts%20by%20mrsscales207)[MARCH 17, 2016](https://mrsscales207.edublogs.org/2016/03/17/alliteration-caesura-and-kennings/)[LANGUAGE ARTS](https://mrsscales207.edublogs.org/category/uncategorized/)

Anglo-Saxon Poetry

Three Poetic Devices

The following poetic devices are essential features of Anglo-Saxon poetry:

* **alliteration**
* **caesura**
* **kennings**

**What Is Alliteration?**

Alliteration is the repetition of consonant sounds in words that are close to one another. Alliteration may occur

* at the beginnings of words, as in “bright blue” or “kind comment”
* within words, as in “jacket pocket”

Alliterative Anglo-Saxon

Instead of rhymes, Anglo-Saxon oral poets used alliteration along with carefully placed pauses called **caesura** to add music and rhythm to their poems.

* Lines of Anglo-Saxon verse often are divided into two halves separated by a rhythmic pause, or **caesura.**
* Some lines have three alliterative words—two words in the first half before the caesura and one word in the second half.
* Other lines have only two alliterative words—one in each half.

**Alliteration**

**Examples:**

**W**ent up to Herot, **w**ondering what the **w**arriors (caesura after Herot)

**W**ould do in that hall **w**hen their drinking **w**as done.”

**What Is a Kenning?**

A kenning is a metaphorical phrase or compound word used to name a person, place, thing, or event indirectly.

* Kennings such as *whale-road* and *battle-dew* fill Anglo-Saxon poetry.
* Combining existing words from the relatively small Anglo-Saxon vocabulary helped poets to create alliteration.
* Kennings were memorable, ready-made phrases that bards could reuse and pass on to others.

**Kennings Then and Now**

The Use of Alliteration and Kennings

Anglo-Saxon literature was part of an **oral tradition.**Poems, songs, and stories were passed from one generation to another orally.

Anglo-Saxon poets and storytellers used alliteration and kennings because these devices

* aided memory
* created sound effects
* pleased the audience

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_kennings>

Old English examples of kennings, which are also to be found in ‘Beowulf’

the sea - sail road - seġl-rād

the sea - whale's way - hwæl-weġ

the sun - heaven-candle - heofon-candel

bear – bee wolf - Beowulf

Modern Examples of Kennings

Ankle-biter = a very young child.

Bean counter = a CPA or accountant.

Bookworm = someone who reads a lot.

Brown noser = person who does anything to gain approval.

Fender bender = slight car accident.

First Lady - wife of the president.

Four-eyes = someone who wears glasses.

Head twister = owl.

**Aanvullende vragen ‘Beowulf’**

**Vergeet niet te kijken naar de vragen in het katern op blz. 10!**

1. Bespreek de setting (waar en wanneer) van ‘Beowulf’.

2. Wat is een zgn. ‘scop’?

3. Voor welk publiek is ‘Beowulf’ bedoeld?

4. Welke thema’s vind je in ‘Beowulf’. Bespreek deze.

5. In het tweede fragment spreekt Wiglaf de strijders die Beowulf in de steek hebben gelaten toe. Je zou kunnen zeggen dat het publiek dat naar de ‘scop’ die het verhaal vertelt als het ware een spiegel wordt voorgehouden. Naast het vertellen van een spannend verhaal, welk ander doel zou het verhaal over Beowulf kunnen hebben? (Denk aan datgene wat je hebt geleerd over de Angelsaksische cultuur.)

6. Uit het fragment waarin Wiglaf de strijders (‘warriors’, ‘retainers’) toespreekt blijkt ook duidelijk dat Beowulf een goede koning was. Waaruit blijkt dat?

7. Waaraan hebben de strijders van Beowulf zich schuldig gemaakt?

8. De toespraak van Wiglaf maakt duidelijk wat er met de strijders gaat gebeuren. Welk lot staat hen te wachten.

9. Waarom worden ze zo streng gestraft?

10. Wiglaf vreest dat het gedrag van de strijders nog een ander gevolg zal hebben. Welk gevolg is dat?

11. Wat is het grote verschil tussen Wiglaf en de strijders die hij toespreekt?

12. In ‘Beowulf’ maakt de dichter gebruik van typische Oud Engelse stijlfiguren (zie aantekeningen).

13. Welke stijlfiguren (poetic devices) zijn dat? Bespreek ze nader (vermeld ook hun functie) en geef, indien mogelijk, ook voorbeelden.