Comprehension: Beowulf and the Sea-Hag (pages 68-74)

Questions on page 68

1. List **five** pieces of equipment the warriors have with them in Hrothgar’s hall.

Shields, handswords, mailcoats, helmets and spears

1. In what **two** ways does the text make it clear that the warriors feel safe?

The author tells us they fell asleep at once and “slept soundly”

The author states: ”None of them expected an attack that night”

1. Quote a phrase the author uses to introduce suspense and let the reader know that all might not be well.

“It was a sleep they would pay for dearly and soon”

or

“safe in their hall or so they thought”

1. Copy a noun phrase used to describe Grendel’s mother.

“A murderous monster” or “a bereaved mother”

Questions on Page 69

1. Explain why the Sea-Hag came to Heorot in the dead of night.

Maddened by the loss of her son she is filled with grief and wants revenge. She wants vengeance!

Questions on page 71

1. What does the horrible hag do when she is back in her lair?

She gorges herself on Ashere and enjoys the sweet taste of vengeance.

1. What language technique is used in the phase “this horrible hag”?

Alliteration – noun phrase

1. Why is Hrothgar particularly upset at Ashere’s death?

Ashere was his best and oldest friend and his, “hearth companion”

1. For what reason did Hrothgar not believe the stories about Grendel and his mother? (Page 72)

He believed they were imaginings told by people with simple minds

1. Describe the place where Grendel and his mother live. (Be as detailed as possible and use evidence from the text).

A place of dark fells, wild moors, perilous paths where underground water pours into a vaulting cavern. It is a hidden place which nobody visits except wild wolves.