EXAM DATE:

STUDY GUIDE: Beowulf Exam
English IV AP (B)/ Mrs. Ramos

50% of the exam grade will come from the objective (multiple choice, t/f, matching) part of the test,
50% of the exam grade will come from a full essay. You will be allowed to use your copy of the text for the essay portion only. The exam will be timed—one class period only.
You should be able to demonstrate mastery over the following topics and skills from our study of Beowulf:

Objective Section:

- "Beowulf and the Roots of Anglo Saxon Poetry" video (8/31/15)
- history of the manuscript (9/18/15) (video notes available)
- characters' names, relationships and main actions
    - daily notes / annotations on assigned sections of the epic poem
    - family tree diagram (back of text)
    - pronunciation list (summer assignment)
    - master character list (9/8/15)
    - character test (9/10/15)
- plot: order and significance of major events
    - daily notes / annotations on assigned sections of the epic poem
    - Beowulf plotline
    - digressions
- trace thematic elements throughout *Beowulf* such as:
    - the heroic ideal
    - evil, promises, rewards, honor, death, leadership, legacy (study guides for sections)
    - Theme assignment (9/28/15)
- trace oppositional elements throughout *Beowulf* such as:
    - good vs. evil
    - paganism vs. Christianity
    - order vs. chaos
    - legend vs. mortality
- Compare / contrast elements of *Beowulf* such as:
    - Beowulf / Hrothgar
    - Beowulf's various battles
    - Main story / digressions
    - Ways characters measure up to the heroic ideal
- Anglo-Saxon poetry & language background information
    - digression, kenning, alliterative verse, foil character, flashback, foreshadowing (in-class notes)
    - info. sheet handout "Anglo Saxon / Old English" (9/8/15)
- "The Struggle Between Order and Chaos in Beowulf" by John Halverson (10/2/15)
    - main points
    - vocabulary
    - oppositional elements

Written Section:

The essay topic will ask you to write about Beowulf as a whole. Such questions might ask you to explain foil characters, respond to a statement written by a scholar, or explain the significance of an element of the epic poem to the work as a whole.
Your essay should reflect knowledge of the epic poem AND the following skills:

- Develop a theory about a specific elements of a piece of literature
- Write an original, clear, concise thesis statement
- Organize an effective composition around a central thesis statement
- Use textual evidence to support a thesis