EXTRA CREDIT

My Heart Longs for the Journey: An Illuminated Text Project on Beowulf, Grendel, Anglo-Saxon and Celtic Poetry



In this project, you (or you and your partner) are to use Microsoft Power Point, Apple Keynote (or Imotion), or Adobe After Effects to fashion an animation or video that explicates (explains or illuminates) text from *Beowulf*, *Grendel* or from Anglo-Saxon or Celtic Poetry. You will find (if you do this correctly) that the hard (and interesting) part is not the technology, but the ideas, creativity, and the text that you choose. You may want to **begin by going to our Google Classroom and looking at the Illuminated Texts that are there.** There are Illuminated Texts for most sections (Anglo-Saxon, Renaissance, etc), but you want to avoid the ones closely related (especially if you have chosen a specific poem – don't look at an Illuminated Text of that same poem) to what you are doing. You can also find other Illuminated Texts on Youtube by doing a search .

These projects are due before the end of the first semester and are worth 100-150 points (extra credit - up to 100 points if done with a partner, up to 150 points if done alone). There will be an assignment link for you to turn these in on – again on Google Class Room – check in the Illuminated Text section (under Grendel).

If we haven't done all of the Anglo-Saxon or Celtic poetry that we are going to do, and since you need to get started right away – you may find your project changing (and even your choice of a poem changing – that's ok – just keep in mind you have only three weeks to complete this project – and you will have to learn how to use Power Point or one of the other programs (to create text animations) at the same time. There will be a set of Tutorials (and they are great!) at our website.

Here is a good website with modern translations of most of the Anglo-Saxon poems in existence:
https://anglosaxonpoetry.camden.rutgers.edu/

In addition to the poems, you can also choose something based on *Beowulf* or *Grendel* – **if you choose these longer works, you will need to figure out how and what you will show**. You could show a single passage from those works – or more likely (and perhaps with more potential for greatness) you could pull together different ideas (or themes) and work them together in the Illuminated Text. This kind of Illuminated Text is very much like an essay – and you will want to look at the examples. Again, check out the examples at our website. For example, you might want to do something from Grendel on the belief of the accidental nature of life – you could include quotes from his first encounter with the sky, with men, the dragon, and finally his battle with "the stranger".

If you choose to do a Celtic or Anglo Saxon poem[1] remember that some of these poems are very long – and will be broken down into parts – in this case you and your partner may only present a piece of the poem or you may work with other sets of partners to make sure the entire poem is represented. Each poem may be done only once by a set of partners per class (so we don't have 12 versions of "The Wife's Lament"). You could also do a set of Anglo-Saxon Riddles. A sign-up sheet will be in the front of the classroom. Don't forget the website above with all of the other Anglo-Saxon poems (and riddles). Check with the teacher and you can write in a choice not given on the sheet.

The sign-up sheet will also have the two longer poems – "The Wanderer" and "The Sea Farer" broken down into sections. If you sign up for one of the longer poems you must choose the next available slot for that poem – in other words, lines 1-20 must already have a set of partners assigned before you could take lines 21-40. You should look ahead in your book and on the web and find a poem you like.

When you watch any of the Illuminated Texts you will quickly discover that it is the cleverness of your word choice and what you have the text, letters, fonts, etc. do that creates a successful and *illuminating presentation*. Think about this project while you do the rest of your reading – think of ideas for possible *Illuminated Texts*. For instance: if you were doing the poem "Deor" you could literally make the word "this" dissolve when the poem gets to the rest of the sentence where it says "…to shall pass."

Once you have your text, then you can begin to find a way of illuminating the words (making their meaning clearer). In your presentation, you will show the translated text[2] from the novel along with an optional picture[3] - you are limited to one picture, and it must be original (drawn by you) and it can either in the background or inset within your video, music (one or more songs and/or sound effects), as well as using the text animation effects (this is the most important part, and the part that most of your grade will come from) found in Power Point, Keynote, iMotion, or After Effects to help the viewer better understand what is taking place in the text.

In any case, as you set the pictures to music try to be very conscious of the following:

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[1] Remember it must be an Anglo-Saxon or Celtic poem – be sure – one year a student did an Edgar Allen Poe, poem – which is not Anglo-Saxon and is definitely not ancient.

[2] It would also be very cool to somehow incorporate a bit of the original Old English into your Illuminated Text either with the words or with sound (you can find audio of most of these poems being read in Old English on the web – and with Flash you can have more than one sound track.)

[3] I have found that some of the most effective, powerful presentations of this sort – do NOT use pictures and all the text to speak for itself (well maybe not completely by itself – you will use movement, color, etc.)

- ❑ You must provide a Video (not a Power Point or Keynote file) – Power Point 2010 and later as well as later versions of Keynote allow you to save your presentation as a video. **BEFORE you put in any amount of time – create a test animation and try to save it as a video.** Pictures are the least important part of this project, though one may be included as long as they don't detract form the text. For this first Illuminated Text, **you are allowed to have only one picture**. See the "Summer is Gone" Illuminated Text by Lisa Danforth.
- ❑ Songs Allowed: You are also encouraged to record your own music, if you are a musician – try to make sure the composition is original (yes, we have some very talented people at our school) or the composition is in the Public Domain.
- ❑ Songs Not Allowed: These songs have been overdone and are not allowed: Pacabel's Cannon in D, Moonlight Sonata, Fur Elise, any of the gymnopedie compositions. Try to find something that doesn't sound familiar – classical is great but there is also jazz, blue grass, Renaissance music, and much more – **find music that fits what you are doing!**
- ❑ You must have at least one song. I strongly suggest that you **use a song without words** (classical, instrumental, etc.) Words in a song can quickly overpower the words you are attempting to illuminate. Karaoke versions of songs work fine as well.
- ❑ **You must use Public Domain music** (both the composition and the performance must be in the Public Domain [copyright free]. See below.
- ❑ **Your song must either be timed to end with the presentation or you must fade it out at the end of your video** (you can fade out songs with Power Point or Flash). Presentations which have abruptly ending or cut off music will be penalized (grade wise).
- ❑ The majority of your presentation should contain text animation.
- ❑ You pictures should very closely follow the words and/or music in some meaningful way (in other words the pictures should illuminate the words – not simply be somehow related to them)
- ❑ Feel free to stick to one page, one paragraph, or combine texts to come up with a bigger meaning (see my presentation and your group works)

Public Domain Music

You must use music found in the Public Domain. Public Domain music does not mean you can obtain it on the internet. It must specifically be Public Domain and Royalty Free – there is a ton of such music out there. One great source for this is Musopen.com (www.musopen.com). They literally have thousands of MP3's (or Ogg files that can be converted to MP3's using Audacity [see below]) that you can download for free and use without paying royalties. They mainly have classical and jazz songs. Here is a site for soundeffects: http://www.freesound.org/browse/. You are free to look for other sites – but please be cautious, as always, on the web. **Once a composition is found mark it on our chart – songs may NOT be repeated in each period. If you find a new website that has Public Domain Music – submit it to me for up to 25 points EC.**

Audacity and Music

Audacity is a free program that allows you edit music files – this is a must if you want to fade your music out because the song is too long for your presentation. Power Point does allow you to fade music out – make sure you test it out AS A VIDEO (with the faded out music – sometimes the fade gets lost during the conversion). Audacity can be found at http://audacity.sourceforge.net/ . Please note this is a FREE program – if it ever asks you to pay you are at the wrong site. They have great tutorial links there on how to use it. Please note – in addition to downloading Audacity – you will also need to download the LAME Mp3 codec – again, there are detailed instructions at the website on how to do this, and it is absolutely free.

Power Points and Video

You will not be allowed to submit a Power Point or Keynote file – you must convert them to a video. All Power Point software from 2010 on allows the conversion to video. **As a CPS student you can download a free copy of the newest version of Power Point from the Microsoft Website.**

Using Power Point

Lisa Danforth has created some incredible tutorials (as a series of handouts as well as a screencast) on our Website. There are handouts for Power Point 2003, 2007, & 2010. There is also a handout (tutorial) for Apple Keynote (which has its own special abilities and problems). In addition to the handouts, there are also great screencasts (video tutorials) that will take you step by step. **Get started right away**, so you can learn and become proficient. Remember – you must create a video, NOT a Power Point file. I will put these on Google Classroom as well.

Anglo-Saxon and Celtic Poems (don't base your chose on length – **all Illuminated Texts must be longer than 2 ½ minutes and less than 5 minutes** – so the length of the poem is not a real issue). This is not all of the poems that you choose from – just some of the more obvious and the ones that we will go over in class.

"Deor"	"The Husband's Message"	"The Wife's Lament"	Wulf and Eadwacer	

"Eagle of Pengwern"	"Summer is Gone"	"The Viking Terror"	Pangur Ban	The Stanzas of the Graves – choose 3
"The Sea Farer" lines 1-22	"The Sea Farer" lines 23-43	"The Sea Farer" lines 44-64 "boundless ocean."	"The Sea Farer" lines 64 ("For the bliss…) – 88 ("grief and toil…)	"The Sea Farer" lines 88 ("Grandeur has faded) - 102
"The Sea Farer" lines 103 – the end	"The Wanderer" lines 1-18	"The Wanderer" lines 19-39	"The Wanderer" lines 40-58	"The Wanderer" lines 1-59-78
"The Wanderer" lines 79-97	"The Wanderer" lines 98 – the end	Anglo-Saxon riddles (choose 3)	The Hermit's Song (Celtic)	

Anglo-Saxon Illuminated Text Sign Up Sheet –Remember this is Extra Credit Period ____

Once a work has been signed up for – it cannot be taken by any other set of partners – with the exception of the longer Anglo-Saxon Poems (which must be signed up for in the order that their text appears) and the riddles, and stanzas of the graves (though you cannot do the ones already taken) Also SONGS.

"Deor"	"The Husband's Message"	"The Wife's Lament"	Wulf and Eadwacer	Anglo-Saxon riddles (choose 3)
"Eagle of Pengwern"	"Summer is Gone"	"The Viking Terror"	Pangur Ban	The Stanzas of the Graves – (choose 3)
"The Sea Farer" lines 1-22	"The Sea Farer" lines 23-43	"The Sea Farer" lines 44-64 "boundless ocean."	"The Sea Farer" lines 64 ("For the bliss…) – 88 ("grief and toil…)	"The Sea Farer" lines 88 ("Grandeur has faded) - 102
"The Sea Farer" lines 103 – the end	"The Wanderer" lines 1-18	"The Wanderer" lines 19-39	"The Wanderer" lines 40-58	"The Wanderer" lines 1-59-78
"The Wanderer" lines 79-97	"The Wanderer" lines 98 – the end	The Hermit's Song (Celtic)		

Name of Text (be specific – if you choose a longer poem or riddles be sure to say which ones, which part that you are doing.)	**Song or Composition**	**Partner 1**	**Partner 2**
