Grendel Study Guides chapter 8-9

Chapter 8

1. Why does Hrothulf, Hrothgar’s nephew, come to live at Hart?
2. Who is the “sweet scorpion” who sits between Hrothgar and Wealtheow’s two sons and “cleans his knife”?
3. What evidence is there that Hrothulf is stirring unrest in Hrothgar’s kingdom?
4. Hrothulf in the Woods – what is the tree a metaphor for?
5. He “had hair as black as coal and hazel eyes that never blinked. He stood, always, with his head slung forward and his lips in a pout…” Who is he?
6. Who is Red Horse?
7. What do Red Horse and Hrothulf plot?
8. Red Horse says, “The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is an organization of violence, a monopoly in what it is pleased to call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ violence.”
9. Describe Hrothulf.
10. Who is Freawaru?
11. Hrothgar “had in his youth the strength of seven men. Not now He has nothing left but the power of his mind – and no pleasure there: a case of knives.” What is Hrothgar’s “case of knives”?
12. List five traps Hrothgar has in his life.

Chapter 9

1. What do the Dane children make in the snow?
2. Grendel says, “The image clings to my mind in a growth. I sense some riddle in it.” What is the image?
3. What is Grendel’s view or opinion of religion?
4. Grendel says, “I have eaten several \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They sit on the stomach like duck eggs.”
5. “He squints, cocks his head, struggling to penetrate his blindness by force of will.” Who is he?
6. Ork says, “The ultimate evil is that Time is perpetually perishing, and being actual involves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
7. Ork says, “Such is His mystery: that beauty requires \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is fundamental to the creation of new intensities of feeling.”
8. Does Ork believe he has spoken with the King of the Gods or the Great Destroyer?
9. What are the different reactions of the four priests to Ork’s statement he has spoken to the Great Destroyer?
10. “Vastly far away I see the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, black but shining, and slowly revolving around it there are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”