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English 10R

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Civilizations, Heroes,  
And Beasts

I. Introduction

A. What is civilization?

1. Civilization - is one of the most advanced organizations of human society and development

B. What is a beast and what is a hero?

1. A beast is a dangerous animal-like creature
2. A hero is a human who is looked up upon for bravery and great accomplishments  
(Does good for the people).

C. Claim?

1. The beast and civilization have very big effects on each other. Not only physically but also mentally

I. Background Information

A. What happens in Beowulf?

1. Civilization in Heorot is joyful and have no worries

1. Monster Grendel hides in darkness of the night and breaks into the castle to kill the men (30 men/ thanes are killed)
2. Once dawn came - felt sorrow and destroyed
3. Grendel came back to eat more thanes

II. Body Paragraph – Grendel is a beast spreading physical damage on Civilization

A. Point/Claim

1. Beasts have big effects on all civilization. In the Old English poem *Beowulf*, the beast, Grendel, affects the city of Heorot in the most destructive way there is.

B. Evidence

1. “He creative damned/ grim and greedy/ ready immediately was/ savage and cruel/and at rest seized thirty thanes” (Beowulf 60).

C. Significance

1. The anonymous author of Beowulf uses figurative language to clearly get his point across on how evil and damaging a beast could really be.
2. Analysis (with evidence)
  - i. The author includes alliteration of the “g” in grim and greedy and characterization in “savage and cruel” to provide evidence on how capable a beast is of causing such great

destruction (Beowulf 60). The author of *Beowulf* also uses a short the frame to create a depressing mood.

A. Evidence

1. “Nor-was it longer time, but within one night again committed murder more” (Beowulf 60)/

B. Significance

1. He creates this mood by making the beast Grendel commit more than thirty murders within two nights.

C. Analysis

1. This makes the audience feel upset, but also sympathy for the rest of the civilization, because in a blink of an eye, their happiness and content with life was ripped away with something as simple as murder.

D. Significance

1. The author provides clarity on how rapidly evil can destroy and take over a well-organized and stable civilization in such a short period of time.

II. Body Paragraph – Grendel is a beast spreading mental damage on civilization

A. Point/Claim

1. Separate from the physical damage caused by the beast, Grendel affects the spirituality of the civilization also. The beast negatively affects everyone's well-being and state-of-mind greatly.

#### B. Evidence

1. "The great prince, / a leader good before others, / joyless sat; / suffered the mighty one" (Beowulf 60).

#### C. Analysis (with evidence)

1. The author again uses characterization in "leader good before others," to clearly state how the prince does everything in his power to make the lives of his people great, even in very hard times (Beowulf 60). But because the prince "joyless sat," it proves that beasts could breakdown anyone if they really wanted to (Beowulf 60).

#### D. Significance

1. The author puts the idea into his poem *Beowulf*, that even the most people with the most stable minds, can eventually be broken down by even the worst of evil.

### II. Body Paragraph (Civilization on Beast)

#### A. What is the effect civilization had on the beast?

1. Civilization first gets sad and doesn't fit back the beast, so the beast takes advantage of you even more

2. Then they get sick and tired of the beast walking all over them so they decide to find the beast and fit him back.
  1. Hero - puts this plan into action and masks his own fear to put the protection of his city under his first priority.
  2. The beast and hero fight - normally the hero wins

## VI. Conclusion

- A. Restate claim
- B. Closing sentence

In a civilization there is both good and evil. Sometimes good and evil are separated, but they can also be combined into a person or thing. A physical beast is an animal-like creature that dangers and takes the lives of many people. But, a beast can also be in any form that tempts you to do bad things or tries to tear you down. Therefore it does not only have to be a real physical beast. The beast and civilization both have effects on each other and everything else around them. A civilization is one of the most organized and stable kind of environment in human history. The beast affects the civilization as well as the civilization having an effect on the beast. In the long poem *Beowulf*, the beast is a monster like creature, Grendel, who dangers the lives of many civilians and breaks down the homes and minds of others. Meanwhile, the civilization gets so overpowered with emotion after being depressed for so long, they are now determined to kill the beast and get rid of it forever.

Beasts have big effects on all civilization. In the Old English poem *Beowulf*, the beast, Grendel, affects the city of Heorot in the most destructive way there is. “He creative damned/ grim and greedy/ ready immediately was/ savage and cruel/and at rest seized thirty thanes” (Beowulf 60). The anonymous author of Beowulf uses figurative language to clearly get his point across on how evil and damaging a beast could really be. The author includes alliteration of the “g” in grim and greedy and characterization in “savage and cruel” to provide evidence on how capable a beast is of causing such great destruction (Beowulf 60). The author of *Beowulf* also uses a short the frame to create a depressing mood.

“Nor-was it longer time, but within one night again committed murder more” (Beowulf 60). He creates this mood by making the beast

Grendel commit more than thirty murders within two nights. This makes the audience feel upset, but also sympathy for the rest of the civilization, because in a blink of an eye, their happiness and content with life was ripped away with something as simple as murder. The author provides clarity on how rapidly evil can destroy and take over a well-organized and stable civilization in such a short period of time.

Separate from the physical damage caused by the beast, Grendel affects the spirituality of the civilization also. The beast negatively affects everyone's well-being and state-of-mind greatly. "The great prince, / a leader good before others, / joyless sat; / suffered the mighty one" (Beowulf 60). The author again uses characterization in "leader good before others," to clearly state how the prince does everything in his power to make the lives of his people great, even in very hard times (Beowulf 60). But because the prince "joyless sat," it proves that beasts could breakdown anyone if they really wanted to (Beowulf 60). The author puts the idea into his poem *Beowulf*, that even the most people with the most stable minds, can eventually be broken down by even the worst of evil.

The civilization has an effect of the beast also. So after the beast brings you down so much, the civilization gets weaker and weaker until finally one person or a group of people decide that it's enough and that the monster needs to be killed. "Let him who desires peace, prepare for war" (Vegetius 34). At this point, they are in desperate need of a hero, a savior. They need someone to see an open road and they take it. That is exactly what a hero is, someone who is, someone who masks their own fear, and shines their bravery and courage out to everyone in

order to take on the beast. In *Beowulf*, Beowulf thought that everyone was just going to mope around and not do

anything about it then he would take matters into his own hands and defeat the beast himself. After the beast is defeated the civilization gets so joyful, but the cycle could be repeated again.

Everything that happens within the civilization has a huge effect on everything. Whether it is a physical or mental, a beast can create big problems with people and the environment. But in all civilizations a hero can and will overcome the great deals of evil that try to break down the walls of a city. Even though that the civilians might complain now about everything that they are going through, after this beast is gone, then there could possibly be an even worse. “Maybe one day we shall be glad to remember even these hardships” (Virgil 33). The civilizations need to continue to have faith that things will get better.

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Works Consulted



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