



# Beowulf

by Anonymous · Best for C2 (Proficient)

Read-along audiobook · C2

The oldest surviving major poem in English, Beowulf tells how a Geatish warrior sails to Denmark to destroy the monster Grendel. The language is archaic and ceremonial — kennings like 'whale-road' for the sea, alliterative rhythms, and a world of mead-halls and ring-giving that has no direct modern equivalent. It is a text to study closely rather than simply read through, and even a modern translation rewards careful attention to individual word choices.

## What you'll practise

- Kenning compounds and poetic periphrasis as vocabulary study
- Alliterative stress patterns in translated verse lines
- Old heroic register: honour, loyalty, fate, and gift-giving vocabulary
- Tap any archaic or poetic compound to see its plain-English meaning

## How to read it — free

Listen to the full narration while you read along — every word above your level is highlighted in time with the voice and explained on tap. No signup, nothing to install.

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