

from BEOWULF

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# Vocabulary Study

## WORDS IN CONTEXT

**Directions:** As your teacher reads each item, listen for the boldfaced word. Discuss possible meanings of the word, and write on the chart what you think the word means. After reading *Beowulf*, confirm or adjust your definitions.

1. The long-suffering Danes prayed that someone could kill the monster that was their **affliction**.
2. The hungry monster attacked the warriors, eager to **gorge** himself on their bodies.
3. Everyone had heard of the **infamous** Grendel. His evil deeds were well known.
4. After seizing his prey, Grendel returned to his **lair** to devour it.
5. The fierce hand-to-hand battle left Beowulf with a **livid** wound.
6. The moor where Grendel lived was so **loathsome** than no human could stand to go near it.
7. To help the Danes, Beowulf promised to **purge** the evil that was troubling them.
8. The monster used his sharp **talon** to scratch and tear his victims.

Vocabulary Word	Predicted Meaning	Meaning in Selection
affliction		
gorge		
infamous		
lair		
livid		
loathsome		
purge		
talon		