English IV Humanities CP

Beowulf and Anglo-Saxon Culture Assessment (50 points)

On a separate sheet of paper and in five distinct paragraphs, please explain the significance ofthe following as they relate to **Beowulf** and **Anglo-Saxon culture**. Be sure to incorporate specific details from both your notes, our discussions, and from the story to support your answers. You’ll be graded not only on the correctness and sophistication of your answer, but also on the mechanics of your writing.

1. How literally are we to take Beowulf? If there was never an actual Beowulf, does this mean there is no truth in these pages? What truths are there?
2. Why do storytellers use monsters as antagonists? What might they represent?
3. What explicit and implicit aspects of Beowulf are informative about the role of women in Anglo-Saxon culture?
4. In a psychological comparison of characters from more modern works, how would you rate the characters of Beowulf? Do they undergo any development as the poem progresses?
5. What role does religion play in Beowulf? Why is this a complicated issue (even historically speaking)?