***Beowulf* Chapters 14-16 Name:**

**“The Firedrake,” “Beowulf Against the Firedrake” and “Bees”**

**Directions: Answer seven out of eight questions in complete sentences.**

1. What is Beowulf’s motivation for helping Eadgils kill King Onela of Sweden?
2. A slave accidentally finds the Firedrake’s lair (a lair is an animal’s home) in the mountains. What does the slave do to make the Firedrake very angry?
3. How is the slave able to avoid being “roasted alive” by the Firedrake? (Hint: find out what a “fissure” is.)
4. Why doesn’t Beowulf punish the slave who angered the Firedrake?
5. Remember that Beowulf says that he is going to fight the Firedrake. What very odd equipment does he bring with him?
6. What is motivating Beowulf to fight the Firedrake even though he is old?
7. Describe how Beowulf actually kills the Firedrake. Is this method heroic? Why or why not? Consider how Beowulf himself says that he wouldn't have done this when he was younger.
8. Remember that Beowulf says that it might be best that people not know how he killed the Firedrake. Why does he say that?

* Find a quote to add to your chart. You do NOT have to write it here, but you do need to write it on the chart.

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| Ch 14 | Ch. 15 |
| **regret:** to feel sorry about something and wish you hadn't done it  **sober**: serious and quiet  **exile:** to force someone to leave a place (If you exile someone from a country, you force them to leave)  **plotted:** planned  **campaign:** an activity organized to reach a goal (i.e. to win a war or an election)  **ventured (verb):** went into a dangerous place  **sin:** an evil act  **flaw in the rock:** a hole in the rock  **molten:** hot and melted  **reeking:** smelling bad  **fissure:** a crack | **hoard (noun):** a secret store of valuables or money  **gloat:** to be overly happy about something in a mean way; can mean to brag  **wits are warped:** If something is warped, it’s twisted. Your wits means your intelligence, so this basically means you’re going crazy.  **despair:** a feeling of hopelessness  **regret:** to feel bad about something and wish you hadn't done it  **bitterness:** a feeling of deep anger and ill-will; a harsh and unpleasant taste  **wretch:** miserable person  **strife:** conflict, disagreement  **pestilence**: any type of deadly disease that spread very quickly  **cunning:** cleverness and trickiness  **dwelling:** living |

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| **Ch. 16** |
| **halted:** stopped  **infinitely:** continuing forever without end  **precious:** very valuable  **subsided:** wore off or died down  **deftly:** skillfully  **agile:** able to move quickly and lightly  **quench:** to put out  **flog:** whip  **fury:** anger  **scythe:** a curved blade  **glee:** happiness  **dishonorable:** not deserving respect and admiration  **mariners:** sailors |