

# [Beowulf- an epic hero](https://assignbuster.com/beowulf-an-epic-hero/)

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The hero of an epic poem normally embodies the ideals   
of conduct that are most   
valued by the culture which the epic was composed. In   
the epic poem " Beowulf"   
Beowulf was the epic hero. He was an epic hero because   
of his virtues. Three of his   
virtues are true to his word, he made his father   
proud, and he was brave.

Beowulf was true to his word by saying " I alone and   
the help of my men, may   
purge all evil from this hall." (260-261) Then later   
on in the poem he " The infamous   
killer fought for his freedom, wanting no flesh but   
retreat, desiring nothing but escape;   
his claws had been caught, he was trapped." (337-340)   
In those lines it is saying that   
Beowulf will go fight the evil, Grendel or " infamous   
killer," and then did and killed him,   
and had Grendel begging for mercy.

Beowulf was also brave. He was brave by saying " I   
alone and the help of my   
men, may purge all evil from this hall." (260-261) He   
also was brave in a lot of other   
ways, for example " When my danger is near, the warm   
words we uttered, and if your   
enemy should end my life then be," (451-453) that was   
when he had to fight Grendel's   
mother. When he fought her he was also brave by going   
to fight her by himself, only   
with swords and armor, " She carried him, armor and   
sword and all." (479-480) Another   
time when Beowulf was brave was when he was going to   
fight a dragon, Beowulf says, " I   
feel no shame, with shield and sword and armor,   
against this monster: when he comes to   
me I mean to stand, not run from his shooting flames,   
stand till fate decides which one of   
us wins." (635-639)   
The third virtue Beowulf expressed was that he will   
make his father proud. He   
made his father proud by following in his fathers   
footsteps. His father was very well   
known, Beowulf says, " My father was a famous soldier,   
known far and wide as a leader   
of men. His name was Edegtho. His life lasted many   
winters; wise men all over the   
earth surely remember him still." (174-179) He is   
following in his fathers footsteps by   
becoming a very good leader, by those virtues   
mentioned earlier, a good soldier, and a   
good fighter.

Beowulf expresses many virtues. He expresses them in   
the forms of bravery, true   
to his word, and he will make his father proud. Thus   
in the epic poem " Beowulf"   
Beowulf is the epic hero.