

Name: _____
Beowulf – Characteristic of an Epic

Date: _____
Honors English 12

THAT'S ONE EPIC MOVIE

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12.1** Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 11–12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12.4** Present information, findings, and supporting evidence, conveying a clear and distinct perspective, such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning, alternative or opposing perspectives are addressed, and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and a range of formal and informal tasks.

In your group, try to brainstorm modern epics (movies) that most people wouldn't think of – try to be as creative as possible! We already know Star Wars is a modern epic. Assignment: Using the checklist below, think of at least two more movies from "modern times" that fit the epic profile.

Title: _____

Characteristic of an EPIC	Proof/Reasoning
The hero, generally a male, is of noble birth or high position, and often of great historical or legendary importance.	
The hero's character traits reflect important ideals of his society.	
The hero performs courageous – sometimes even superhuman – deeds that reflect the values of the era.	
The actions of the hero often determine the fate of a nation or group of people.	
The setting is vast in scope, often involving more than one nation.	
The poet uses formal diction and a serious tone.	
Major characters often deliver long, formal speeches.	
The plot is complicated by supernatural beings or events and may involve a long and dangerous journey through foreign lands.	
The poem reflects timeless values, such as courage and honor.	
The poem treats universal themes, such as good and evil or life and death.	

So, is this an epic? yes no