

Year 5&6 Kennings Homework

What is a Kenning?

A kenning is a special way of describing something using two words joined together, often with a metaphorical meaning.

whale-road = the sea

battle-sweat = blood

Your Task

Create 5 new kennings for everyday objects (e.g., book, car, computer, phone, tree).

Write each kenning into a short Beowulf-style sentence.

Step 1 Choose an object

Choose something simple like:

A book

A car

A computer

A table

A tree

A path

A river

A mountain

Step 2: Describe It in a Creative Way

Ask yourself:

What does it do?

What is it made of?

What is its purpose?

Example:

Book → word-hoard (a treasure chest of words)

Car → road-runner (something that runs along roads)

Step 3: Write Beowulf-Style Sentences

Example:

“He opened the word-hoard and found wisdom within.”

“The road-runner carried the hero across the land.”

Extension Challenge

Write a short description (3–4 sentences) of a hero or monster using at least 3 kennings.

Example:

“The hall-guardian raised his battle-sweat-stained blade and faced the shadow-stalker beneath the whale-road’s roar.”