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A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE VERSE RHETORIC
OF LAYAMON'S BRUT AND BEOWULF

by

Frances Howe Miller, A. B.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Pages</u>
I. Introduction	1
II. Bibliography	.viii
III. Minor Poetic Devices	.1
A. Preposed Pronouns	2
B. Typical Adverbial Expressions	10
C. Typical Adjectives	36
D. Decorative Adjectives	.69
E. Couplets	81
F. Circumlocution	.117
G. Antithesis	147
H. Catalogues of Detail	169
IV. Conclusion	207

As we leave behind us Anglo-Saxon literature and enter upon the Middle English period, we meet with a remarkable chronicle of the early thirteenth century,- Layamon's Brut "The literary merit of Layamon's chronicle is so great, he is so genuine a poet and patriot, that his work must always possess an interest and fascination for the student of English literature", writes Miss Weston.¹ We observe, nevertheless, that this interest has expressed itself in no very long list of critical studies. The Layamon bibliography is notably brief, and particularly deficient on the stylistic side. The length of the poem, 32241 half lines, is an obstacle to exhaustive research, and the general belief that Layamon's poetic style is essentially Anglo-Saxon is accepted on a priori grounds without an attempt at verification.

Sir Frederic Madden first announces Layamon's lineal descent from native poets. "It is a remarkable circumstance", he tells us, "that we find preserved in many passages of Layamon's poem the spirit and style of the earlier Anglo-Saxon writers. --- Very many phrases are purely Anglo-Saxon, and with slight change, might have been used in Caedmon or AElfric. A foreign scholar and poet, versed both in Anglo-Saxon and Scandinavian literature, has declared, that tolerably well read as he is in the rhyming chronicles of his own country and of others, he has found Layamon's beyond comparison the most lofty and animated in its style, at

1. The Chief M.E. Poets p.375.

every moment reminding the reader of the splendid phraseology¹ of Anglo-Saxon verse." This conclusion seems plausible, even convincing; but there are certain potentially misleading circumstances as to the affinities of his poetic style which must be considered before generalizations can safely be made.

(1) The language of Layamon is closely related to the older prose speech. As Madden points out, the Brut belongs to a transition period, when the forms and phraseology of Anglo-Saxon had not yet entirely broken down under the pressure of newer language influence.¹ French was still a negligible element in English speech. In correcting Madden's count, Mr. Monroe gives as an accurate estimate 87 words of French origin appearing in both texts of Layamon, 63 in the later text only, or 150² in all. Thus by an easy but fallacious deduction, Layamon's consistently English prose vocabulary is taken as an indication of the Anglo-Saxon quality of his poetic methods.

(2) Naturally one other influence is acknowledged to be powerful, - the French. The effect of Wace's style on Layamon can hardly be ignored, and as an obvious subject for research receives practically all the attention given to Layamon's stylistic methods. Whatever cannot be traced to French influence can readily be assigned to English inheritance.

(3) Metrically, the predominance of Anglo-Saxon verse types, with French influence operating to increase the Schwellvers

1. Preface p. xxviii,

2. Mod. Phil. 4. p.559.

category, to decrease alliteration, and to foster rime, helps to establish the limits of Layamon's verse method. Miss McNary says that "to imitate the French verse constantly and consistently was not in the power, or according to the desire, of the English poet. His sense of the Old English verse was on the whole the stronger."¹

So Regel characterizes Layamon as "der neuangelsächsische dichter, in den schätzen der eigenen sprache ganz gu hause und von dem starken geiste der alten heimischen poesie mächtig durchweht."² But Regel is concerned to prove that Layamon is superior to Wace, and when he has shown the English poet's departure from his French model, his task is finished. Moreover he makes his point solely by a short consideration of Layamon's maxims, and a longer treatment of his similes. Madden comments on the rarity of the simile in Anglo-Saxon³ poetry and in Layamon, but Regel's study at least shows us that in his short similes Layamon is indebted to the French. Likewise it is to be noted that Layamon has a few elaborate similes which can be related neither to Anglo-Saxon nor to his French original. It is not my purpose here to consider Layamon's figures of speech, but I may well point out that Regel's neglect of metaphor and of litotes makes it impossible to draw from his work any valuable conclusion regarding Layamon's indebtedness to

1. Studies in Layamon's Verse. p.36.

2. Spruch und Bild im Layamon.p.197.

3. Preface p.xxiii.

Anglo-Saxon for his figurative language.

Wülker goes so far as to hazard the suggestion that Layamon knew Beowulf. He refers to the giant conflict, where Layamon writes of Geomagog

ƿat was ƿe heihste.

Godes wider-saka:

ƿe wrse hine luuede.

1806.

Comparing this to godes ondsacan (786) of Beowulf. He says, too, that the attack of the twenty giants upon Brutus and his duzude is like that of Grendel upon Hroðgar and his duzude.

He adds ~~that~~² following passages to strengthen his argument:

lædliche læches:

heo leiteden mid eƷan.

L.1884

him of eagum stod

ligge gelicost lecht unfæger.

B.726

& ƿus ƿe hæƷe scaðe:

ferde to helle.

B.1923

feorh alegde,

hæƷene sawle, ƿær him hel onfeng 851,

Mentioning the Beowulf compounds hearm -, leod -, ƿeod-scaða. As a last bit of evidence he recalls the occasion of Beowulf's death

when he indicates that Wiglaf is to succeed him. Arthur, in the Brut, names Constantine, Cadur's son, as his successor.

Striking these parallels are, but is their evidence conclusive? Surely giants are not exclusively Beowulf property; and it does not seem strange that a heroic king, leaving no heir, should suggest the ruler to follow him. Some of the proofs are only language similarities, which are perfectly natural. The parallel passages offer the strongest argument, but flashing eyes are scarcely argument, but flashing eyes are scarcely unusual; - even thus emphasized. Certainly without other resemblances two such passages, with slight subsidiary evidence, cannot justify Wülker's assured conclusion, "Aus den angeführten stellen lässt sich wol folgern, dass Layamon das Beowulflied kannte."¹

The purpose of the preceding remarks is merely to indicate that similarities of language and meter, without definite tests of verse rhetoric, may lead to the false assumption that because Layamon's method is not French, it is fundamentally that of Anglo-Saxon poetry.

Some detailed research into definite poetic devices may throw light on the question of Layamon's actual inheritance from the earlier poetry, and thereby contribute toward an answer to the vexing question whether, or in what degree, Anglo-Saxon

1. ⁿÜber die Quellen Layamons. p.551.

poetic method survived into the Middle English period. For the purposes of this study I have grouped together certain poetic devices which may be termed minor, carrying on the investigation by comparison with the Old English epic, Beowulf. It would be desirable to add the evidence of the Exodus, Fata Apostolorum, Andreas, Judith, and Byrhtnoth; but since the scope of the present paper is necessarily limited, I have reserved these poems for a later study, at which time I purpose to add a consideration of figures of speech in the two poems, of variation in Beowulf, and of parallelism in Layamon.

The amount of text used in the present treatment comprises the whole of the Beowulf, (Holder's Edition), and approximately the same number of lines from Layamon, - in all 6300 half lines chosen from different parts of the Brut, as follows: 1-2101, 19852-21952, 30141-32241. This makes possible a statistical comparison of the frequency of occurrence of the different devices considered. The passages have been selected at wide intervals in order that differences in style in the progress of so long a work may not go unrecorded. The second section comprises a particularly interesting portion of the Arthur story. The annalistic method, integral to the Brut, makes close similarity of theme with the Beowulf impossible, but there is no apparent reason why these sections should not show resemblances and divergencies as well as any others. In some respects they are admirably suited to the comparison. The

three deal largely with the events of single heroes. The first section, passing briefly over Eneas and his successors, records the deeds of Brutus,- his exile, his victorious battles, and his final possession of Albion, Diana's gift. Incidentally the interesting account of the fight between Corineus and Geomagog occurs here. I have already indicated that the second section is a portion of Layamon's very significant Arthur material, in which occur some highly emotional and exalted figurative passages. Section three is slightly annalistic, since the narrative is divided between Cadwalan, the chief figure of this portion of the story, and Cadwalader, his son. The coming of calamity to the people, in the form of a plague, causes Cadwalader to flee the land, and introduces several other characters. Athelstan comes out of Saxland to take possession of the country, and at Cadwalader's death Yuni and Ivor, his step-son and nephew, inherit Wales, where the Britons congregate. So the chronicle ends:

iwurde þet iwurde:

iwurde Godes wille.

32240

In these sections, then, we deal largely with the superman, we hear horns and trumpets, see armies gather, and witness the relation between the prince and his followers. In every respect the passages chosen are as suitable as may be for the purpose of this study.

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MINOR POETIC DEVICES

In comparing Layamon's verse with that of Anglo-Saxon, I have not concerned myself with matters of rime and metre. Those have been worked out in detail by Miss McNary in her dissertation entitled Studies in Layamon's Verse. Instead, I have approached the subject from the point of view of diction, occupying myself with the use of separate words and their composition into something like definite poetic devices. In compiling my lists, I have made use of Brandl's classification (Gesch. d. Alteng. Lit. I. 1012-14) of Anglo-Saxon epic characteristics, as manifested in Beowulf, employing it rather as a point of departure than as an absolute standard, and making whatever changes and additions I found necessary to my purpose. In the present paper I have considered the relatively simple and hence relatively minor devices, and have reserved for later study the more complicated and proportionately more poetic devices.

The present chapter divides itself as follows:

GROUP I

- A. Preposed Pronouns
- B. Typical Adverbial Expressions
- C. Typical Adjectives
- D. Decorative Adjectives
- E. Couplets
- F. Circumlocution
- G. Antithesis
- H. Catalogues of Detail

A. Preposed Pronouns. Brandl: Ex: Beowulf 28- hi ---- swaese gesipas, and 100- an --- feond on helle. The following additional examples may be cited from Beowulf:

<u>maeg Higelaces</u>	<u>He</u> þær eallum weard,	
freondum gefaegra	Manna cynne,	913
	<u>Fela</u> þæra waes,	
wera ond wifa		
	op- þæt <u>oðer</u> com	
<u>gear</u> in geardas		1133
Ne-nom he in þæm wicum,	<u>Weder-geata leod,</u>	
maðm - aehta ma		1612

ƿonne cwið aet beore,
eald aesc - wiga
Noder hy hine ne- moston,
deað - werigne
bronde forbaernan

deorcum nihtum
swa hy on gear-dagum

leoda dugude,
weard wine-geomor

mon on mode:

Gewat ƿa twelfa sum

dryhten Geata

Feond gefylde

ond hi hyne ƿa begen

sib- aedelingas:

ƿaet fram ham gefraegn

god mid Geatum,

se-ƿe beah gesyht

2041

syddan mergen cwom,

Denia leode

2124

oð- ƿaet an ongan

draca ricsan 2210

gumena nat-hwylc 2233

ond se an ða-gen

se ƿaer lengest hwearf

2237

oð-ƿaet hyne an abealch

2280

torne gebolgen

dracan sceawian 2401

ferh ellen wraec,

abroten haefdon,

2706

Higelaces ƿegn,

Grendles daeda: 194

Examples of a similar construction in Layamon occur
as follows:

Ah heo mot nede beien:

ƿe mon ƿe ibunden bið.

1401

& daed is ƿe oder:	
Aurilien his broder.	19884
ƿa ƿe <u>hit</u> wes al icume:	
<u>uole</u> unimete	19970
swa heo duden ƿene <u>oder</u> :	
<u>Aurilien his broder.</u>	19992
for heo weoren isibbe	
<u>heo</u> weoren of ane cunne:	
<u>ƿa kinges beiȝe tweien.</u>	30533
ƿa comen <u>he</u> to Tottenes:	
<u>beien ƿa kinges.</u>	
Selemon ƿe sele:	
and Cadwalan ƿae kene.	30926
<u>ƿis</u> iherde Ardur:	
aðelest kingen	
ƿesne wop & ƿesne rop:	21927

Preposed pronouns constitute one form of reduplicated subjects. The construction is common in the English language, having various manifestations. Thus, in brief, the subject noun may be itself repeated; pronoun substitution may occur, either before or after the noun, the pronoun being personal, demonstrative, relative, or reflexive; or the neuter subject it

may be followed by an infinitive, or by a sentence, principal or collateral. With only one of these uses are we primarily concerned, - the use of the pronoun before the noun. An example from modern English cited by Maetzner is Tennyson's,

"And they crossed themselves for fear,

All the knights at Camelot."

Maetzner adds that Old English offers many instances.¹ In the examples which he makes use of, however, both in Old English and Modern English, the pronoun is not necessarily without an antecedent, a distinction which is characteristic of the use in Beowulf.

If, now, the examples from Beowulf and Layamon are compared, several divergencies at once appear, notably the paucity of the Layamon examples. Beowulf shows more than twice as many, the ratio being 15 to 7. Yet the difference is greater than this. The example in l.19970 is doubtful, since there an antecedent practically occurs, though worded so differently as to leave the case at least questionable. Lines 19992-3 repeat l.19884-5, while the examples at 30533 and 30926 are quite similar. Thus we retain only four distinct instances. The Beowulf, to be sure, is not absolutely without repetition, in that l.2210 echoes l. 100. Yet our number is here reduced only to 14, so that in place of an apparent ratio of 15:7, we have the true ratio 14:4.

¹ Eng. Gram. II p. 17.

Thus the Beowulf exhibits almost four times as many genuine instances as Layamon.

Aside from the infrequency with which preposed pronouns appear in Layamon, those which do occur are extremely simple. Five of the total possible cases are complete within the whole line. The example in l. 30533 is practically complete, the repetition of the pronoun having no significance, particularly since the first two lines are tautological. Only the example in l. 21927 extends beyond the long line. Seven of the Beowulf examples are complete within the limits of two successive half-lines, but two only are complete within a single long line. In the other five cases the pronoun occurs in the second half of the line, with the noun in the first half of the succeeding line. It is to be noted that in Beowulf the pronoun and noun are preferably separated, occupying parts of at least two lines, and that this condition prevails in more than half the examples given.

Perhaps these differences may become more apparent by the consideration of certain cases which may be regarded as possible variations of the preposed pronoun. Examples occur where the pronoun, having no antecedent, frequently

but not necessarily demonstrative, is followed by a substantive clause. The following example is representative:

Ic þæt hogode, - - - - -

- - - - -

þæt ic anunga eowra leoda

willan geworhte, oððe on wael crunge 632

Other instances may be found in lines 272-290-705-750-778-809-1392-1497-1607-1778-2026. The use, a common English idiom, is referred to above as a pronoun followed by a collateral sentence. The incomplete meaning of the pronoun without the substantive clause, - or in one case included above, the independent sentence, - is inherent in the construction. Nevertheless the use somewhat resembles in effect, and tends to support, the use of the preposed pronoun. An example from Layamon follows:

þa þat iherde his kun:

þe he of icumen wes.

þat he þe flo heuede idrawn:

& his fader of slawen.

319

Others occur in lines 11,590, 19892, 20096.

Another variation is found in the pronoun without antecedent which relies for the completion of its meaning on a succeeding relative clause. This is a common form of the relative construction, but it should not be confused with cases of relative clauses having definite noun antecedents. So

common, indeed, is the construction that we are surprised to find it employed only five times in Beowulf. An example is:

	ƿonne ƿa dydon,	
ƿe hine aet frumsceafta	ford onsendon	44

The four remaining instances appear in lines 1053, 1755, 2406, 3124. A typical case from Layamon is:

ƿa sende Asscanius:	
ƿe wes lauerd & dux.	
after <u>heom</u> 3end ƿat lond:	
ƿe cupen dweomerlakes song.	267

Other cases are found in lines 15, 570, 668, 674, 916, 1007, 1804, 20979.

Even in these variations, which are not to be classed as genuine cases of preposed pronouns, a distinct difference is evident. The combined phenomena appear about equally in the two poems. The two uses, however, are inversely related with regard to frequency. The difference may be shown thus:

	<u>Beowulf</u>	<u>Layamon</u>
Pronoun & Noun Clause	12	5
Pronoun & Relative Clause	5	9

The Layamon total is slightly lowered if we disregard l. 1007 of the Brut, which is practically a repetition of l. 590.

The converse use becomes significant when we consider the question of connection, which now arises.

How, we may ask, is the use of the preposed pronoun in the Brut related to the practice of the earlier poem? It might very naturally be regarded as a descendant, and, indeed, on the language side this explanation is quite acceptable. Maetzner shows that the construction has an early origin in English, and that it has persisted in the language down to modern times. But only thus generally are the two related. In application they are widely at variance. We have seen that in Layamon the use is more infrequent and much simpler than in the Beowulf. We have now the additional fact to consider that Layamon shows a distinct preference for the relative pronoun construction. I note 308 instances in Layamon in contrast to 143 - less than half as many - in Beowulf. Here the meaning of an earlier comparison becomes clear.

	<u>Beowulf</u>	<u>Layamon</u>
Pronoun & Noun Clause	12	5
Pronoun & Relative Clause	5	9

The use in Layamon is closely allied to the general relative construction; that in Beowulf is more nearly related to the preposed pronoun. Maetzner explains the value of the duplicated subject as rhetorical in effect and emphatic. Yet

he adds that its use becomes general and thus in time feeble --
 merely pleonastic.¹ While the Beowulf seems to preserve its
 rhetorical excellence with poetic effect, the Layamon examples
 point rather to its weaker, more generalized aspect. The
 first example, l. 1401, is undoubtedly effective, with its
 epigrammatic tone; the last example quoted, l. 267, has poetic
 merit. But aside from these two the uses are obviously
 enfeebled. In Layamon the preposed pronoun does not rise
 to the dignity of a poetic device. In the Beowulf it is
 employed with consciously artistic intent and result, emphasiz-
 ing and skilfully reinforcing the highly poetic effect of
 Kennings. Only as a language inheritance are the two uses
 related.

B. Typical Adverbial Expressions. Brandl: Ex.

Beowulf in gearðum (13); under wolcnum (18); under heofenum
 (52); on searwum (249). In the following lists only those
 expressions are to be regarded as typical which occur five
 or more times in the poem in which they appear. Each list,
 however, contains a few expressions which occur less fre-
 quently, but which are typical in the other poem. Correspond-
 ing phrases, as well as exact equivalents, are included.
 Similar phrases are starred.¹

1. Eng. Gram. II p. 16.

2. In making the Beowulf lists of Typical Adverbial Expressions,
 Typical Adjectives, Decorative Adjectives, and Compounds, I
 have used the glossary to Holder's edition of Beowulf.

Beowulf

<u>Phrase</u>	<u>Variation</u>
aet hilde 1459,1659,2258,2575,2684	aet gude 1535,2353,2491,2878
	aet heaðo-lace 584
	aet ecga gelacum 1168
	aet þam lind-plegan 1073
	aet nide 2585
	aet nida gehwam 882
	aet saecce 953,1618,2612,2659, 2681, (þaere) 1665
	aet wige 1337, 2629
*be saem tveonum 858, 1297, 1685, 1956	
*in burgum 2433	burgum in innan 1968, 2452
in sele þam hean 713,1984	in beor-sele 482,2635
	in þam eord-sele 2232
	in þam (grund-) sele 2139
	in þaem gud-sele 443
	in þaem win-sele 695
*mid are 2378	mid ar-stafum 317
*mid his eorla gedriht 357	mid his haele þa gedryht 662

Beowulf

	mid minra (ȳinra) secga
	gedriht 633, 1672
	mid gesidum 1313, 1924
	mid his hand-scale 1317, 1963
*mid ecge 2876	mid Hruntinge 1490, 1659
*mid handa 746, 2720	mid folme 748
	mid mundum 1460, 3091
*mid ȳam maðmum 2788	mid ofer-maðmum 2993
ofer eorȳan 248, 802, 2007	ofer grundas 1404, 2073
	ofer eormen-grund 859
*ofer sae 2380	ofer sae side 2394
	ofer sae-wylmas 393
	ofer ganotes baed 1861
	ofer floda begang 1826
	ofer geofenes begang 362
	ofer fealone flod 1950
	ofer gar-secg 515
	ofer floda genipu 2808
	ofer heafo 2477, 1862
	ofer holmas 240
	ofer waeg-holm 217
	ofer lagu-straete 239
	ofer lagu-streamas 297
	ofer brim-streamas 1910
	ofer hron-rade 10

Beowulf

	ofer swan-rade 200
	ofer sealt waeter 1989
	ofer wid waeter 2473
	ofer waeteres hrycg 471
	ofer yde 46, 1907, 1909
	ofer yda ful 1208
	ofer yda gewealc 464
ofer ealle men 1717	ofer ylða bearn 605
	ofer dryht-guman 1790
	ofer peoda gehwylce 1705
	ofer wer- peode 899
*on aldre 1434, 1779	
*on bearme 40, 1144, 2775	on Biowulfes bearm 2194
	on faeder bearme 21
	on bearm nacan 214
	on bearm scipes 35,896
	on breostum 552
on bence 1243	on ealu-bence 2867
	on mendu-bence 1902,2185,(paere) 1052
*on þaem daege wysses lifes 197, 790, 806	on aldor-dagum 718, 757
	on gear-dagum 1354, 2233
	on tyn dagum 3159
	on þyssum win-dagum 1062

Beowulf

*on ende 2021	on ende-staef 1753
*on eorðan 1532,1822,2822 2855, 3138	on earde 2736 on edle 1730, 1774 on minre eðel-tyrf 410 on foldan 1196, 2975 on hrusan 772,2276,2279,2831 on grunde 2765 on gyfenes grund 1394 on middan-gearde 2996
on flet 1036, 1025,1540, 1568,1647,2034,2054	
*on folce 1701,2377	on ƿa leode 193 on ƿam leodscipe 2197
*on handa 495,540,1678,2208, 3023,3124	on swa hwaedere hond 686
*on ƿa healfe 1675	on ba healfa 1305, 2063 on twa healfa 1095 on healfa gehwone 800
on healle 614,642,1288	on ƿisse meodu-healle 638 on Heorote 475,497,593,1330,1671,2099 on sele 3128 on sele ƿam hean 1016 on beor-sele 492,1094
*on hredre 1745, 1878,2328 3148	on ferhðe 754,948,1718

Beowulf

on geogope 409,466,2426,
2512

*on lande 1913,2310,2836

*on mod 67,753,1418,1844,
2281,2527

*on morgen 565,837,2484,2939

on naes 1439,2417

on ofeste 386,1292,2747,2783,
3090

* on raeste 122,747,1298,1585

*on sae 544

on geogod-feore 537,2664

on land Dena 242,253

on Finna land 580

Freslondum on 2357

on Fresna land 2915

on hreon mode 1307,2581

on sefan 473,1737,1842,1342 (minum)

on morgen-tid 484,518

on Hrones-naesse 2805

on naes-hleodum 1427

on þam holm-clife 1421

on (h) life 3157

on bed 676

on wael-bedde 964

on legere 3043

on sweofote 1581,2295

on sidne sae 507

on sae-lade 1157

Beowulf

on deop waeter 509

on eg-streamum 577

on flode 1366

on gar-secg 49

on hafu 2523

on holme 543,632,1435,1592,2132

on mere 1130,1603

on nicere mere 845

on segl-rade 1429

on sund 512,539,1510,1618

on ydum 210,421,534,1437

on searwum 249,1557,
2530,2568,2700

on weg 264,763,844,
1382,1430

on forð-weg 2625

on fede 970

on gange 1884

on lade 1987

on aenne sið 1579

on wil-sið 216

*on willan 1739,2307

to banan 587,2203

to ecg-banan 1262

to hand-bonan 460,2502

to muð-bonan 2079

Beowulf

*to gefeohte 2048

to beadu-lace 1561

to gude 438,1472

to þam lind-plegan 2039

to saecce 2686

*to life 2432

to aldre 955,2005,2498

to widan feore 933

*to sae 318

to brimes farode 28

to flode 1888

to holme 2362

to sae-lade 1139

*to sele 323,1640

to þaem gold-sele 1639

to sele þam hean 919

to þaem heah-sele 647

to þam hring -sele 2010

to healle 925,1009

to Heorute 766,1279,1330,1990

to hofe,1974,1836,(sinum) 1236,1507

to setle 1232,1782,2019

to bence 327, 1013

*to scipe 1895,1154

to gescipe 2570

*to soðe 51,590,2325

under heofenum 52, 505

under heofenes hador 414

under heofones hwealf 576,2015

Beowulf

	under roderum 310
	under swegle 1078, 1197
	under swegles begong 860,1773
	under wolcnum 8,651,714,1631,1770
under helme 342,404,1745, 2539	under here-griman 396,2049,2605
under stan-cleofu 2540	under Earna-naes 3031
	under naessa genipu 1360
	under fen-hleoðu 820
	under mist-hleoðum 710
wid aglaecan 2534, (þam) 2520,425	wid feonde 439,1864
	wid feonda gehwone 294
	wid Grendel 424,1997,2521
*geond eordan 266,3099	geond þisne middan-geard 75,1771

Layamon

<u>Phrase</u>	<u>Variation</u>
after heore wille 20510,20932, 31650,32105,32109,(aeuwer) 20763	
bi his liue 19982,21199,30209	bi mine quicke liue 677,30307 (heore) 20522
*bi sae 1485, 20203,20209, (pere) 20922,31194,32033	bi pare sae brimme 20196 bi sae flode 1032, (pan) 1080 bi pan mere brade 21841
for lufe 31029, (pon) 223,(his) 837	for Heleine lufe 31112 for pere muchele luue 30197
for eower saulen 21453	for his awene saule 66 for his (mines) fader saule 62,20896 for his moder saule 64
inne benden 681,1044,(mine) 31011 in armlliche benden 593 868	
*in burze 21668,(pere) 293,2045, 30172	in nauer nare burze 30878,31201
i on castle 1682,1692,612, 31137,30499,(min)462,656	

Layamon

- i þon daze 1758,20198,31741,
 (a) 30934,31539
- i ueldes 20620, (þa) 20645,
 (a þan) 31421,31423
- i þon londe 343,397,601,1241
 1800,1968,21868,31869,
 32119,(þisse) 452,1974,
 19852,20108,30457,(a þisse)
 21891,31978,(a þan) 21831,118
- a þon ilke dæzen 20032
 inne frimdæzen 31945
 ine iuurn dazen 32206
 i þan þridde dæze 21853
- a Lincolnes felde 20681
- inne londe 30190
 i þon eit-londe 1133
 i þon wode-londe 1699
 in AEnglelond 31208
 in Aest-londe 30932
 in Irlonde 30501
 in Griclonde 559
 inne Scottlonde 20366
 in his aerde 31325,(þissen)
 31319
 in Armorichen earde 1635
 a middelaerde 21740
 in eorðe 966
- i þan watere 21750,21790
- a watere 550,562
 inne wateren 20974
 i þa sae 1401,1283
 inne sae 1114
 i wide sae 1111
 i þan straeme 21323

Layamon

i þan rich 30450

mid ærmden 721,87,20438,
20702 (?), 31512

mid þan beste 707,2076,1855,
19934,20184,20448,30286,
30921,32073.

mid blissen 242,32098

*mid his cnihten 819,20908,30424

a þissere worlde-riche 20464,2048

a mire þeode 492,1056

a ueole cunne þeoden 20772

mid hæzere blise 19953,20552,
21664

mid muchelere blisse 2100,20953
30720
mid feouwer & twenti cnihten

21612

mid seouen hundred cnihten,21219
(fiftene)21278,(fif)1425,(twa
30953

mid seouen þusend cnihten 20231,
21286,(þritti) 20187,20548,
(sixti) 20714

mid alle his here-cnihten 30787

mid balde his beornen 20531

mid baldre duzede 20225

mid ferde 21209,21814,(his) 232,

438,526,617,20066,20577,20609

30477,(alle his) 31430,(þire

1576

Layamon

mid muchelere ferde 516,1746,19915

30504,(muchelere his) 1527,31211,

(swa muchele) 30874

mid unimete ferde 1654,20015,20053

mid richen his ferde 20290

mid his leod-ferde 20722

mid muchelere genge 31115

mid unimete genge 30949

mid his here 1644

mid swide haerde haere-gumen 20253

mid his kemppen 21718

mid adelere kempen 21720

mid his wael-kempen 565

mid fiftene þusend monnen 30430

mid swide feole monne 31612

mid Saexisce monnen 20294

mid his mon-weorede 20393

mid muchelere mon-weorede 20553,21658,

21707

mid folke 20189,20507

(þan) 1366,31770,(alle

þon) 1686,(allen his)135,

30719

mid his (mine) driht folcke 111,1388

mid riche his folke 533

mid unimete uolke 20549,21732,31213

mid his wnfolke 1385

*mid honden 1563,(his)1185,

(his aþene) 1718,31006

(ure)975,(swiðeren)1548,

(his swiðeren) 21424

Layamon

mid alle his imihten 30422,
31005, (alle heore) 30979,
31434, (alle mire) 699

*mid golde 120, 1774, 1824, 20013,
21144, 31510

*mid monscipe 119, 421, 848,
20742

mid spere 548, 20517, 21505,
(heore) 21515

mid strengde 1843, 20350,
30480, 31577, 32034

mid seoluere 1774, 1824, 20013, 31510
mid ahten swide deore 30442
mid gersume 120

mid wrdscipe 195, 288
mid wrscipen hezen 1821, 1211
mid muchele worscipe 206

mid heore speren longe 21395

mid allen his stredge 667
mid baldere strengde 20622, 21676
mid his gud strenode 1595
mid haehzere strengde 20153, 21362
mid muchele(his) strengde 1465,
20478, 1315

mid raehzere strengde 19956, 20035
mid richere strengde 764
mid selere strengde 21654
mid his wored strenode 509
mid wunderliche strengden 1895

Layamon

*mid sweorde 1554,1557,548	mid sweoreden swithe stronge 21396
877,21069,21248,21325,	mid egge 31515
(his) 21257	mid mechen 178
	mid stele 1533
	mid stelene orde 624
mid wepnen 1724,21289,21895,	mid þat beste wepnen 1107
30971,(his) 564,(ure)973	mid wepnen wel idone 31179
mid watere 21579,21895	mid watere swide braede 21742
	mid pære sae 1233
	mid unimete stremen 31229
	mid uðen 30539,30675,(þan) 1341
mid heore wæzen 21515,21596	mid graete wæzen 21505
	mid clibben 20968
	mid clubben swide graete 21504
mid worde 30341,32093,32179,	mid æðelen his worden 31061
32207	mid bolde heore worden 21671
	mid godene heore worden 665
	mid gomenfulle worden 21430
	mid heore hux worden 21682
	mid liðfulle worden 1262
	mid milden his worden 1192,1197
	mid seorhfulle worden 1042

Layamon

- mid þeu-fulle worden 1797
mid speche 788
mid adelere speche 30216
mid greidlicre speche 445
- mid ludere heora craften
1345, 21174, 21648
- mid adelen his crafte 21132
mid heore ufele craften 31658
mid wizele-fulle craften 21140
- mid muchele harme 20526
- mid feole cunne haermen 21894
mid haermen þan maesten 31161
mid harme swide stronge 21830
mid teonen 171, 330, 73
mid ufele 31592
mid unrihte 32023, 1431
- of kunne 94, (þire) 1247, 21444,
21448, 20251, (his) 21486,
31463, 31986, (his aȝne) 335,
(mine) 20628, 21686, (ane)
30534, (hire) 31099, (al heore)
31484
- of aedele mine cunne 20634
of swide heȝe cunnen 21110, 379
of kine-wurde cunne 20768
of meren his cunne 409
of Brutus kunne 2041
of Edwines cunne 31285, 31290, 31293
- of his cnihten 613, 30709, 30867
- of ber-cnihtes 19944
of gode cnihten 365.
of duȝede 20851
of his ferde 30425, (mire) 21467,
(þare) 30641
of þan mon-weorede 31436

Layamon

of lif-dagen 20698,21652,31255,
31736,20023

of alle his deden 30888

of folke 94,(his)2074,(þan)
329,2070

of golde 20480,21640,30669,
(þine) 30819,30835

of kingen 20769,31784,(þan)
1521

of adele his dede 21846

of Cadwalanes deden 31165

of wlchere deden 31624

of heore misde 31392

of alle þine misdede 32080

of Cadwadlanes uolke 30181

of Frenchisce folke 1655

of folke swide hende 2000

of mine leode 32147

of summes cunnes leoden 21765

of reade golde 1181,1267,30805

of ahte 96

of þine garsume 31571

of adele þan kinge 20996

of his leod-kinge 30869

of Arðure kinge 20894

of Arðure þan kinge 20982

of Edwine kinge 30715

of Cadwaladen kinge 32127

of Oswy þan kinge 31482

Layamon

of londe 20929,19877,20416,	of an aeit-londe 21751
21532,21546,31344,31356,	of his kine-londe 900
31513,31525,(his) 896,1028	of AEst-londe 31486,31494
1963,31506,(isse)999,20454,	of Brutlonde 21836
32008,(al isse)31988,(on)	of Griclond 601
1307,31187,31474,31653,(alle	of Sex-londe 31665
on)1656,(mine)20830	of Sud-londe 31063
	of Walisce londe 31509
	(pat)
	of arde 31342,1427,1451,21656
	of feole cunne aerde 30875
of monne 96,947,31848,(his)	of haexten his monnen 20884
636,1288,(alle ane)32030,	of feole usend monnen 30184
(a) 32006	of an Troyscen monnen 410
of swlchere neode 671,30222,	of his neode 31027
30244,31073,31336	
of isse uare-coste 30173,(heore)	of mine ford-fare 32180
31914,(his)1490,30735	
*ouer sae 20443,20817,20889,21280,	ouer sae streames 326,30924
30885,31859,949	ouer en lac 1279,1280
	ouer uden 21183
	ouer at water 20094,21277(?)
	ouer at water deope 20154
	ouer deope wateres 21490
	ouer ere Humbre 30203,31476
	ouer Humbre 30348,30381,31574

Layamon

ouer waelde 21204, 21487, 21530
21567

ouer þe wolden 20138
ouer bradne waelde 21339

*on bedde 1216, (his) 30594

*on breosten 21231

a mire breosten 21088
on heora breost-þonke 1936

*on daie 858, (ane) 82, 1818,
(þon) 1284, (his) 31791

on þane daze amarwen 853
on þan heðen dæwen 1171
on Brutus dæi 2068

*on þan ende 31835, (an) 21782,
(his) 31218, (aelic) 32226,
31846

*on eorden 1150, 1940, 21535,
30697

on folden 31732, 30631

*on folke 20676, 20972, 30260,
30409, 30416, 30783, 30843

on aelche leode 1927

*on heorten 19891, 20816, 21572,
21932, 663, 2016, 30176, 30532,
30825

on hirede 1827, 1173, 20238,
20556, 31702

Layamon

*on alchere halue 1665,1709, on ane half 1748,(are)20717,(oder)
20275,20868 20721

a sud halme(halue?)21800

on aelchere siden 621,1343,1723

an aueraelchen siden 21941

an aest side 21798

a moniare siden 21774

a nare side 21406

*on hond 1058,1180,1825,248, on Caddwalanes hond 30142
1964,19945,20309,20415, on Edwines hond 30370,30384
20420,20453,20566,21157, on riht hond 1398

21226,21639,30404,30428,

30668,30731,30754,30794,

30804,30848,31265,31580,

31759,1321,1452,(his)

2092,31294,(his azere)20061,

21046,31992,(azere),20874,

(eower ahzere) 21436,(heore)

31185,31651

*on lue 227,1254,1378,1829,

19898,20301,30521,30573,

30883,31457,32010,32012,

*on lond 116,550,562,1785,1789 on pan eit-londe 1160

Layamon

- 19994, 20010, 20529, 20537,
 20565, 21864, 20741, 21175,
 21451, 30294, 30300, 30357,
 30461, 30678, 31102, 31105,
 31504, 31801, 31803, 31269
 31852, (þan) 127, 264, 1166,
 31836, (his) 944, 20356
- on leoden 69, 2015, 20766, 31792, 31817
 on his þeoden 20057
 on ælchere eode 31056, 30212
 on richen 20392, 20892
- *a marwen 1694, 30764
- *on mode 1477, 20083, 21560,
 30541, 30655, (his) 167, 638,
 30727
- on þare sae brade 30496
- *on willen 1780, 1102, 20923,
 21527, 30606, 30707, 30920,
 (heore) 32039
- to bedde 711, 19946, (his) 936,
 31127
- to þas kinges bedde 30484
- *to þan castle 1679, 599, 616,
 30771, 31116
- *to feht 1359, 1703, 1714, 1735,
 30376, 31321
- to sturne fihte 20774
- to iferen 1588, 20695, 31078,
 31260
- to his tueolf iferen 1617

Layamon

to grunde 800,988,1761,
 20059,20077,20145,20636,
 21366,21380,21388,21598,
 21826,31311 (pan) 20062,
 20700,20704,21273,21400,
 21604,1668, (pe) 1543

to folde 1922,21874

to hond 2064,(his) 31459,
 32021 (his a3re) 1641,
 30464,(mire a3aere)30314,
 (pire a3ere) 31101,31694

to godes hond 31382

to horse 20471,21097(2),21212,
 21481,31720

to hirede 496,1489,30466,(pan)
 20326

to pas kinges hirede 20314,30757

to kinge 19928,30170,31456,
 31936,(pan) 780,929,1472,
 20009,20358,21914

to Ardur king 20247,21058,(pan)
 20906,21112,21884

to Cadwadlane kinge 30194,
 30958,31039,31374,31408,
 31442,31518,31982

to Edwine kinge 30304,30318

to pan kinge Pandan 31480

to Bruttene kinge 32067

to pan heouenlicche kinge 32201

*to his liue 1269,30242

Layamon

to londe 105,106,952,1116,
 1268,1300,20451,20512,
 20515,20545,20955,21060,
 21822,32035,32221,(pan)
 1354,20954,21770,32165,
 (pissen) 20498,20938,
 21332,21903,30515,30663,
 30891,31441,31924,(his)
 31746,(his azene)21054
 (apet) 1399

to neode 661,1199,20388,31710,
 (his) 30211,30939,(pine)
 31057

to niht 709,(pere) 1680

to rede 440,518,20210,20387,
 21931,30187,30243,30658,
 31026,31335

*to sae 20503,20920,(pare)93,
 97,1093,1412,1771,19912,
 21471,30439,30674

to ane aeit-londe 30542
 to sele heore londe 20890
 to pan king-londe 31466
 to ane wnsume londe 1204
 to Brutlonde 30885
 to Irlonde 21829
 to Scotlonde 21659,30369,30427
 to Sexlonde 31167,31916
 to Walisce londe 32215,32227
 to aerde 20674,(pan) 21758
 to his peoden 31594

to pere middel-niht 20607,
 20595,21691,21701

to flode 21271
 to pan mere 21833
 to ane watere 20067,(pan)21628

Layamon

*to scipe 1272, 1511, 21588,

30503, 30538, 32041, (þan)

1131, 21519, 21531, 21940,

(heora) 1305, 1772, 20888

*to soþe 602, 984, 20591, 30812,

31094

to wode 302, 429, 615, 1422, 31273,

31262, (þan) 522, 1685,

20243, 20665, 20694,

out of londe 286, 31845, (þane)

324, (þissen) 31352, (his)

1612

ut of Griclonde 1110

ut of Saexlonde 20025, 20027,

20107, 20149, 31990

ut of Sexen 31934

ut of Spainisce ard 30703

*}eond londe 31850, (þat) 269,

494, 953, 1404, 1638, (þane)

423, (þis) 2019, 30705, 31151,

(his) 1409, 20005, (al his)

32123, (þat ilke) 1301

}eond his kine-londe 1479

}eond feole kine-londe 30361

}eond al Griclonde 1076

}eond al Scotlond 21045

}eond Irlonde 30454

}eond an aerde 32211 (alle his)

30372 (alle mine) 31303, (alle þisse)

20432

}eond al þan nord aerde 20045

}eond þa cliues 21807

}eond cliuenen 32217

}eond mneccliuen 32218

}eond clude 21849, 32217, (as)

21916

The comparative lists disclose at once the fact that the Layamon list is more than twice as long as the Beowulf list, and that it contains a great many commonplace phrases. Confining our attention to the resemblances which appear, we find a considerable verbal likeness in the two poems, which, however, upon closer examination, becomes insignificant beside a difference of far greater import than any mere similarity of phrasing. Only the more prosaic Beowulf expressions are repeated in Layamon. A few comparisons may make the difference clear, if we remember in every case that similarity, not identity, is to be expected. For the simple mid honden, to þan castle of Layamon we find in Beowulf the more varied mid folme, mid mundum, to þaem heah-sele, to þam gold-sele, to þam hring-sele. As a substitute for the definite mid seoluere and mid golde of Layamon we have the less concrete and more poetic Beowulf equivalents mid þam maðmum, mid ofer-maðmum. On breosten has the corresponding Anglo-Saxon phrases on bearm scipes, on faeder beorme, on bearm nacan. Layamon, to be sure, uses mid sweorde, mid mechen, mid egge for the mid ecge of Beowulf; but it is to be noted that at least the older poem has the most poetic, the only figurative, use. Layamon has numerous expressions for warriors, some of them, - as for example mid alle his here-cnihten, mid his leod-ferde, mid his mon-weorede, mid his wael-kempen, mid baldre duxede, mid balde his beornes, mid swiðe haerde haere-gumen, - being almost as poetic as the Beowulf phrases mid his eorla gedriht, mid minra secga gedriht, mid his haelepa gedriht. In reference

to the sea, also, the Brut has some rather pleasing variants:
ouer sea streames, ouer uðen, ouer deope wateres, ouer þon lac,
bi þare sae-brimme, bi sae flode, bi þan mere brade. These,
however, are feeble in comparison with the vigorous and picturesque
Anglo-Saxon collection: ofer yða ful, ofer yða gewealc, ofer hron-
rade, ofer swan-rade, ofer waeg-holm, ofer gar-secg, ofer lagu-
streames, ofer lagu-straete, ofer brim-streamas, ofer geofenes
begang, ofer sae-wylmas, ofer floda begang, ofer waeteres hrycg
ofer ganotes bæd, ofer fealone flod, ofer floda genipu, ofer
sealt waeter. Moreover the highly poetic, under heofenum, under
heofenes hwealf, under swegles begong, under swegle, under wolcnum
have no equivalent whatever in the Layamon list. It may be
suggested, of course, that the Layamon has its own poetry of phrase,
which is excluded from this discussion because it is not matched
in the Beowulf. True, we do find such mildly poetic examples as
mid his wnfolke, mid haezere blise, mid milden his worde, mid
wizele-fulle craften, and the various forms of mid muchelen
strengde; but these are weaklings beside the forceful Anglo-Saxon
of ofer eormen-grund, to beadu-lace, to þam lind-plegan, on minre
edel-tyrf, under mist-hleodum, and under here-griman. The prose
of Beowulf survived in the adverbial expressions, but not its
poetry.

58

C- Typical Adjectives. Brandl: monegum maegdum, wide sidas, deorcum nihtum, atelic egesa. The intention of the following lists is to exhibit those adjectives which by frequent use tend to lose something of their descriptive value and to become intensifying adjectives. As in the adverb list, only those adjectives which appear at least five times are to be regarded as typical. Those in the Beowulf list which occur less frequently are given merely for the sake of comparison with the corresponding Layamon list and have not been included in the count of typical adjectives. A few have been admitted which Brandl classifies as adjectives of mood, but it is difficult to see how any limiting word can be frequently used with various nouns without losing some of its original significance.¹ Only adjectives used attributively have been included.

1. There is justification on the grounds of expediency for including only attributive adjectives. Examination of the predicate adjectives with relation to the typical adjective lists shows that only 16 of the 39 attributive adjectives listed in Beowulf appear also as predicate adjectives, - these 16 being used 33 times. Only three adjectives not already given would be added by extending the list, - gearo, gesyne, gifeðe, found 17 times. In Layamon, on the contrary, 19 of the 26 attributive adjectives are employed also in the predicate, occurring in this use 118 times. Thirteen other adjectives, used 112 times in the predicate, would be added to the typical list. None of these 13 or the 3 in Beowulf would be common to both poems. Thus the lists would be encumbered, with no different results from those reached by a consideration of only attributive adjectives. The conclusions would merely be strengthened, and the gulf widened between the Beowulf and Layamon.

Repeated use of an adjective in any connection tends to weaken it, but the attributive adjective becomes conventionalized more easily than adjectives in other positions, because a certain degree of emphasis is inherent in the appositive and predicate use. Thus, "The blue sky" means to us only the expected color of the sky, but if we say, "The sky is blue", by the natural order of the English sentence we throw the adjective into a position of prominence. Similarly "Blue is the sky" gives to the adjective the emphasis of transposition. Only in the¹ attributive use can the adjective readily lose its force.

1. This is illustrated by the French distinction in the position of its adjectives. The tendency of the language toward a rising accentuation operates to place distinguishing adjectives after their nouns. Adjectives denoting quality inherent in the noun usually precede. Likewise many of the common adjectives, such as bon, mauvais, grand, petit, jeune, and vieux, generally precede the nouns they modify.

It is interesting to note, in this connection, that both the Beowulf and Layamon secure some emphasis for even typical adjectives by placing them after their nouns. Approximately 17% of the uses in Layamon and 22% of the uses in Beowulf appear in this transposed order. The stress thus gained does not, of course, lessen the typical character of the adjective, but it affords some variety to the necessary and the commonplace.

Beowulf

*aedele

aedele cempa 1312

aedelan cynnes 2234

aedele ord-fruma 263

aer-god

ae þeling aer-god 130,1329,2342

iren aer-god 989,2586

atol

atol aefen-grom 2074

atol aeglaeca 592,732,816

atol angengea 165

atole ecg-þraece 596

atolan clommum 1502

atol inwit-gaest 2670

eatolne inwit-scear 2478

atol ylðo 1766

atelic egesa 784

atol yða geswing 848

*brad

brad gold 3105

bradne mece 2978

brade rice 2207

beorht

beorht beacen godes 570

beah-sele beorhta 1177

beorhte bold 997

bord-wudu beorhtan 1243

Beowulf

	beorhtre bote 158
	beorhtum byrnum 3140
	byrhtan byrig 1199
	beorhte fraetwe 214, 896
	beorht hofu 2313
	beorhte randas 231
cud	ecge cude 1145
	cude folme 1303
	guma gudum cud 2178
	cude naessas 1912
	cude straete 1634
*deor	dryncfaet deore 2254, 2306
	deorre dugude 488
	dyre iren 2050
	deorum madme 1528, 2236, 3131
	deorum men 1879
	deoran sweorde 561, 3048
dyrne	dyrnan craefte 2290, 2168
	dryht-sele dyrnne 2320
	dyrnra gasta 1357
	dyrne langad 1879
eald	eald aesc-wiga 2042
	ealdum ceorle 2972
	eald edel-weard 1702, 2210

Beowulf

eald enta geweorc 2774

eald gewin 1781

ealdum infrodum 1874

ealde lafe 795,1488,1688

ealde madmas 472

ealde riht 2330

eald sweord 1558,1663,2979

ealdes uht-flogan 2760

eald uht-sceaða 2271

ealde wisan 1865

ece

ece drihten 108,2796,1692,2330,1779

ecne raed 1201,1760

ece eord-reced 2719

*faeger

faeger foldan bearm 1137

faeger fold-bold 773

fædo-burh faegere 522

fah

brim blode fah 1594

fagne flor 725

hrof golde fahne 927

sadol searwum fah 1038

sele-ful since fach 2217

fagum sweordum 586

sweord swate fah 1286

win reced faettum fahne 716

Beowulf

faest

freondscipe faestne 2069
 faeste friodu-waere 1096
 stan-bogan stapulum faeste 2718
 segl sale faest 1906
 wudu wyrtum faest 1364

faeted

faette beagas 1750
 faettan goldes 1093,2246,2102
 faette scyldas 333
 faeted waege 2253,2282

forma

forman dogore 2573
 forma sið 716,740,1463,1527,2286,
 2625

frecne

frecne daede 889
 frecne fen-gelad 1359
 feorh-bealo frecne 2250,2537
 frecne fyr-draca 2689
 frecnan spraece 1104
 frecne stowe 1378
 frecnu folces cwen 1932

frod

frod cyning 1306,2209
 frod fela-geomor 2950
 frode feorh-lege 2800
 frod fyrn-witan 2123
 frod folces weard 2513

Beowulf

geomor

geomuru ides 1075
giomor-gyd 3150
geomor sefa 49, 2419
sefa geomor 2632

geong

byre geonge 2018
geongum cempan 1948 2044, 2626
geongum feore 1843
geongum gar-wigan 2674
geong guma 20
geongne gud-cyning 1969
Hygd swide geong 1926
se maga geonga 2675
gingaeste word 2817

*god

god cyning 11, 863, 2390
god gud-cyning 2563
cyning aedelum god 1870
god hafoc 2263
godum daedum 2178
godra gud-rinca 2648
gud-wine godne 1810
gar-wigend gode 2641
yd-lidan godne 199

gomel

gomelum ceorle 2444
gomela io-meowlan 2931
gomel gud-wiga 2112
zomele lafe 2563

Beowulf

gamelum rince 1677

gomela Scilding 2105,2487,1792

gomela Scilfing 2968

gomel swyrd 2610

grim

grim andswaru 2860

grimma gaest 102

geosceaft grimme 1234

gled-egesa grim 2650

grimme gripe 1148

grimman grapum 1542

grimlic gryre 3041

grimme gryre-licne grund-hyrde 2136

grimre gude 527

grim sefa 2043

har

hare byrnan 2153

harum hild-fruman 1678

har hilde-rinc 1307,3136

heasure haeye hord 2212

harne stan 887,1415,2553,2744

hat

headu-fyres hates 2522

hate heado-wylmas 2819

hatan heolfre 1423,849

hat hilde-swat 2558

Beowulf

*haeden

haeden gold 2276

haednum horde 2216, 2212

haedene sawle 852

*heah

beorh pone hean 3097

heah gesceap 3084

hea(n) healle 1226

heah Healfdene 57

heah hlaew 2805

heanne hrof 983

hean huses 116

heah sele 82

sele þam hean 713, 919, 1016, 1984

heah segn 48, 2768

heard

heardan ceape 2482

heardum clammum 1335, 963

heardran feohtan 576

heardran haele 719

hearda heap 432

hearde heaðo-scearde 2829

hearda helm 2255

here-net hearde 1553

here-nið hearda 2474

here-strael hearda 1435

heoro-sweng heardne 1590

hearde hild-freca 2205

Beowulf

*leof

Beowulf leofa 1216,1854,1758
 leofa Biowulf 2663,1987
 hlaford leofne 3142
 Hrodgar leofa 1483
 leofne þeoden 34,3079
 leofne mannan 297,1943,2127,3108,
 1994,2080,2897,1915
 leof land-fruma 31
 leof leod-cyning 54
 Wiglaf leofa 2745

*long

lengra fyrst 134
 longe hwile 2780,16,2159
 lange tid 1915
 longe þrage 54,114,1257

*lytel

lytel hwile 2030,2097
 lif-wraðe lytle 2877

maere

maere cempa 1761
 maeru cwen 2016
 maeran cynnes 1729
 maerum Geate 1301
 maere mago 2011
 maerum magu-þegne 2079
 maþþum-faet maere 2405
 maere maþþum-sweord 1023
 maere meare-stapa 103

Beowulf

maere gemeting 2001

maere ƿeoden 129,1715,201,353,1598,
2384,1046,797,345,2572,1992,2788,
3141

ƿeoden maerne 2721,3070

*manig

snotor ceorl monig 908

eorl monig 3077

helm monig 2762

gud-rinc monig 838

monegum maegðum 5,75

manegum maðmum 2103

medu-benc monig 776

medo-ful monig 1015

manigra meda 1178

manige men 337

rinc manig 399

monig snellic sae-rinc 689

scealc monig 918

sae-deor monig 1510

sid-rand manig 1289

ƿegne monegum 1341,1419

*micel

micel aefyunga 502

micel aerende 270

miclan domes 978

estum miclum 958

Beowulf

getrume micle 922
 hwil micel 146
 mago-driht micel 67
 micle ---maegen-byrdenne 3091
 micle mearc-stapan 1348
 medo-aern micel 69
 mod micel 1167
 mod-ceare micle 1778
 micel morgen-sweg 129
 miclan pearfe 2849
 wraec micel 170
 wundor micel 771
 mihtigan drihtne 1398
 mihtig god 701,1716,1725
 mihtig man-scada 1339
 mihtig mere-deor 558
 mere-wif mihtig 1519
 mago-þegn modig 2757
 modiges mannes 2698
 modgan maegnes 670
 modges mere-faran 502
 modig secg 1812
 rice rand-wiga 1298
 rice þeoden 1209

mihtig

modig

*rice

Beowulf

snotor

snotor ceorl 908,202,416,1591

snotra fengel 2156,1475

snotor guma 1384

snotor haeled 190

snotra sunu 3120

steap

beorgas steape 222

steap stan hlido 1409

steapne hrof 926

steapne rond 2566

stan-beorh steapne 2213

swaes

swaesne edel 520

leode swaese 1868

swaese gesidas 29,2040,2518,1934

sid

sidan herge 2347

byran side 1291

side rice 1733,2199

sidne sae 507

sae side 2394

side sae-naessas 223

side scyldas 325,437

sidne sefan 1726

sidra sorga 149

wid

widan feore 933

widan feorh 2014

Beowulf

widan rices 1859

wide sidas 877

wid waeter 2473

wide warodas 1965

*wisa

wisa fengel 1400

wisra monna 1413

wraetlic

wraetlic waeg-sweord 1489

wig-bord wraetlic 2339

wlite-seon wraetlic 1650

wraetlicne wundur-maddum 2173

wraetlicne wyrm 891

Layamon

*aedel

aedelen AElienor 42-3
aedela boc 29
aedelen are chirechen 6
adele cniht 19895,888,19867
adelen his crafte 21132
adele mine cunne 20634
adele his dede 21846
adelere kempen 21720
adele king 21479,21428,21542,21146
adela þan king 20996
adele mon 56
adele mine sonde 31606
adelere speche 30216
adelen his worden 31061

bald

balde his beornen 20531
balde mine beornes 21376
baldere beornen 31238,31921,20208
bald Brut 20519
Brutten swiðe balde 32225
baldre duzede 20225
balde uox 20865
his balde ibeot 21345
þene (bolde) kaeisere 20525
balde þa kinges 31542
baldere strengde 20622,21676
bald þein 19951,30431

Layamon

balde mine peines 21297
bolde heore worden 21671

*brad

uald brade 20087
brade forde 20072
braden his lechen 30272
pan mere brade 21841
pare sae brade 30495
scipen brade-fulle 32224
braden speren 20142
streames swide brade 30991
his brode swaerd 21417
bradne waelde 21339
watere swide braede 21742
braede wei3es 30982.

*deore

deore bearn 165
his bearn deora 1090
mi brode deore 30220
deore hire brodren 30797
breden alre deorest 30589
kempa dema (deora?)1962
his mon deore 31858
his deoreste mon 30657
on-licnes deore 21155
sceld deore 21150

Layamon

*feire

feire ae 1400
 feire Austin 35
 uaeiresta cniht 21163
 feire deor 1236
 feire laere 30159
 faeiȝer lond 31905
 wunder ane fair mon 32065
 waex faeire 21873
 ueirest wifmonne 30474
 nan feirure uifmon 31086

fulle

ure fulle fan 802, 963
 ur iuan uulle 20104
 his fulle freond 836
 his fulle ploȝe 20843
 fiftiscipen fulle 1285

*god

god cniht 406, 1535, 363, 528-9,
 1358, 20596, 20640, 20773, 30968,
 31075, 31789
 cniht god 30346, 30970
 cnihtes swiȝe gode 30188
 godne daei 32187
 god dede 21072
 eiȝe gode 2078
 gode folc 1810
 gumen mine gode 21379
 gode grund 1088

Layamon

haeleðes gode 21092

gode hors 940

keppe swiðe god 19949

god king 19875,19960,30450,31763

gode mine lare 922

lawen gode 2078

god mon 31042

men god 30145

heora noma gode 2067

god raed 31582,31642

gode scipen 98

scipen gode 1031,1079,20921

cnihtes aec gode 20490

tunnen gode 30672

heora waepne gode 1703

þa gode weored 1359

gode webbe 19947

gode wiues 20961

godene heore worden 665

ziuen gode 20494

zeuen swiðe gode 930

grit swiðe god 21637

clubben swiðe graete 21504

graete uoꝝeles 21754

heorde swiðe greate 305-6

great

Layamon

greatere heorte 569

graete hiue 790

scipen greaete 1105, 20926

*heze

haezere blise 19953, 20552, 21664

heze burh 219, 2071

clude heah 21752

þat hea der 313

heze Diana 1199

heze dome 51950

heze forke 21102

heze godd 30208, 31323, 32151

godd heze 31033

heze gume 20649

heze helmes 30405

here-kempen heze 30364

haeze holme 20712

hezes kinges 44

kig haehne 31298

heie kunne 379, 21110

hezere laren 30492

heze men 176, 541, 20765, 20912, 21374,

31947, 31917

haehst mon 20026

haexten his monnen 20884

heizen are quene 159

haeze scade 1923

Layamon

haezere scipene 30909

haihe scrud 898

hazere stefenen 20856,21704

haehzere strengde 20153,21362

heze treowen 511, 1024,21106

haeze stan walle 2026

heze word 1503

hux worden 21682

wrscipen hezen 1821,1211

haeze wude 20135,20711

wude haeh 21524

*heden

heden dawen 1171

haedene eorl 21217

haedene hundes 20540,21172,21902

hedene quene 31664

hedene tidende 396

-inowe

fuzeles inoze 20844

men--- inoze 30721

inoh seoluer and gold 31906

wildernesse inoze 30335

3isles inowe 20802

kene

cnihthes swide kene 30375

kene eorl 21534

Layamon

eorl swide kene 21622

kene his ferde 1663

kene gume 30281

kene men 520,21712,20616

scalkes swide kene 21562

*leof

leofe brode 30196

leofe his cnihten 20129

leoue Diana 1198

leoue dohter 1049

leof folc 1355

leofe freond 703,708

leofe maei 30279,1064

leofe ure maeies 20812,20822

madmas leoue 30897,31954

leoue men 847,867,1516

leouen his monnen 20590

men leofe 20284

wine leoue 1737

*long

eotendes longe 1832

longne first 287

ane pic swide log 30750

postles longe 1316

(scipen) longe 20926

spere longe 21353,21395,30403

Layamon

longe heore sweordes 20916

þa watere longe 21750

*lut

lutel daze 30223

lut me 31849

lutel stunde 1838

lutel wile 1652

lutel ane wile 344

lut ȝearen 222,387,1997

*moni

moni bald Brut 20519

moni cniht 1711,21596

moni god cniht 1535,20596

moniennes cunnes 20050,1710,30671

moni fiht 407

moni fot 815

moni heaued 574

moni hond 574,815

monie hundred 1719

moni lond 114

monie men 656

moni kineborene mon 336

moni riche mon 903

moni steap mon 1532

moni þusend monen 20633

moni mod-sorhȝe 30336

moni mute 21789

moni (swyn) 21264

monie hundred tune 31847

monie þusend 465,817,844,976,1605,1760,
21795,19855,21850

Layamon

moni hundred þusen 21761

moni wepmon 1868

moni wifmon 1869

moni are wisen 555

moni wensides 572

moni 3er 327

moni 3im-ston 21143

*muchel

muchel ahte 1311

balu muchel 1741

muchele ban 1373

muchele bi3aete 609,1637

muchelere blisse 2100,20953,

30720,31122,31541

muchel blod-3ute 630,20078,20675

muchela bursten 996

muchelure care 104,30667

a muchel cros 31386

muchael dal 20416,31435

muchel dom 1009

muchel dune 1009

muchel folkes dream 1010

muchel dred 1682,2088

muchel fecht 21762

muchelere ferde 516,1502,1746,19915,

30504,30874,31207,32164

Layamon

muchelere his ferde 1527,31211,31360
uerde mucle 31318-19
muchel folc 333,554,1870,31272
folc mucle 21603
muchel garsum 1293
muchelere genge 31115,31134
mucheles ginnen 1323
muche gome 20316
(muchel haete 20441
mucheles harme 20526
mucheles hunger 20441
mucheles hustinges 19965
muchel lond 225,136
mucheles lufe 783,1257,30197,31138
mucheles lure 968,980
muchel mete 657,1293
mucheles mihten 20259
muchel mod 30347
mucheles monscipe 346
muchelere mon-weorede 20553,21658,
21707
muchelne oad 653
mucheles onde 31465
muchel pliht 20724
qualm mucheles 31877
muchel rum 1003

Layamon

muchel scome 1434,21181
muche song 30617
muchel sot 1442
mucheles strengde 408,1565,20478
muchelen his strengde 1315
sweord muchel 1549
treon swide muchele 1835
muchel un-frid 31467
muclen viselen 21788
wilderne muchel 1238
mucheles worscipe 206
muchelere wredde 1441

oht

oht cniht 31499,20262
oht men 20575,20588,21096,21211,21540
þeines ohte 20131

quick

quicke liue 677,20522,30304
quike monne 19933,21915
quickere stefne 20790

*riche

riche ane burke 2024
eorl riche 21558
richen his ferde 20290
riche his folke 532
þe riche kaisere 21574
riche laȝen 20199

Layamon

riche mon 903,909,876,21203,19968,

20354,30227,30243

richere strengde 764

peines riche 30402

wif-þing riche 31128

sele

sele Brutun 1484

sele tweie cnihtes 20444

his sele cnihtes 20470

selere cniht nenne 21166

sele twa ferden 20562

pas sele kinges 31864

sele heore londe 20890

sele men 669

sele peines 19913,20265,21716

sele his peines 20484

sele þa peines 1094

selast raeden 924

selere strengde 21654

strong

enne bowe strenge 1453

stronge castel 188,400

castel nan swa strong 600

stronge Childriche 21038

eotantes stronge 1242,1801

(clude) strong 21752

Layamon

swide strong feht 1530
 harme swide stronge 21830
 laezen swi stronge 21394
 strong mon 1372
 scipen stronge 21589
 marmon stane stronge 1317
 sweorden swide stronge 21396,1549
 ane wiaex swide stronge 1567

unimete

unimete blisse 31129
 unimete care 32181
 unimete feht 1742
 unimete ferde 1654,20015,20053,31225
 unimete folke 20549,21732,31213
 folc unimete 19971,30434,30530
 unimete genge 30949
 unimete kempa 1575
 madmes unimete 30670
 unimete monie 21860
 unimete neode 30582
 sorzen unimete 31820
 unimete stremen 31229

wild

bar wilde 30321
 wilde baer 1698,1887,21262
 wilde cron 20163

Layamon

wilde deor 1125,1423,2008

wilde fisc 1781

wlf wilde 21305

*wis

reo biscopas wise 21857

pa bocares wise 32125

wise cnihtes 19997

cnihtes wise 30249

wise mon 753,1757,1410,31024

wiseste mon 1169,30189

wunsum

wunsum fur 1187

wnsume lates 1194

wnsume leahtren 1225

wunsum lond 1232,1204

wunsum ane stude 2021

A comparison of the adjective lists reveals some similarity in the limiting words which may be termed typical in the poems. Thus we find 39 typical adjectives in Beowulf, 26 in Layamon, with 7 common to both. Such correspondence as we find is natural, since the adjectives represent, in most cases, type ideas which must appear in any work making epic pretensions. That the Beowulf phrases are the more poetic is evident at once, the greater poetic value being inherent in the nouns, not in the adjectives. There are a few rather close equivalents in the two poems, such as: Beowulf- deorum men; Layamon- his mon deore, his deorest mon. Beowulf- deoran sweorde, dyre iren; Layamon sceld deore. Beowulf- godum daedum; Layamon- gode dede. Beowulf- god cyning; Layamon- god king. Beowulf- godra gud-rinca, gar-wigend gode; Layamon- god cniht, haeledes gode. Beowulf- hlaforð leofne; Layamon- wine leoue. Beowulf- manige men; Layamon monie men. Most of these phrases, it is true, are not poetical, and in general the adjective phrases of the Brut lack the poetic strength of those in the older poem. This deficiency is due in part to a small proportion of compound nouns, although these do occur occasionally to add epic dignity, as, for example, in here-kempen heze, moni mod-sorhze. Two rather distinct differences appear.

(1) Layamon shows a slightly greater fondness for frequent repetition of such set phrases as god cniht, used 15 times, and muchele ferde, used 12 times. These conventional

phrases occur also in the Beowulf, but there is some difference in the percentage of repeated phrases in the two poems. In Beowulf 18.654% of the phrases appear more than once, in Layamon 26.824%. There is, moreover, a difference in the frequency with which any given phrase will appear in the poems. This difference may be shown by the following table:

Percentage of Phrases Repeated

Times used	2	3	4	5	6	8	9	10	12	15
Beowulf	9.701	5.223	1.119	1.492	.373	.373				.373
Layamon	12.543	6.271	2.787	2.787	.696	.348	.348	.348	.348	.348

	<u>Beowulf</u>	<u>Layamon</u>
Percentage of phrases used twice	.9.701	12.543
Percentage of phrases used more than twice..	8.953	14.281

So we find 16.043% of the phrases in Beowulf, 21.601% in Layamon, used less than five times; 2.611% of the Beowulf phrases, 5.223% of the Layamon phrases, are used five times or more. The same results are shown by a table based on the total number of repeated phrases, 50 in Beowulf, 77 in Layamon.

Percentage of Repeated Phrases

Times Used	2	3	4	5	6	8	9	10	12	15
Beo.	52	28	6.	8.	2.	2.				2.
Lay.	46.753	23.376	10.389	10.389	2.597	1.298	1.298	1.298	1.298	1.298

The general tendency of the Beowulf to repeat less often than Layamon may be shown graphically thus:

	<u>Beowulf</u>	<u>Layamon</u>
Percentage of phrases used twice	52	46.753
Percentage of phrases used more than twice	48	53.241

In Beowulf 86%, in Layamon 80.518% of all repeated phrases occur less than five times; 14% in Beowulf, 19.476% in Layamon, are found five times or more. These differences, in connection with other material, serve to emphasize a significant distinction in the two poems. We may note here that in its 268 different phrases the Beowulf employs 39 separate adjectives, while in the 287 phrases of Layamon there are but 26 adjectives. Thus the average appearance of a typical adjective in a new connection is 6.87 times in Beowulf, 11.03 times in Layamon. The average appearance of a typical adjective in Beowulf is 9.56 times, in Layamon 18.23 times. The very obvious meaning of all these figures is that the Beowulf seeks variety, while Layamon is content with prosaic repetition.

(2) Another difference, which does not appear from the lists, in the preference of Layamon for predicate adjectives, less frequent in Beowulf. Layamon has, in the lines read, 336 against 192 in Beowulf, - almost twice as many. On the other hand, the Beowulf has almost three times as many uses of the objective complement. The Beowulf also exceeds the Brut in the number and frequency of adjectives used appositively, both in single adjectives and in such pairs as eald ond unhar. The relation of these various uses may be shown as follows:

	<u>Beowulf</u>	<u>Layamon</u>
Predicate Adjective	1	1.75
Objective Complement	2.93	1
Single Appositive	3.60	1
Double Appositive	1.65	1

It is significant, too, that while the 192 uses of the predicate adjective in Beowulf represent 126 different words, the 336 cases in Layamon employ only 121 words, comparatives and superlatives being listed as separate words. The Beowulf thus secures much greater variety. Habitual recurrence of the predicate adjective in Layamon accounts for an infrequent attributive use of such words as faeie and lad, which we should expect to find often. The Layamon, then, contains more predicate adjectives, more frequently repeated phrases, and fewer poetic combinations than the Beowulf.

D- Decorative Adjectives. Brandl: har of a cliff; golden-feax(!) of a king: wundenheals of a ship. Adjectives descriptive of mood are included here: leof, swaes, atol, snotor, geomor. In the list given I have made two classes, including in the first adjectives of mood, and in the second other decorative adjectives, omitting some adjectives of mood which have a tendency to become typical and have therefore been considered under C. A list of these adjectives follows:

<u>Beowulf</u>	<u>Layamon</u>
atol	bald
deor	deore
geomor	kene
grim	leof
hold	oht
hwate	wild
leof	wis
modig	
snotor	
swaes	

Beowulf

I

an-hydg 2667
an-raed 1529,1575
ar-faest 1168
*biter 1431,1746,2692,2704
blide 436,617
blid-heort 1802
bealo-hygcende 2565
bealo-hydg 723
blod-reow 1719
bolgen-mod 709,1713
cene 206,768
collen-ferhd 1806,2785
cynng-bald 1634
daed-cene 1645
deor-lic 585
dol-lic 2646
*dyhtig 1287
earg 2541
earm-lic 807
ellen-rof 340,358,1787,3063
este 945
faegen 1633
fela-geomor 2950
fela-hror 27
fela-modig 1637,1888

II

aeppel-fealuwe 2165
ban-fag 780
beadu-rof 3160
beadu-scearp 2704
blac 1517
blaed-agend 1013
blaed-faest 1299
blonden-feax 1594,1791,1873,2962
bront 238,568
brun-ecg 1546
brun-fag 2615
bunden-heorde 3151
cwen-lic 1940
dead-fag 850
dead-werigne 2125
dreor-fah 485
dreorig 1417,2789
dryhtlic 892,1158
dom-leas 2890
dygel 275,1357
eacen-craeftig 2280,3051
eal-gylden 1111,2767
eall-ireenne 2338
eges-full 2929
egeslic 1649,2309,2825

Beowulf

I

feormend-leas 2761
 ferhð-frec 1146
 fore-snotor 3162
 forht 754, 2967
 from 21, 1641, 2476, 2527
 fyrd-hwaet 1641, 2476
 galg-mod 1277
 gar-cene 1958
 ge-faeg 915
 ge-trywe 1228
 geocor 765
 ge-ƿwaere 1230
 geomor-lic 2444
 geomor-mod 2044, 2267, 3018
 gifre 1123, 1277
 *glaed 863, 1173, 1181, 2025
 glaed-mod 1785
 gold-hwaet 3074
 gold-wlanc 1881
 gnead 1930
 graedig 121, 1499, 1522
 grom-hydg 1749
 grom-heort 1682
 gud-mod 306
 gud-reow 58

II

ellen-sioc 2787
 *el-ƿeodig 336
 eorlic 637
 faeted-hleor 1036
 fami-heals 218, 1909
 fealu 865, 916, 1950
 feorh-seoc 820
 fore-maere 309
 fore-mihtig 969
 fyl-werig 962
 fyrd-wyrde 1316
 fyr-heard 305
 gamol-feax 608
 geap 836, 1800
 geatolic 215, 308, 1401, 1562, 2154
 geolo 2610
 gin-faest 1271, 2182
 *gold-fah 308, 994, 1800, 2811
 gold-hroden 614, 640, 1948, 2025
 gold-wlanc 1881
 graeg 330, 334
 graeg-mael 2682
 grim-lic 3041
 gryre-fah 2576
 gryre-lic 1441, 2136

Beowulf

I

heard-hicgend 394,799
 heaðo-deor 688,772
 heaðo-grim 548,2691
 heoro-gifre 1498
 heoru-grim 1564,1847
 heaðo-rof 381,864,2191
 hige-rof 204,403
 hige-pihtig 746
 hilde-deor 312,834,1646,
 1816,3111,3169
 hilde-saed 2723
 hremig 124,1882,2054,2363
 hreoh 548,1307,1564,2180,
 2328,2581
 hror 1629
 hyge-geomor 2408
 hyge-mede 2442
 *lide 1220,3182
 lof-georn 3182
 *milde 1172,1229,3181
 *modig-lic 337
 mod-giomor 2894
 mon-pwaere 3181
 mid-grim 193
 mid-heard 2417

II

gud-rof 608
 *gylden 47,1021,1163,1677,2809
 hador 497
 heard-ecg 1288, 1490
 heaðo-maere 2802
 heaðo-sceard 2829
 heaðo-sioc 2754
 heaðo-steap 1245,2153
 heoro-blac 2488
 heoro-dreorig 935,1780,2720
 heoro-hocyhte 1438
 hilted 2987
 hioro-weallende 2781
 hond-locen 322,551
 hrinde 1363
 hringed 1245,2615
 hring-mael 2037
 hwit 1448
 in-frod 1874,2449
 iren-heard 1112
 isig 33
 lagu-craeftig 209
 *leoflic 1809, 2603
 leocht 2492
 lif-bysig 966

Beowulf

I

nið-hedig 3165
 or-wena 1002,1565
 reoc 122
 rede 122,770,1585
 rum-heort 1799,2110
 saene 1436
 *sarig 2447
 sarig-ferð 2863
 sarig-mod 2942
 searo-grim 594
 slide 184,2398
 sliden 1147
 sorh-cearig 2455,3152
 *sorh-full 512,1278,1429,2119
 sorh-leas 1672
 stearc-heort 2288,2552
 *stid-mod 2566
 swid-ferhð 173,493,826,908
 swid-hicgende 1016
 swid-mod 1624
 torn 2129
 trywe 1165
 tydre 2847
 un-blide 130,2268,3031
 un-forht 287
 un-rot 3148

II

mistig 162
 niht-long 528
 nipende 547,649
 sae-geap 1896
 scir 322,496,979,1694
 scir-ham 1895
 scur-heard 1033
 *scyne 3016
 searo-fah 1444
 sid-faedme 302,1917
 sige-eadig 1557
 sige-hredig 94,1597,2756
 sige-rof 619
 sinc-fag 167
 *sod-faest 2820
 stan-fah 320
 swat-fah 1111
 swegel 2749
 swegel-wered 606
 *sweotol 90,141,817,833
 syn-bysig 2226
 til 61,1250,1304,2721
 *tir-eadig 2189
 tir-faest 922
 tir-leas 843
 torht 313

Beowulf

I

un-slaw 2564
 waefre 1150,1331,2420
 wael-bleat 2725
 wael-reow 629
 werga 133,1747
 *werig 579,1794,2937
 werig-mod 844,1543
 wine-geomor 2239
 wis-hycgende 2716
 wlong 331,341,1332,2833,2953
 *wrad 319,660,708,1619
 yrre 769,1447,1532,1575,2073,2669
 yrre-mod 726
 *yrst-hydig 2810

II

styl-ecg 1533
 sweart 167,3145
 regn-heard 326
 undyrne 127,2000,2911
 un-faecne 2068
 un-faegc 573,2291
 un-hiore 987,2120,2413
 wael-fag 1128
 wael-fus 2420
 weord-full 3099
 wig-craeftig 1811
 windge 572,1224,1358,2456
 wis-faest 626
 wlitig 1662
 wlite-beorht 93
 woh-bogen 2827
 won 651,702,1374,3024,3115
 won-saeli 105
 wraet-lic 891,1489,1650,2173,2339
 wreopen-hilt 1698
 wuldor-torht 1136
 wunden-feax 1400
 wunden-hals 298
 wundor-lic 1440
 wyn-leas 821,1416

Beowulf

I

II

wynsum 612, 1919

wyrm-fah 1698

ƿeostre 2332

ƿrym-lic 1246

ƿryð-lic 400, 1627, 2869

ƿyhtig 1558

Layamon

I

aerm 20673, 21254, 21870, 21888,
30407, 31243
aermliche 1046, 20756
ard 31500
*bittere 21247
chaerful 21572
drof 1040
*duhti 30965, 31454
foreuðest 20869
*glaed 19927, 20090
grim 535, 683
*liðe 4, 48
liðfulle 1262
mete-custi 348, 19932
*milde 19879, 21890, 30809
mod-fulle 31464
*modi 31563
murie 1823, 20924
prute 31462
redesful 129
rehj 19861, 19956, 20035, 20901,
21225, 21560, 21708, 31728
rimie 1545
sad 20830
*saeri 167, 638, 1037, 1476, 21114,
31780, 32013

II

aluisc 21131
*aldeodisc 79
atteliche 21748
boc-ilerede 31534
brade-fulle 32224
diȝenliche 415
drihtliche 21438
droflice 1026
uage 30999
freo 361, 20474, 20752
god-fulle 30807
gold 21154
*gold-faze 21328, 30984, 31406
gomenfulle 21430
greiðlicre 445
*gulden 20998, 32203
gudliche 860
hefenliche 21239, 32053, 32201
hende 796, 1043, 2000, 20149,
20194, 20497, 21835, 30473,
30648, 31258, 31286,
ilaerede 20965
iselie 32191
kineborene 336
kinewurde 20174, 20768
laðliche 1884

Layamon

I

snelle 20075
 *sorhfulle 325,1042
 *stid imodede 21228,30902
 sturn 19939,20774,21124,31471
 swete 1332
 unbalded 20257,30537
 *weri 1328
 wiht 777,20263,20576,21096,
 21339,21540,30952,31498
 witize 21134,32092
 wider-fulle 21520
 wod 1714,20093,20156,20364,
 30376,20514,21360
 *wrad 652,1438,1560,30176,
 30727,
 wrecche 30775,30798,30820
 þeu-fulle 1797
 *þriste 356
 3eomerest 21256,31003,31241,
 31634,31802
 3epe 21503

II

*leofliche 31787
 loft 68
 maere 2006,2028,21606,32095
 riht-wise 2089
 riue 631,20079,20672,20677,32107
 runie 20123
 saere 1473
 *scene 2094,20356
 scomelicke 20463
 sehte 30610,31371
 selcud 280,21331,21739
 sellic 19931,20189,20292,30753
 smaert 20318,21364
 sotliche 1970
 *sodfest 60
 staedeli 1600
 staerc 189,625,21227
 stal 627,1841
 stelene 624,1812,21324
 stilliche 355
 stor 85,1709
 *sutel 1519
 *tirful 2031
 unwitti 786
 whit 1184,20536,21359,31087

Layamon

I

II

wihtful 1201

wintrede 101

wizele-fulle 21140, 31659

wnder-creftie 1154

wunliche 20348

wunderliche 1895, 31119

Examination of the decorative adjectives in the two poems shows that conditions here are much the same as those of preceding groups, except that fewer similarities are disclosed by the lists: There are, however, some: Beowulf - biter: Layamon bittere. Beowulf dyhtig; Layamon duhti. Beowulf- lide, milde; Layamon lide, milde. Beowulf- stid-mod; Layamon stid imodede. Beowulf gold-fah; Layamon- gold-faze. It is to be noted that such resemblances as exist are extremely simple, and that Layamon lacks the poetic development of root ideas such as appears in bolgen-mod, gud-modig, brun-fag, dreor-fah, gryre-fah, gold-hroden, and gold wlanc. The many compound adjectives of Beowulf indicate its more poetic mood. I count 7 genuine compounds in the Layamon list, about 7%, against 128, about 52%, in the Beowulf list. But even in simple words Layamon is usually prosaic. There is significance also in the length of the two lists. The subjective element naturally enters into the determination of decorative adjectives, rendering impossible the mechanical precision of the adverb and typical adjective lists. Yet any sin of omission must necessarily decrease only the Beowulf list, since the need is felt of cataloging all possible decorative adjectives in Layamon, with the result that many words are included which would be overlooked in the Beowulf. In spite of this leniency toward the decorative adjectives of the Brut, the Beowulf has a much more extensive list. There are in Layamon 40 adjectives of mood and 55 other decorative adjectives, 95 in all, as against 114 adjectives of mood in Beowulf and 132 other decorative adjectives, a total

of 246. The relation appears thus:

	<u>Layamon</u>	<u>Beowulf</u>
Adjectives of Mood	1	2.85
Other Decorative Adjectives	1	2.40
Total Decorative Adjectives	1	2.58

There are 12 adjectives of mood and 8 other decorative adjectives common to both poems. Therefore approximately $1/3$ of the Layamon adjectives of mood are found also in the Beowulf, while only about $1/10$ of the Beowulf adjectives of mood appear in Layamon. Approximately $1/7$ of the other decorative adjectives of Layamon are common to Beowulf, while about $1/16$ of the other decorative adjectives in Beowulf appear in Layamon. More than $1/5$ of the entire decorative adjective list of Layamon is found in Beowulf; about $1/12$ of the entire Beowulf list has a place in Layamon.

By their very nature decorative adjectives are used much less frequently than typical adjectives, but even here Layamon shows something of the tendency toward repetition that characterizes his typical adjectives. The average use of adjectives of mood is 1.71 in Beowulf, 2.47 in Layamon; of other decorative adjectives 1.56 in Beowulf, 1.80 in Layamon; of all decorative adjectives, 1.63 in Beowulf, 2.08 in Layamon. It is thus easily apparent that the Beowulf is much richer than Layamon in the number and poetic quality of its embellishing adjectives.

E. Couplets. Brandl: faehd ond fyren; ne aenig mon, ne leof ne lað (510). Couplets occur characteristically within the half line, both in Beowulf and in Layamon. Hence, to avoid unnecessary and useless confusion, I have excluded from the lists all expressions going beyond the half line. Proper names have also been omitted. I have divided the lists into List I, Conjunctive Couplets, an extension of Brandl's "synonyme Wörter", and List II, a modification of his "zergliederungen." Since in both poems the first group is of far greater import than the second, and since similar conclusions are reached by a consideration of the separate phenomena, I have based my comments chiefly on List I. Hence the term "couplet" must be understood to refer to conjunctive couplets unless disjunctive couplets are particularly mentioned.

The division of List I into noun, adjective, verb, and adverb combinations needs no comment. The brevity of List II renders such division unnecessary here, the phrases being listed under the terms used to connect them, - ne, odde, and wid. The separation of List II into A and B requires a word of explanation. The example Brandl has given, faehd ond fyren, is composed of two rather close equivalents, but phrases with such identity of meaning will of course not be numerous, since exact synonyms are rare in any language. Consequently I have included under A closely similar expressions, and have placed under B combinations which, although not exactly synonymous, convey a single collective idea.

The use of couplets to form a half line becomes a conventional device, and it is not to be supposed that the use of two dissimilar words in a conjunctive combination necessarily implied two distinct ideas. Concrete nouns are less likely to be synonymous than nouns of abstract significance, which tend to fall automatically into List A. Adjectives, primarily expressive of quality, are discriminated with greater difficulty, particularly when the first member is a typical adjective with weakened force. The almost inevitable result is the congregating of adjectives in List A. Verbs and adverbs, although they have been included for the sake of completeness, are of much less importance than the nouns and adjectives.

Conjunctive CoupletsBeowulfNouns

A.

ar ond ombiht	336
baele ond bronde	2322
beagas ond brad gold	3105
beg ond siglu	3163
craeft ond cendū	2696
eafod ond ellen	902,2349
faehde ond fyrene	137,879,2480
fyrene ond faehde	153
fen ond faesten	104
fraetwe ond faet-gold	1921
frofor ond fultum	698,1273
gamen ond gleo-dream	3021
þaer waes gidd ond gleo	2105
*horn ond byman	2943
hyndū ond hra-fyl	277
lac ond luf-tacen	1863
maeg ond mago þegn	408
oredes ond attres	2523
þa waes sael ond mael	1008
saela ond maela	1611
þaer waes sang ond sweg	1063
se-þe soð ond riht	1700
scuccum ond scinnum	939

Beowulf

symbel ond sele-ful	619
þa waes synn ond sacu	2472
wean ond wraec-sið	2292
wraetta ond wira	2413
wyrmas ond wildeor	1430

Conjunctive CoupletsBeowulfNouns

B.

aescum ond ecgum	1772
bearnum ond broðrum	1074
bearn ond bryde	2956
beddum ond bolstrum	1240
billum ond byrnum	40, 2621
bold ond brego-stol	2196
bord ond byrnan	2524
bunan ond discas	2775
burg ond beagas	523
*daeges ond nihtes	2269
dugude ond geogode	160, 621, 1674
eard ond eorlscipe	1727
earm ond eaxe	835, 972
fet ond folma	745
folc ond rice	1179
geofum ond gudum	1958
*geongum ond ealdum	72
hamas ond hea-burh	1127
healle ond heah-setl	1087
*helm ond byrnan	1022, 1629, 2868
helmas ond heard sweord	2638
hond ond heard sweord	2509
siddan ic hond ond rond	656

Beowulf

hord ond rice	3004
hord ond hleo-burh	912
leofes ond lades	1061,2910
leomum ond leafum	97
life ond lice	2571
lif ond leodscipe	2751
lond ond leod-byrig	2471
londes ond locenra beaga	2995
mearum ond madmum	1048,1898,2166
wid ord ond wid ecge	1549
geaf me sinc ond symbel	2431
*sunnan ond monan	94
waepen ond gewaedu	292
*wera ond wifa	993
wicga ond waepna	1045
wig ond wisdom	350
wiges ond wealles	2323
wigum ond waepnum	2395
wongas ond wic-stede	2462
worda ond worca	289,1833

Conjunctive CoupletsBeowulfAdjectives

A.

aedele ond eacen	198
betlic ond ban-fag	780
biter ond beadu-scearp	2704
biter ond gebolgne	1431
brad ond brun-ecg	1546
eald ond eges-full	2929
eald ond infrod	2449
eald ond omig	2763
eald ond unhar	357
faege ond geflymed	846
fah ond faeted	2701
fah ond fyr-heard	305
hu he frod ond god	279
fus ond faege	1241
gamol ond gud-reow	58
gomol ond graeg-mael	2682
gamol-feax ond gud-rof	608
god ond geatolic	1562
geatolic ond gold-fah	308
geap ond gold-fah	1800
grim ond graedig	121,1499
heard ond hring-mael	2037

Beowulf

hreoð and heoro-grim	1564
idel and unnyt	413
lað and longsum	134,193
*micelne and maerne	3098
reoc and rede	122
sid and searo-fah	1444
sid and syllic	2086
stid and styl-ecg	1533
waefre and wael-fus	2420
*wis and gewittig	3094
yrre and an-raed	1575

Conjunctive CoupletsBeowulfAdjectives

B.

dreorig and gedrefed	1417
gifle and galg-mod	1277
hat and heaðo-grim	2691
hat and hreoð-mod	2296
se waes heah and brad	3157
heah and horn-geap	82
isig and ut-fus	33
snotor and swyð-ferht	826
sod and sarlic	2109
swancor and sadol-beorht	2175
wreoðen-hilt and wýrm-fah	1698

Conjunctive CoupletsBeowulfVerbs

A.

forgyted and forgymed	1757
forsited and forsworced	1767
hafa nu ond geheald	658
hatode ond hynde	2319
heold mec ond haefde	2430
manad swa ond myndgad	2057
seomade ond syrede	161
seon ond secean	3102
geseted ond gesaed	1696
scofen ond scynded	918
weaxed ond wridad	1741
wanode ond wyrde	1337

B.

swefed ond sended	600
swelan ond swellan	2713
wiston ond ne-wendon	1604

Conjunctive CoupletsBeowulfAdverbs

A.

fyr & faestor	143
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B.

ƿaet mec aer ond sið	2500
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feorran ond nean	839
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ƿaet ƿe feor ond neah	1221
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nean ond feorran	1174, 2317
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innan ond utan	774
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Conjunctive CoupletsLayamonNouns

A.

þer wes blisse & mucche song	30617
ʒeond cludes & ʒeond cliuenen	32217
fold & garsume	939
& mid gold & mid gersume	120
his gold ond his gaersume	31067
inne gride & inne fride	184,480
heore ʒelp & heore gome	21007
*hornes & bemen	20585,21023
of kunne & of folke	94
þe wes lauerd & dux	268
habben his riche and his lond	31376
& makeʒen sehtnesse and grid	31370
makien þe sahtnesse and grid	31410
--and beon saht and some	31371
mid tacnen & mid swefnen	1158
his waei and his iwille	32134
þar aros wale & win	404
wind stod & þat weder	20509
mid wolcnen & mid wedere	102
her wes wop & her wes rop	20439
þesne wop & þesne rop	21929

Conjunctive CoupletsLayamonNoun

B.

mid axes & mid sweordes	21248
his baerd ond his chinne	20305
ban & heora ribbes	1603
beornes ond eorles	20389
eorles & beornes	31555
ƿat his blod & his brain	1468
mid bouren & mid hallen	2025
an burȝe and on londe	31801
children & hinen	368
ure cun & heore riche	20636
cnihtes & claerckes	31556
ȝeond chirchen & ȝeond munec-cliuē	32218
daȝes & ȝeres	217
*daeies and nihtes	20576, 20580, 21495, 31036
tweiȝe dawes & tua niht	1113, 21848
ƿreo daȝes & ƿreo niht	20723
ƿritti dawes & ƿritti niht	1275
seoue niht & enne daei	1402, 31775
ba bi daie & bi nith	2082
bi daeie & bi nihte	21470
ƿene daei and ƿe stude heo setten	31377
dales & dunes	21437

Layamon

ȝeond dales & ȝeond dunes	20860
of dalen & of dunen	21775
over dales & over dunes	21489
ȝene drinc & ȝene mete	1303
mid mete & mid drinchen	1822
eorles and kempen	31296
mid fenne & mid raeode	21741
of ȝare verde & of ȝan scipen	30641
mid fiscen & mid feozelen	21743
folc and his ferde	31341
muchel garsum & mete	1293
ȝat gold & ȝal ne dude him on	1296
*ȝa ȝunge & ȝa alde	775
haelden and heore honden	20535
*halmes & burnen	20516
ȝat his halm & his hæfd	21387
to nimen his heortes & his hindes	1448
an horsen & an foten	502
mid horsen & mid scruden	1826
hors & heore wepnen	20885
mid hornen & mid hunden	1424
muchel hunger & haete	20441
mid hungere & mid hete	21893
ȝat wes hunger and hette	31875
scarp hunger & hete	20728

Layamon

uppen lif & uppen leomen	500
3e sculen hebben lif & leomen	702
lond ond his leoden	31687
þis lond and þas leoden	32235
ba bi londen and bi scipen	30512
a londe & a watere	550
a waetere & a londe	562
in þan lufte & bi þan grunde	30637
his marken & his mare	31220
of monne & of ahte	96
of monnen & of wapnen	947
*þat i-scop mone & sunne	21090
preostes & mucnekes	21859
riche men and haene	19968
riche men & wedlen	497
þan wode & an richen	20364
to ruggen and to bedde	19946
sae & þa sunne	30611
on sae and on londe	30678
bi sae & bi londe	31194
scaftes & sceldes	20915
mid scelden and mid burnen	31922
his scipen and his leode	32133
(&) mid seoluere & mid golde	1774, 1824, 20013, 31510
of seoluer and o golde	30669, 20480
uppen seoluer and uppen golde	31081

Layamon

Ah nim þi seoluer and þi golde	31402
inoh seoluer and gold	31906
in seoluere and in golde	32100
gold & seoluer	884
mid spaeres & mid sceldes	20517
mid spaeren and mid graete wazen	21505
mid heore wazen & mid heore speren	21515
on sterren and on sunne	30495
mid stocken & mid stanen	626, 1840
þan strongen & þan balden	20365
þan strong & þan richen	20396, 20604, 20872, 20992, 21002
& his sune & his aem	31737
þer wes þe swein & þe cnaue	31250
mid sweord & mid spere	548
wapmen & wifmen	426
wastmes and wederes sele	32108
þa weolezen & a weadlen	427
bi-zeoten wepnen & mete	434
mid wifen and mid children	31923
a winde and a mone	30498
wind and þa wide se	30612
wintres & sumeres	20988, 21450
aider bi worden and bi writen	30887
þurh wude & þurh feldes	20244
þeond wudes & þeond feldes	30564
þeond wudes & þeond liden	32219

Layamon

he wes feir & heih	1646
feier hit wes & swide heih	1143
feire & muchele	2004
gode ord wihte	20263
scipen grete & longe	20926
þu þeo ha l & fund	1252
ihel & an isund	821
wes and riche	129
lliche kene and w lwhaet	30579
moni & wel idae	21862
moni and incze	21794
*muchel & maere	1139
muchel & swide maere	32002
a muchel cros and mare	31386
muchel ferd & riche	1502
muchele & strange	1833
swide muchel an swiðe strong	30751
sweord muchel & swide strong	1549
hte me and wihte	20575, 21096
þe we nt me wiht	20588
le strong & swide god	1651
liche & aere	31119
ritful	911

Conjunctive CoupletsLayamonAdjectives

B.

swide brod & swide long	1320
is a clude haeh and strong	21752
wes þe wei holh & long	761
riche and henen	30689,31535

Conjunctive CoupletsLayamonVerbs

A.

he wes icruned and ieled	31941
custen & clupten	20557
heo herȝede and heo barnde	30553
ihouen and ihalden	30207
ladde & radde	20034
heo riden and heo arnden	30352
stikeden & sloȝen	20659
weox ȝet folk & wel iȝaih	1995
wise mi & witere	1200

B.

he scal bletseȝen & scriue	32157
halden his lond and beon his mon	32027
heo sloȝen & heo nomen	30354

Conjunctive Couplets

Layamon

Adverbs

A.

kenliche & lude	21651
raede & ful sone	20435, 20476
siden & widen	139

B.

bi-foren & bi-hinden	439, 760
nu & aeuer mare	1925, 20797, 21920, 31051

Disjunctive CoupletsLayamonne

no on uelde no on wude	20377
nouder heort no hinde	30568
a leoda ne a spella	1803
no pat lond no pat flod	20171
naefde he sper no naenne sceld	31424
ne wapmen ne wifmen	1119
of pan lasse no of pan mare	31253
ne ganninde ne ridinde	1582
nulle ich hine slae no ahon	20881

oder

pe mihte riden oper gan	597
oder slaen oder ahon	20878, 31492
oder of-slaen oder an hon	30839
oder quic oder ded	31581

wid

bord wid borden	20935
breoste wid breoste	1874
hond wid honde	174

Disjunctive CoupletsBeowulfne

adl ne ylðo	1736
brond ne beado-mecas	1454
wordum ne worcum	1100
wyrða ne worda	3030
ne leof ne læd	511
aer ne siððan	718
þaette suð ne nord	858

odðe

þat þec adl odðe ecg	1763
adl odðe iren	1848
folc odðe freo-burh	693
sibbe odðe treowe	2922
ower feor odðe neah	2870

wið

læd wið lædum	440
lif wið lice	733, 2423
lind wið lige	2341
sund wið sande	213

Table I
Frequency & Repetition

Nouns

	% Phrases in each group	No. Phrases	Times Used	Average Use	No. Repeated	Times Used	Average Use	% Phrases Repeated
Beowulf A.	37.68	26	32	1.230	4	10	2.5	15.38
Layamon A.	18.88	17	23	1.352	5	11	2.2	29.41
Beowulf B.	62.31	43	53	1.232	7	17	2.428	16.27
Layamon B.	81.11	73	114	1.561	15	56	3.733	20.54
Beowulf Total	99.99	69	85	1.231	11	27	2.454	15.94
Layamon Total	99.99	90	137	1.522	20	67	3.35	22.22

Adjectives

	% Phrases in each group	No. Phrases	Times Used	Average Use	No. Repeated	Times Used	Average Use	% Phrases Repeated
Beowulf A.	75	33	35	1.06	2	4	2.	6.06
Layamon A.	80	16	24	1.5	5	13	2.6	31.25
Beowulf B.	25.	11	11	1.	0	0	0	
Layamon B.	20	4	5	1.25	1	2	2.	25.
Beowulf Total	100	44	46	1.045	2	4	2.	4.54
Layamon Total	100	20	29	1.45	6	15	2.5	30.00

Table I
Frequency & Repetition

Verbs

	% Phrases in each group	No. Phrases	Times Used	Average Use	No. Repeated	Times Used	Average Use	% Phrases Repeated
Beowulf A.	78.57	11	13	1.09	1	2	2	9.09
Layamon A.	75.	9	9	1.	0	0	0	
Beowulf B.	21.43	3	3	1.	0	0	0	
Layamon B.	25	3	3	1.	0	0	0	
Beowulf Total	99.99	14	15	1.07	1	2	2	7.14
Layamon Total	100	12	12	1	0	0	0	

Adverbs

	% Phrases in each group	No. Phrases	Times Used	Average Use	No. Repeated	Times Used	Average Use	% Phrases Repeated
Beowulf A.	25.	1	1	1.	0	0	0	
Layamon A.	60.	3	4	1.333	1	2	2	33.33
Beowulf B.	75.	3	6	2	1	4	4	33.33
Layamon B.	40.	2	6	3.	2	6	3	100
Beowulf Total	100	4	7	1.75	1	4	4	25
Layamon Total	100	5	10	2.	3	8	2.66	60

Table II
Alliteration, Rime etc.

Nouns

	No. Phrases	No. Allit.	% Allit.	No. Rime	% Rime	Times Used (Phrases)	No. contain- ing weaken- ing words	% con. wk. words
Beowulf A.	26	22	84.61	1	3.84	32	5	15.62
Layamon A.	17	8	47.05	2	11.76	23	8	34.78
Beowulf B.	43	33	76.74	1	2.32	53	3	5.66
Layamon B.	73	24	32.87	0		114	28	24.56
Beowulf Total	69	55	79.71	2	2.89	85	8	9.41
Layamon Total	90	32	35.55	2	2.22	137	36	26.27

Adjectives

	No. Phrases	No. Allit.	% Allit.	No. Rime	% Rime	Times Used (Phrases)	No. contain- ing weaken- ing words	% con. wk. words
Beowulf A.	33	32	96.96	1	3.03	35	1	2.85
Layamon A.	16	2	12.50	0		24	14	58.33
Beowulf B.	11	10	90.90	0		11	1	9.09
Layamon B.	4	0		0		5	2	40.00
Beowulf Total	44	42	95.45	1	2.27	46	2	4.34
Layamon Total	20	2	10.00	0		29	16	55.17

Table II

Alliteration, Rime, etc.Verbs

	No. Phrases	No. Allit.	% Allit.	No. Rime	% Rime	Times Used (Phrases)	No. contain- ing weaken- ing words	% con. wk. words
Beowulf A.	11	11	100	0		12	3	25.00
Layamon A.	9	4	44.44	1	11.11	9	3	33.33
Beowulf B.	3	3	100	0		3	0	
Layamon B.	3	0		0		3	2	66.66
Beowulf Total	14	14	100	0		15	3	20.00
Layamon Total	12	4	33.33	1	8.33	12	5	41.66

Adverbs

	No. Phrases	No. Allit.	% Allit.	No. Rime	% Rime	Times Used (Phrases)	No. contain- ing weaken- ing words	% contain- ing wk. words
Beowulf A.	1	1	100	0		1	0	
Layamon A.	3	0		1	33.33	4	1	25.00
Beowulf B.	3	1	33.33	0		6	2	33.33
Layamon B.	2	0		0		6	0	
Beowulf Total	4	2	50	0		7	2	28.57
Layamon Total	5	0		1	20.00	10	1	10.00

Table III

Totals

		No. Phrases	Times Used	Average Use	No. Repeated	Times Used	Average Use	% Phrases Repeated	No. Alliteration	% Alliteration	No Rhyme	% Rhyme	No. containing wk. words	% containing wk. words
Nouns	B.	69	85	1.231	11	27	2.454	15.94	55	79.71	2	2.89	8	9.4
	L.	90	137	1.523	20	67	3.35	22.23	33	35.55	2	2.23	36	26.2
Adjectives	B.	44	46	1.045	2	4	2.	4.54	42	95.45	1	2.37	2	4.3
	L.	20	29	1.45	6	15	2.5	30.	2	10.	0		16	55.1
Verbs	B.	14	15	1.07	1	2	2.	7.14	14	100	0		3	20.0
	L.	12	12	1	0	0	0		4	33.33	1	8.33	5	41.6
Adverbs	B.	4	7	1.75	1	4	4	25.	2	50.	0		2	28.5
	L.	5	10	2.	3	8	2.66	60	0		1	20.00	1	10.0
Total	B.	131	153	1.167	15	37	2.466	11.45	113	86.25	3	2.29	15	9.80
	L.	127	188	1.481	29	90	3.103	22.83	38	29.92	4	3.149	58	30.8

Table IV

		No. Phrases	Times Used	Average Use	No. Repeated	Times Used	Average Use	% Phrases Repeated	No. Alliteration	% Alliteration	No. Rhyme	% Rhyme	No. contain- ing wk. words	% contain- ing wk. words
Nouns	B.	11	13	1.09	1	2	2	9.09	10	90.90	0	0	1	8.33
	L.	9	9	1	0				6	66.66	3	33.33	1	11.11
Adjectives	B.	2	2	1	0				2	100.	1	50.	0	
	L.	2	2	1	0				0		0		0	
Verbs	B.													
	L.	4	6	1.5	1	3	3	25.	0		0		2	33.33
Adverbs	B.	3	3	1	0				0		0		2	66.66
	L.													
Total	B.	16	17	1.06	1	2	2	6.25	13	75	1	6.25	3	17.64
	L.	15	17	1.13	1	3	3	6.66	6	40	3	20.	3	20.

I have appended three tables summing up the results which I have obtained from List A,- Table I to show frequency and repetition, Table II to illustrate effectiveness, and Table III to present totals. Table IV sums up List B, and is useful for comparison with Table III. Columns 7 and 8 of Table II, 12 and 13 of Table III, contain figures for weakening words. I have used this term to denote the addition within the half line of words not necessary to the combination. Thus saela ond maela appears also in the less concise and consequently weaker half line, þa waes sael ond mael. Since the Layamon couplets rarely occur in the brief form of the Beowulf combinations, I have counted as weakening words only those which break up the exact balance of parts. So inne gride & inne fride is not weakened by its preposition, but þar arose wale & win lacks proper balance.¹ In Table II the percentage of weakening words is based on the total number of uses of all phrases. The necessity for changing the basis of computation in this table is shown by the two uses of the phrase sael ond mael, which for purposes of alliteration and rime need be counted only once, but which shows weakening words in one use and not in the other.

1. An interesting variation of these weakened phrases is found in the Layamon combination, adjective + noun + adjective, which does not appear in Beowulf. The three phrases so constructed are: a muchel cros and mare, muchel ferd & riche, oht men and wihte. The extra emphasis thus thrown on the final adjective is especially useful in restoring force to a typical adjective. From the point of view of the couplet, however, any addition is weakening.

For a similar reason this is also the basis for the percentages of phrases used in catalogs.

A comparison of the lists for frequency, summed up in Table I, shows that Beowulf and Layamon are much alike in their use of couplets. Both show a greater number of nouns in List B and more adjectives and verbs in List A, a similarity of phenomena which has been explained. Moreover both have practically the same total number of phrases, 131 in Beowulf, 127 in Layamon. There are some differences, however. While Layamon has more noun phrases than Beowulf, the Beowulf exhibits more adjective couplets, thus revealing a greater tendency toward poetic description. The Beowulf has also a much higher percentage of nouns in List A, 37.68%, than Layamon, 18.88%; so that its nouns, at least, are more closely synonymous. This condition is reversed in the adjectives, - Beowulf 75%, Layamon 80%, - but the results do not neutralize each other, because the Layamon percentage is only slightly higher, and because it is inflated by large numbers of colorless typical adjectives. Only one of the phrases is without such an adjective, and in many cases both members are typical. Yet the use in the two poems is sufficiently close to warrant us in tracing Layamon's use of couplets to Anglo-Saxon practice. There are, indeed, 8 corresponding phrases, constituting 6.10% of the Beowulf couplets, 6.29% of those in Layamon. There is some similarity in life ond lice, lif & leomen; lond ond leod-byrig, lond and his leoden. Like meaning may be traced in a few cases where there is no real word

correspondence. It is significant, too, that 2.404% of the whole number of half lines in Beowulf, 2.984% of those in Layamon are composed of conjunctive couplets. By the addition of the disjunctive couplets, the percentage is raised to 2.671 in Beowulf, 3.253 in Layamon. It is probable that Layamon was influenced in his constant use of couplets by Wace, who also employed them; but Layamon's consistent preference for Anglo-Saxon words keeps him nearer, in this respect, to Anglo-Saxon tradition.

If, then, the device is essentially Anglo-Saxon, where is it used more effectively-- in Beowulf or in Layamon? As the phrases stand, separated from context, there is no doubt that the Beowulf combinations are superior. There are two reasons for the greater vigor and emphasis of the Anglo-Saxon phrases. First, they are alliterative. Alliteration, to be sure, is an Anglo-Saxon verse device which is not fundamental in Layamon, and which is consequently used only for additional ornament. Still, where it appears in Layamon the phrases gain immeasurably as they stand alone, and considerably even in the body of the poem. Such cases are gold and garsume, lif and leomen; mid sweord and mid spere; mid stocken and mid stanen; wale and win. Table III shows that 86.25% of the Beowulf phrases alliterate as against only 29.92% in Layamon. Individual differences appear in Table II, where, for example, the total alliterative percentage rises as high as 95.45 in the case of the Beowulf adjectives, and descends to 10.00 in

Layamon. Supplementary to the figures on alliteration I have collected figures for perfect rime, although these are to be regarded as interesting rather than significant. Both the total number of rimes and the percentage of rimes as shown by Table III, are slightly higher in the Brut. Since rime is a recognized verse device with Layamon, we might expect here a greater difference than the figures show; but rime occurs normally at the end of half lines rather than within them. Secondly, the combination in Beowulf usually makes a complete half line without the addition of any other words. The reverse is true in Layamon, where it is almost the rule rather than the exception to include words which detract from the effectiveness of the couplets. 30.85% of Layamon's phrases show weakening words, as compared with 9.80% in Beowulf.

In the figures for rime, alliteration, and weakening words we note the chief differences between the conjunctive and disjunctive couplets. The figures of Table IV are, in respect to rime and alliteration, proportionately higher in Layamon and lower in Beowulf than the figures in Table III, with a reversal of the condition in weakening words. The divergencies, however, are easily explained. All rimes in Table IV are identical rimes, 2 in Layamon and the sole example in Beowulf being slightly marred by different inflectional endings. Thus the higher percentage in Layamon simply denotes less variety in the individual combinations. This identity of rime affects also the Layamon

figures on alliteration, since in three of his six cases Layamon secures alliteration by a mere repetition of the first term as in bord wið borden. The reason for Layamon's smaller percentage of weakening words is obvious. The use of correlatives enables him to fill the half line sufficiently, without the necessity for additions.

The lack of alliteration in the Layamon couplets and the introduction of weakening words suggest that the use in the Brut is that of somewhat degenerate imitation. There is involved, however, a fundamental difference in the poetic method of the two poems. If we compare their repeated phrases, we find that Layamon shows a rather considerable preference for repetition. The average use of a phrase in Beowulf is 1.167 times, in Layamon 1.481, the average use of a repeated phrase being 2.466 in Beowulf and 3.103 in Layamon. Altogether 11.45% of the phrases in Beowulf and 22.83% of those in Layamon are repeated. While these cases of repetition are not all emphatic, there can be no doubt that Layamon gains some cumulative effect by the reiteration of such phrases as dales and dunes, hunger and hette, gold and garsume, inne gride and inne frid, lif and leomen. Although such repetition occurs occasionally in Beowulf, the device is there overshadowed by a more artistic verse method than that of the Brut. It must be remembered also that the length of the Middle English poem, about five times that of Beowulf, allows opportunity for repetition not shown in the tables, while the full amount appears in the Beowulf figures. Although this differ-

ence may not change comparative proportions, it does affect mere quantity, which in this connection is of some importance as rendering iteration more conspicuous. Certain set expressions are anticipated in stereotyped situations. Moreover Layamon shows fondness for repeated clauses and sentences. The examples which I cite from the first 2000 lines of the poem do not pretend to be inclusive, but they may serve to illustrate the point:

feollen γ ae faeie	629,1531
fallen γ a feie	801
faeie γ er feollen	1743,814
& γ a leoden of-slawen	75
& his leoden of-slawen	871
& alle γ a leoden of-sla γ en	1122
& γ a leoden heo slowen	1302
& slowen γ a leoden	1755
Duden alle γ a cnihtes:	
swa Brutus heom taute	803
al his men duden:	
swa γ e king hehte	1085
γ ar he mihte bi-halden	
γ e bi halues were	570
γ a he mihte ihere:	
γ e bihalues were.	1007

mid stocken & mid stanen:	
stal fiht heo makeden	626
mid stocken & mid stanen:	
stal feht heo makeden.	1840
riht al swo stille:	
stelen swa we wolden.	735
& ferdan ut swa stille:	
swa heo stelen wolden.	1688
þe king hine bi-þoute:	
what he ðon mahte	1035
Neopelas he hine bi-þoute:	
wat he ðon mahte.	1907
þa Troysse men sloȝen:	
al þa Grickes þea heo neih comen.	580
al þat he neh com:	
þer mid he hit aquelde.	1568
& alle heo slowen:	
þat heo neih comen.	1608
He sende his sonde:	
wide ȝend þane londe.	422
þe king sende his sonde:	
ȝeond al Griclonde.	1075
& sende his sonde:	
ȝeond his kine-londe	1478

ƿaer wes feiht swiðe strong	1708
ƿer wes swiðe strong feht:	
feollen ƿe feie.	1530
faeie ƿer feollen.	
ƿat feht wes wnder strong.	1743
ofte heo raesden:	
& raemden to gadere.	622
Brutus him raemde to:	
mid grimmen his rasen.	682
Brutus heom raesde to:	
mid richere strengde.	763

These examples could easily be multiplied. Such repetition appears also in Beowulf.¹ Indeed, Kistenmacher has collected a rather imposing list of repetition, particularly of half lines. Yet in Beowulf these are somewhat obscured by the greater importance of kennings and variation. In Layamon they are pursued for their own sake, beyond the limit of the half line.

It is further to be noted in regard to Layamon's use of noun couplets that 48 cases form part of catalogs, some of which are, to be sure, abbreviated catalogs. Only four such

1. Die Wörtlichen Wiederholungen im Beowulf.

uses are found in Beowulf. The percentage for Beowulf is 4.70,
 for Layamon 35.03. Not only does this difference show that
 the Beowulf examples are much more nearly synonymous, but it
 also affords evidence of the differing methods of the two poems.
 By means of these catalogs Layamon secures parallelism of
 structure, which constitutes one of the main verse devices of
 the Middle English poem. That such is the intention is shown
 by the following combinations, which I have been excluded from

1. Catalog References:

<u>Beowulf</u>		<u>Layamon</u>	
40	94	20439	30495
523	96	20441	30498
1022	368	20535	30611
2196	404	20885	30612
	426	20915	31067
	626	12437	31081
	939	21489	31220
	947	21505	31250
	1424	21741	31402
	1448	21743	31555
	1774	21775	31556
	1822	21859	31737
	1824	21893	31906
	1826	21895	31922
	2025	21929	31923
			32217
			32218
			32219

the main lists because of the omission of the conjunction,
and which show Layamon's fondness for parallelism.

he wes swa kene he wes swa strong	1374
moni heaued moni hond	574
þar is fuzel þar is fisc	1235
mid hornen mid hunden	20855
weore heom lef weore heom lað	19998
he 3æf heom lif he 3ef heom lumen	21935
heo slo3en heo nomen	20276
summe he sloh summe he bond	767
mid wapnen mid waeteren	21895
mid wizeleden mid wrenchen	1894
heo hefden wind heo hefden water	1273
þar is wode þar is water	1237

Thus we may say that while Layamon's use of the Anglo-Saxon verse device of couplets is intrinsically weaker than the use in the Beowulf, he has nevertheless adapted it to his own needs and purposes.

F. Circumlocution. Brandl: hetenipás waeg (152); lif forleosan; faergryre (174); modgehygd (233). The circumlocution lists contain, first, a list of compound nouns in which the dual form does not correspond to a two-fold idea; secondly, lists containing verbose expressions for the ideas of speaking, living, and dying. The examples in this latter category have been divided into List I, containing figurative circumlocution, and List II, literal circumlocution. The lists expressing the conception of death are further subdivided with a view to showing in A all euphemistic expressions. The terms "circumlocution" and "figurative" are, in this connection, elastic, covering even slight variations from direct and literal language.

CircumlocutionBeowulfNouns

beado-rinc	1109
bealo-cwealm	2265
bord-rand	2559
breost-gehygd	2818
dead-cwalu	1712
dead-cwealm	1670
eacen-craeftig	2280, 3051
eagor-stream	513
eg-stream	577
faer-gryre	174
feond-scade	554
frea-drihten	796
frea-wine	2357, 2429, 2438
*gleo-dream	3021
grund-wong	1496, 2588, 2770
gryre-broga	2227
gum-man	1028
gud-rinc	838, 1118, 1881, 1501, 2648
heal-aern	78
heal-reced	68, 1981
hearm-scada	766
heado-rinc	2466, 370
here-rinc	1176
hete-nid	152

Beowulf

hilde-rinc	1307, 3124, 3136, 986, 1495, 1576
hord-maddum	1198
hord-gestreon	1899, 3092
holt-wudu	1369, 2340
lic-homa	812, 1007, 1754, 2651, 3177
maegen-craeft	380
maegen-strengo	2678
man-scada	712, 737, 1339, 2514
madm-gestreon	1931
mod-gehygd	233
mod-geþonc	1729
mod-sefa	349, 1853, 2628, 180, 2012
morþor-bealo	1079, 2742
ombiht-þegn	673
oret-magu	332, 363, 481
sinc-gestreon	1092, 1226
sinc-mappum	2193
þanc-hycgende	2235
þryð-swyð	131, 736
wael-deað	695
waeter-yð	2242
weall-clif	3132
wine-drihten	360, 862, 1604, 2722, 3175
wlite-seon	1650
word-cwide	1841, 1845, 2753
yrfe-laf	1053, 1903

CircumlocutionBeowulfSpeech

I.

word-hord onleac	259
onband beadu-rune	501
Let þa of breostum, þa he gebolgen waes,	
Weder-Geata leod word ut faran	2550
od-þæt wordes ord	
breost-hord þurhbraec.	2791

II.

word aefter cwaed	315
word inne ahead	390
wordum baedon	176
medel-wordum fraegn	236
sume worde het	2156
wordum herge	3175
*gesaga him eac wordum	388
wordum wrixlan	366,874
Beowulf maðelode beot-wordum spraec	2510
ond on sped wrecan spel gerade	873
word oðer fand	870
sode gebunden.	
nales wordum log	
meces ecge:	1811
ond freond-lapu	
word bewaegned.	1192

Beowulf

þurh hreðra gehygd	higes cunnian,	
wig-weccean	ond þat word acwyð:	2045
þæt he þone wisan	wordum hnaegde	1318
þurh hleodor-cwyde	holdne gegrette	1979
saegde him þæs laenes þanc,		1809
gode ic þanc secge		1997
	frecan alles þanc	
wuldur-cyninge	wordum secge,	2794

CircumlocutionBeowulfLife

I.

gebad wintra worn,	264
þeah-þe wintra lyt	
under burh-locan gebidan hæbbe.	1927
þare-þe cwise hwyrfað	98
se þær lengest hwearf	2238
þaem feower bearn forð-gerimed	
in worold wocun:	59
oþ-þaet him eft onwoc	
heah Healfdene:	56
þanon Eomor woc	1960
þanon untydras ealle onwocon	111
þanon woc fela	
geasceaft-gasta:	1265

II.

on þaem daege þysses lifes	197,790,806
on aldor-dagum	718,757
lif-dages	1622,793
lif-gesceafta	3064
lif-gesceafta lifigende breac	1953

CircumlocutionBeowulfDeathI. A.

a)	haefde aeghwaeder	ende gefered	
	laenan lifes		2844
		him ƿaes ende-lean	
	ƿurh waeteres wylm	waldend sealde	1692
	eorl ellen-rof	ende gefere	
	lif-gesceafta,	ƿonne leng ne-maeg	
	mon mid his magum	medu-seld buan.	3063
b)	aldre beneotan		
		ealdre besnyðede	680
	Haedcen Hreƿling		2924
		Bona swylce laeg,	
	egeslic eorð-draca,	ealdre bereafod	2824
	aldre sceƿðan		1524
	ƿaet him hilde-grap	hreƿre ne-mihte,	
	eorres inwit-feng	aldre gesceƿðan	1446
c)		ða gebeah cyning,	
	folces hyrde,	waes in feorh dropen	2980
	ƿaet se byrn-wiga	bugan sceolde,	
	feoll on fedan:	nalles fraetwe geaf	2918
	ƿaet se wid-floga	wundum stille	
	hreas on hrusan		2830
	him on efn liged	ealdor-gewinna	
	siex-bennum seoc		2903

Beowulf

d) þæt þec adl oððe ecg	eafopas getwaefed	1763
	aet-rihte waes	
guð getwaefed,	nymde mec god scylde	1657
of flan-bogan	feores getwaefde,	
yð-gewinnes,	þæt him on aldre stod	
here-strael hearda		1433
	God eaƿe maeg	
þone dol-sceadan	daeda getwaefan	478
e) gif mec hild nime		452,1481
þara-ðe þaer guð fornam		1123
	Heaðo-raes fornam	
mihtig mere-deor	þurh mine hand	557
hyne wyrd fornam		1205
	þæt-ðe gar nymed,	
hild heoru-grimme	Hreƿles eaferan,	
adl oððe iren	ealdor þinne	1846
ac hyne ecg fornam		2772
ac hine irenna	ecga fornamon	2828
f) sweordum aswefede		567
swefed ond sende		600
feormynd swefad		2256
forþan ic hine sweorde .	swebban nelle	679
aefter billes bite	blod-fag swefed,	
ealdres scyldig		2060
	nu se wyrm liged,	
swefed sare wund,	sinc bereafod	2745

Beowulf

	ridend swefad,	
haeled in hoðman		2457
ƿaer his lic-homa	leger-bedde faest	
swefef aefter symle.		1007
Fundon ða on sande	sawul-leasne	
hlim-bed healdan,	ƿone-ƿe him hringas geaf	3033
*g) ƿara-ƿe ƿis lif ofgeaf,		2251
ond ƿa ƿas worold ofgeaf		1681
worold aflaetest		1183
	ƿa se ellor-gast	
oflet lif-dagas	ond ƿas laenan gesceaft	1621
ƿa he of life gewat		2471
Him ða Scyld gewat	to gescaep-hwile	
fela-hror feran	on frean waere	26
	ƿa he of ealdre gewat	
frod on forð-weg.		2624
gebad wintra worn,	ƿaer he on weg hwurfe	264
	faeder ellor hwearf,	
aldor of earde		55
maere ƿeoden,	of-ƿaet he ana hwearf,	1714
	mon-dreamum from	
duguð ellor scoc		2254
	ƿonne min sceaced	
lif of lice		2742
Feond gefylde,	ferh ellor wraec	2706
aldre linnan,	ƿaet ðu me a waere	
forð-gewitenum	on faeder staele	1478

Beowulf

frodan fyrrn-witan,	þær waes AEschere,	
	feorh udgegne	2122
	þonne he forð scile,	
of lic-haman	lysed weorðan	3176
eaforan ellor-sið		2451
Haefde ða forsiðoð	sunu Ecgþeowes	1550
	Scolde his aldor-gedal	
on ðaem daege	þysse lifes	
earmlic wurdan	ond se ellor-gast	
on feonda geweald	feor siðian	805
	þæt ðam þeodne waes	
siðast sige-hwila	sylfes daedum,	
worlde geweorces		2709
	ne-waes þæt eðe sið,	
þæt se maera	maga Ecgþeowes	
grund-wong þone	ofgyfan wolde,	
sceolde wýrm to willan	wic eardian	
elles hwergen,	swa sceal aeghwylc mon	
alaetan laen-dagas		2586
h) geceas ecne raed		1201
gum-dream ofgeaf,	godes leoht geceas	2469
	aer he bael cure,	
hate heaðo-wylmas:	him of hredre gewat	
sawol secean	soð faestra dom.	2818

Beowulf

- i) Is min flet-werod,
 wig-heap gewanod; hie Wyrð forsweop 476
 ealle Wyrð forsweop
 mine magas to metodsceaftē,
 eorlas on elne: ic him aeftē sceal. 2814
- j) Wyrð ungemete neah,
 se ðone gomelan gretan sceolde,
 secean sawle hord, sundur gedaelan
 lif wið lice: no þon lange waes
 feorh aepelinges flaesce bewunden. 2420
- k) ne-meahte waefre mod
 forhabban in hreþre 1150
- l) ond on healfa gehwone heawan þohton,
 sawle secan 800
 ne-waes ecg bona,
 ac him hilde-grap heortan wylmas, 2506
 ban-hus gebraec.
- n) þeah-ðe oðer his ealdre gebohte,
 heardan ceape: Haedcynne weard, 2481
 Geata dryhtne, guð onsaegē.
- o) nu se here-wisa hleahtor alegde,
 gamen ond gleo-dream 3020

Beowulf

- e) Bealo-cwealm hafad
fela feorh-cynna feord onsended. 2265
- f) ƿaet hit sceaden-mael scyran moste,
cwealm-bealu cydan. 1939
- g) ƿaet minne lic-haman
mid minne gold-gyfan gled faedmie 2651

CircumlocutionBeowulfDeathII. A.

*a)	ende-dogores		2896
	ealdres aet ende		2790
	þone leofestan	lifes aet ende	2823
		ende gebidan	
	worolde lifes		1386
		þa waes ende-daeg	
	godum gegongen		3035
	on þisse meodu-healle	min gebidan	637
		Sceolde laen-daga	
	aepeling aer-god	ende gebidan,	
	worolde lifes		2341
		wiste þe geornor,	
	þaet his aldres waes	ende gegongen,	
	dogera daeg-rim		821
		odde ende-daeg	
b)	þurh hwaet his woruld gedal	weorðan sceolde	3068
		No his lif-gedal	
	sarlic þuhte	secga aenegum	841
c)	eorl ofer oðrum	unlifigendum	2908
	min yldra maeg	unlifigende	467
		freatan userne	
	ealdor-leasne		3002
		Grendel licgan,	
	ealdor-leasne		1586
	þaet bið driht-guman		

Beowulf

unlifgendum	aefter selest	1388
ƿone selestan	sawul-leasne	1406
Fundon ƿa on sande	sawol-lasne	3033
*d) syddan Hygelac laeg		2201
syddan Heardred laeg		2388
he fyrmest laeg		2077
ƿa his brodor laeg		2978
*e) ac he eorðan gefeoll		2834
mere-grund gefeoll		2100
ƿaet se lic-homa	laene gedreosed,	
faege gefealled		1754
	gomela Scylfing	
hreas (heoro-) blac		2487
ac in campe gecrong		2505
he under rand gecranc		1209
Sume on waele crungon!		1113
	He aet wige gecrang	
ealdres scyldig		1337
	bil eal ƿurh-wod	
faegne flaesc-homan,	heo on flet gecrong	1567
	gnorn ƿrowian,	
gesigan aet saecce		2658
*f)	of horn-bogan	
his frea-wine	flane geswencte.	2437

Beowulf

g)

wisse he gearwe,

ƿaet he daeg-hwila

gedrogen haefde,

eordan wynne;

ða waes eall sceacen

dogor-gerimes,

deað ungemete neah

2725

CircumlocutionBeowulfDeathII. B.

*a)	aefter deað-daege	885
	aer swylt-daege	2798
	wundor-deaðe swealt	3037
	oð-ƿaet he mordre swealt	2782
	Waes ƿa deaðe faest,	
	haefde eorð-scrafta ende genyttod	3045
*b)	aldor-bealu eorlum	1676
	eft gefremede	
	mord-beala mare	135
	ƿaet hio leod-bealewa laes gefremede	1946
	ƿaer waes Hondscio hilde onsaeg,	
	feorh-bealu faegum	2076
c)	ne-geweoƿ he him to willan, ac to wael-fealle	
	ond to deað-cwalum Deniga leodum	1711

CircumlocutionLayamonNouns

duȝede-cnihtes	20832
*gleo-dreme	1823
here-cnihten	30787
here-kemppen	20618, 30364
here-ȝringes	31530
leod-ferde	20722
leod folke	2048
mon-weorede	20393, 20553, 21658, 21707, 31221, 31435
wael slahte	1369
wider-craft	272, 970

CircumlocutionLayamonSpeech

II.

he bi-heihte hire biheste	1263
bodede mid worde	32093
*hit seide mid worde.	32179
vastnede mid worden.	32206
þa he alles spac:	
mid þraete he spilede.	488
& þu heom cleppe to:	
& cudliche wið heom spec.	718
þat word talie:	
ne talkie mid speche.	787
& heora lauerd spac:	
& þus heom wið spelede.	862
sugged me to runen:	865
raed þaet eou þunche.	
saeide mid muðe.	20592
AEfne þere spæche:	
þa spac þe eorl riche.	21557
Efne þissere saze:	31711
þa þe Brut saeide	

CircumlocutionLayamonLife

II.

bi heore quiken liuen	20522
bi mine quicke liue	677,30307
quic on life	32012
of þine weorld-lifen	32075
we lif laeden:	
& liden to sumne.	1065
& þer we scullen we dazes ba:	
driuen to þan ende.	32158
þe while his dazes ilaste	31866
þif me mot ilasten:	
þat lif a mire breosten.	21086

CircumlocutionLayamonDeathI. A.

- a) þat he grund sohte. 1597
- b) þat he scal þat lif leosen:
 & leosien his freonden. 20112
 & swa heo scullen on londen:
 losien heore freonden. 20537
 for her we habbeod for-loren:
 leoue we maeies. 20821
- c) þer wes þe swein & þe cnaue:
 beien of are laze. 31250
- d) alegggen ich wulle his muchele mod 31316
- e) and swa me scal him tache:
 to walden kineriche. 31313
- f) heore beot wes þae lasse. 31239
- *g) & feie-sið makede 304, 21396
 iwenden toward Brutun:
 to his bale-side 566
 faeie-sih iworhten 20688
 & þus þe haeze scade:
 ferde to helle 1923
 and seodden þu scalt iwiten:
 and faren heofne-richen 32083
 he ferde of þisse liue.

Layamon

- and his saule sende:
 to þan heouenlicche kinge. 32199
 þa he sculde iwihten 19869
 his duȝede he bi-lefde 388
- h) Saxes gunnen sinken:
 sorȝe heom wes ȝiuede 20156
 sorȝen þer worhten 21062
 we heom sculle tellen:
 sorhfulle spellles.
 heore ȝaelp fellen:
 & heom seolue a-quellen. 21697
 sorȝen unimete.
 comen to folke:
 uppen þan monne:
 mord wes iwurden. 31820
- i) þer fore he scal ibiden:
 bitterest alre baluwen. 21075
 harde gomenes:
 & he hit scal abugge.
 and þer uore ibiden:
 bitterest alre balewen. 30331
 ah þer uore him scal ileoten:
 bitterest alre baluwen. 31306

CircumlocutionLayamonII. A.

- *a) þat com hir lifes ende 229
 þa com his lifes ende 243
- b) al þat he smat to: 21258
 hit wes sone for-don.
- c) ȝif he hine mid sweorde at-ran:
 nea ras he neuer mare.
 & brouhten heom þer neodere.
 þat neofer seodden heo ne arisen: 1982
- d) he heom adun leaide. 551
 and neouder hine alegggen. 31685
 & anan leiden to þan grunden:
 of þane Freince þreo þusende. 1668
 þer weoren ileid to grunde. 1759
 and to grund leggen 20636
 legge we heom to grunde. 21380
 þer fore þe sculen liggen stif 1437
 for betere us is on londe:
 mid monscipe to liggen. 20741
- *e) þaet we nabbed his freond:
 ifelled to grunde. 987
 & fealden of his monnen 1288
 heo faelden of his iueren 1677

Layamon

He feolde þa Frenca:	1716
he falde monie hundred	1719
& his folc ualden:	
uolden to grunden.	20056
and his folc afeollen	20235
& eowre feod felled	20602
feowerti þusude:	
ifeolled to þan grunde.	20697
and feolde þa Bruttes to grunde.	21366
and feolde Irisce men:	
feondliche to grunden.	21825
heo ualden heom to grunden	21597
fal to þe grunde	1542
& fallen to þan grunde:	20062
Crist heom aualle.	20105
monie þar feollen	578
þer feol moni god cniht	1535
beornes þer ueollen	20081, 31233
feollen Saexisce men:	20144
þer feolle Cheldriches men	21249
þer feollen seouen kinges	31246
Sexes þer uullen:	21395
unimete feollen:	
faeie men on folden.	31731
þer feollen aeuere in þene grund	21402

Layamon

fallen to grunde	31311
feol to þan grunde	21603
he iseih his frend fallen	553
faelled his leoden	824
faeie þer feollen.	1743
feollen þa uaeie:	
uolden to grunde.	20076
feollen þa uaize	627,801,814,1531,31227
al þat he þer mid hitte:	
al his a-dun healde.	1551
haelden into haele:	
haedene hundes.	20539
halden to (þan) grunde	21387,21400
leted þa Grickisca:	
gliden to grunden.	797
moni þusend þar abad	1605
and þa Sexisce men:	
ibroht to þan grunden.	20703
þer sunken to þan grunde:	
fif & twenti hundred.	21273
f) þa flan heom weoren laðe.	1814
g) þer weoren men faeie.	1481
þer fore 3e sculen beon faeie	1433
þat he feie iwerd	1715
þa weoren heo faie	1849
þe formeste is faeie	21237

Layamon

monie þer weoren faeie	21272
he seolf and his ferde:	
faeie scal iwarden.	20405
faeie on his side	20175
þat bearn nas nowit feie	298
& moni cniht feie	1711
þe gume scal beon faeie	21316
faeie-scipe wurhte.	
h) from loðen alesen	1084
i) feollen þa cnihtes:	
faleweden nebbes.	
þeond þan feldes wide:	
swulten men uaeize.	30986

CircumlocutionLayamonDeathII. B.

- *a) daed he moste polien 30559
 & al heore duȝede:
 daed scal idolien 21079
 þorh him heo sculden deiȝen:
 & þene dead polien. 283
- *b) him seolfue to balewe 309
 balu com on ueste 1455
 balu wes on folke 20974,30416
 þe balu wes unimete 31231
 þat balu weore swa riue 20672
 balu wes on folke.
 daed þer wes rife. 20675
- c) Sweddæn Octa wes of-slaȝen: 20022
 & idon of lif-daeȝen.
 and ho bilafden of-slaȝen:
 & idon of lif-daeȝen. 20697
 and al his folc þer islaȝen:
 and idon of lif-daeȝen. 21651
 ah al þa ferde wes of-slaȝen:
 and idon of lif-daeȝen. 31254
 þer wes Oswy of-slaȝen:
 & idon of lif-daeȝen. 31735
 þat he wolde beon Ardures bone 20217

In their general outlines the lists of circumlocution indicate fundamental similarity in the two poems. Both contain double nouns to express single ideas; both reveal a tendency to express indirectly certain primal facts, notably death. Yet there are typical differences of greater importance than surface resemblances. The Beowulf, for example, has a far greater number of pleonastic compounds, - 50 used 91 times as against 10 used 16 times in Layamon, where one word contributes 6 of the 16 uses. This is quite in accord with the lavish expenditure of nouns in Beowulf, the heaping up of word on word. The more impoverished vocabulary of Layamon prohibits such extravagance; a double word must perform double duty. Hence circumlocution in nouns is rare in the Brut. The list of pleonastic compounds in Beowulf comprises about 6% of all its compound nouns, in Layamon, a little less than 12%. These figures give evidence of the great difference in the number of compound nouns employed in the two poems, the Beowulf containing nearly ten times as many as Layamon.

In phrases and sentences there is again significant difference. Figures are of little value here, since the whole point lies not in comparative numbers, but in the superior poetic value of the Beowulf expressions. Nevertheless the following table may serve to substantiate more general statements. I have made use of the figures on death, since this is the most important idea for circumlocution, and I have attempted to show the number of different conceptions involved, the number of times these are

expressed, and the number of figurative and euphemistic circumlocutions.

I. A. Conceptions	Times Expressed.	I. B. Conceptions	Times Expressed	II. A. Conceptions	Times Expressed	II. B. Conceptions	Times Expressed	Conceptions Total	Times Expressed	I. A. II. A. Concep.	Times Ex.
B. 15	65	7 (2 used in I A)	18	7	33	3	10	30	126	22	98
L. 9	24			9	71	3	16	21	111	18	95

Even numerically the Beowulf exceeds Layamon, and it is significant that the bulk of the Layamon figures lies in II A, outside of figurative language. Two thirds of the Beowulf expressions are, on the contrary, figurative. The figures chiefly employed in both poems do not differ greatly from our modern euphemisms embodying the same conceptions. In Beowulf the sleep metaphor is prominent, and in both occurs the idea of a journey into an undiscovered country. But it is to be noted that Layamon employs 9 variations of the death idea 71 times, and that without any great variety of form. Such is not the practice of the Beowulf, where even repetitions are fresh with new turns of thought and new shades of expression. Here variation is sought as an integral part of the poetic scheme, while in Layamon a few rather prosaic expressions, similar or identical in phrasing, are employed for innumerable occasions. Thus we find in circumlocution characteristics of the two poems,-

in Beowulf intensity and poetic variation, in Layamon conventional phrases for constantly recurring events.

G. Antithesis. Brandl: to frofre-fyren þearfe 14;
gudreow-glaede 58. The material which follows has been
distributed to List I, which contains verbal antithesis within
narrow limits, usually the line; List II, which exhibits passages
stressing contrasting ideas, rather than words; and List III,
which is merely an extension of the method illustrated in List II.
For the sake of clearness, an attempt has been made to group
together similar ideas.

AntithesisBeowulf

I.

fea-sceaft funden;	he <u>paes</u> <u>frofre</u> gebað	7
<u>feasceaft</u> guma	<u>frofre</u> gebohte	973
folke to <u>frofre</u> ;	<u>fyren-pearfe</u> ongeat	14
	Frofor eft gelamp	
<u>sarig-modum</u>		2941
ne <u>leof</u> ne <u>lað</u>		511
<u>leofes</u> ond <u>laðes</u>		1061
<u>laðum</u> daedum,	peah him <u>leof</u> ne-waes	2467
<u>beorhtre</u> bote	to banan folmum	158
<u>bealuwa</u> bisigu,	bot eft cuman	281
se- <u>pe</u> him <u>bealwa</u> to	bote gelyfde	909
<u>weana</u> ne-wende	to widan feore	
<u>bote</u> gebidan		933
	He <u>paer</u> eallum weard	
		
<u>freondum</u> gefaegra;	hine <u>fyren</u> onwod	915
<u>freondum</u> afylled;	Nalles <u>facen-stafas</u>	1018
wið Grendles <u>gryre</u>	Ic aem <u>godan</u> sceal	384
on Grendles <u>gryre</u> .	<u>God</u> eaðe maeg	478

Beowulf

<u>þa</u> waes aefter <u>wista</u>	<u>wop</u> up ahafen	128
<u>swe</u> fan aefter <u>symb</u> le;	<u>sorge</u> ne-cuðon	119
<u>druncon</u> win <u>we</u> ras ;	<u>wyrð</u> ne-cuðon	1233
in <u>þaem</u> <u>win</u> -sele	<u>wael</u> -deað fornam	695
<u>Gyrn</u> aefter <u>gomene</u>		1775
<u>gamen</u> ond <u>gleo</u> -dream.	For on sceal <u>gar</u> wesan	3021
<u>hae</u> leð in <u>hoð</u> man;	nis <u>þaer</u> <u>hearpan</u> <u>sweg</u>	2458
Wen ic, aet ge for <u>wlen</u> co,	nalles for <u>wraec</u> -siðum	
ac for <u>hige</u> -þrymmum		338
se-þe aefter <u>sinc</u> -gyfan	on <u>sefan</u> greoted	1342
<u>hlim</u> -bed healdan	þone-þe him <u>hringas</u> geaf	3034
<u>breost</u> -hord <u>blod</u> -reow	nallas <u>beagas</u> geaf	1719
<u>fyre</u> befongen	se-þe aer <u>folce</u> weold	2595
gamol ond <u>gud</u> -reow,	<u>glaede</u> Scyldingas.	58
<u>sib</u> gemaene	ond <u>sacu</u> restan	1857
<u>sefa</u> wið <u>sorgum</u> .	<u>Sibb</u> aefre ne-maeg	2600
frome, <u>fyrd</u> -hwate.	<u>Freode</u> ne-woldon	2476
hu he <u>frod</u> ond <u>god</u>	<u>feond</u> oferswyðeð	279
<u>frod</u> folces weard,	<u>faehðe</u> secan	2513
þu eart <u>maegenes</u> strang	ond on <u>mode</u> frod	1844
<u>maegen</u> mid <u>modes</u> snyttrum		1706
<u>tir</u> -eadigum menn	<u>torna</u> gehwylces	2189

Beowulf

Swa he <u>nida gehwane</u>	<u>genesen haefde</u>	2397
feorh-bennum <u>seoc</u> ,	<u>gefean</u> habban	2740
<u>aedeling aer-god</u>	<u>unblide</u> saet	130
<u>mordre gemearcod</u>	<u>man-dream</u> fleon	1264
modes <u>myrde</u>	manna cynne,	
fyrene gefremede		810
	<u>geoce</u> gefremede	
wid <u>peod-þreaum</u>		177
þurh <u>anes</u> craeft	<u>ealle</u> ofercomon	699
þone <u>cwealm-cuman</u>	<u>cwicne</u> forlaetan	792
	<u>cnihht</u> -wesende.	
Waes his <u>eald-faeder</u>		372
Ful oft ic <u>for laessan</u>	<u>lean</u> teohhode	951
heold <u>hilde-deor</u> .	<u>Hean</u> waes lange	2183
<u>wuldor-torhtan</u> weder.	þa waes <u>winter</u> scacen,	
faeger foldan bearm		1136
þaet se <u>wid-floga</u>	<u>wundum</u> stille	2830
wlonces <u>wig-craeft</u> ,	<u>widres</u> ne-truwode	2953
husa <u>selest</u>	<u>heoro-dreorig</u> stod	935
weallad <u>wael-nidas</u>	ond him <u>wif-lufan</u>	2065
	andlangne <u>daeg</u>	
niode naman,	od-þaet <u>niht</u> becwom	792

Beowulf

II.

<u>willan geworhte,</u>	odde on <u>wael crunge</u>	635
<u>dom gewyrce,</u>	odde mec <u>dead nimeð</u>	1491
ne-geweoð he him <u>to willan,</u>	ac <u>to wael-fealle</u>	
ond <u>to dead-cwalm</u>		1711
<u>Helle gemundon</u>		
in mod-sefan;	<u>metod hie ne-cuðon</u>	179
Selra bið aeghwaem,		
þæt he his <u>freond wrece,</u>	þonne he <u>fela murne</u>	1384
<u>Deað bið sella</u>		
eorla gehwylcum	<u>þonne eadwite-lif</u>	2890
Ne-frin þu aefter <u>saelum!</u>	<u>Sorh is geniwod</u>	1322

Beowulf

III

lyft-wynne heold
 nihtes hwilum, nyðer eft gewat
 dennes niosian 3043

Ic gefremman sceal
 eorlic ellen, oððe ende-daeg
 on þisse meodu-healle minne gebidan 636

ne maegð scyne
 habban on healse hring-weordunge,
 ac sceal geomor-mod, gold bereafod
 oft nalles aene elland tredan: 3016

nalles hearpan sweg
 wigend weccan, ac se wonna hrefn
 fus ofer faegum fela reordian 3023

Wunað he on wiste, no hine wiht dweled,
 ađl ne ylðo, ne him inwit-sorh
 on sefan sweorced, ne gesacu ohwaer
 eog-hete eowed, ac him eal worold
 wended on willan. 1735

Wa bið þaem-ðe sceal
 þurh slidne nið sawle bescufan
 in fyres faedm, frofre ne-wenan,
 wihte gewendan; wel bið þaem-þe mot
 aefter deað-daeg drihten secean
 ond to faeder faeþmum freoðo wilnian 183

AntithesisLayamon

I.

þe al her <u>a-quelde</u> :	
<u>quic</u> at he funde.	21
oder we sculle <u>daede</u> beon:	
ne muze we hine <u>quic</u> iseon.	20114
oder <u>quic</u> oder <u>ded</u>	31581
þe child wes iboren <u>isund</u> :	
to <u>baluen</u> his moder.	295
þat bearn nas nowit <u>feie</u> .	
þis child <u>leuede</u> & wel iþei:	298
of his <u>seocnesse</u> :	
<u>isund</u> wes iwurden.	21665
out of þeowedome:	
<u>freo</u> þat heo weoren.	360
& for mine <u>freo-dome</u> :	
<u>ifrouered</u> þa wraecchen.	20897
& mine <u>leoue</u> dohter:	
to swa <u>lade</u> mannes bihoue.	1049
weore heom <u>lef</u> weore heom <u>lad</u> :	19998
<u>moni</u> heaued <u>moni</u> hond:	
fallen to <u>foten</u> .	574
<u>moni</u> hond <u>moni</u> fot	815

Layamon

alle to gadere he heom <u>nom</u> :	
nane he ne <u>lafde</u> .	765
to <u>faren</u> þe to <u>wonien</u>	906
<u>wonien</u> heo sculen un-balde:	
for hora muchela bursten.	
& we maewen <u>faren</u> riche.	995
⁊ ardur him <u>faht</u> wið:	
& nolde him ȝiuen na <u>grid</u> .	21823
þat he heom ȝiue <u>mildze</u> :	
of heore <u>misde</u> .	31391
monie þar <u>fuhten</u> :	.
monie <u>flaem</u> makeden..	576
þar is <u>fuzel</u> þar is <u>fisc</u> :	1235
þar is <u>wode</u> þar is <u>water</u> :	1237
Nefde Brutus nenne swa <u>wreche</u> man:	
þat <u>gold</u> & <u>pal</u> ne dude him on.	1295
ouer-comen heora <u>teonen</u> :	
þa weoren heo <u>blide</u> .	1934
we <u>ifan</u> alle icoren:	
<u>gumen</u> mine gode.	21378
and walden <u>al</u> his <u>riche</u> :	
and he scal wurden <u>hene</u> .	30315

Layamon

kine-helm ich wulle bruke:

& he hit scal abugge.

30330

from loden alesen

1084

& wnnen bi-raeued

1124

& frofre bidaeled.

21898

Layamon

II.

- he wes þan zungen for fader:
þan alden for frouer. 19936
- whader he hit wolde iunne:
oder him for-beode. 30225
- þe king him gon to slaepen:
and Brien gon to wepen. 30263
- þu aert ihalden kene gume:
hauest þu nu quene þeouwes inume. 30281
- and 3if he hit wul awon:
ich hit wulle wernen. 30309
- and Oswy his broder is oht cniht:
and ard heorte na wiht. 31499
- oder brohte enne:
þe oder no brohte nenne. 31815
- Sume him radde to uehten:
summe wrid (frid?) to wurchen. 32024
- & AEnglisce kinges
walden as londes. 32232
- & Bruttes hit losedenden:
wheder he scolde liden:
þe he scolde bi-lauen. 32054

Layamon

a swa heom beoð <u>iwrð</u> :	
swa us <u>wrse</u> bið.	971
woh him wes wunder <u>lad</u> :	
and þat rihte a <u>leof</u>	19940
we beoð <u>under uote</u> :	
a þe is al þa <u>bote</u> .	21925
þe an hine putte hiderward:	
and þe oðer hine putte ȝeondward.	30780
þer neoren <u>eorles</u> :	
no wurðer ene <u>cheorles</u> .	30992
bidden for <u>eower sæulen</u> :	
þat sel <u>ne wurden</u> heom nauaere.	21453
ne miht þu na wiht so <u>fleon</u> :	
ȝif þu us wilt heonne <u>fleman</u> .	1578
þat heo aereſt <u>biȝited</u> :	
after heo hit <u>leosed</u> .	20775
<u>for ſcome</u> he ne mihte <u>fleon</u> :	
no <u>for haerme</u> her <u>beon</u> .	31853
wa wes him on <u>liue</u> :	
þa þe fader wes on <u>deade</u> .	317
for wa wes heom on <u>life</u> :	
for heore lauerdes <u>dede</u> .	31457

Layamon

leofere him weore <u>on dede</u> :	
þeone <u>quic on life</u> .	32011
þa <u>faeie</u> he <u>sloh</u> þe <u>quike</u> he <u>bond</u>	1290
þa <u>weolezen</u> & a <u>weadlen</u>	427
on <u>wraecches</u> monnes liche:	
þeh he weoren <u>riche</u> .	30798
<u>riche</u> and <u>hene</u>	31535
for þe <u>riche</u> haued muchel rum:	
to raesen bi foren þan <u>wrecchan</u> .	1003
nis þar nan swa <u>heih</u> :	
nis þer nan swa <u>laih</u> .	985
halden us for <u>haene</u> :	
þer we weoren <u>heze</u> .	30289
swulc þu woldest <u>to haeuene</u> :	
nu þu scalt <u>to haelle</u> .	21441
<u>Lien</u> nu þere Colgrim:	
þu were <u>iclumben haze</u> .	21431
He wende hit to <u>sope</u> :	
<u>sod</u> þeh hit <u>neore</u> .	602
heo wenden þat his sawen:	
<u>sod</u> weren.	749
ah alle heo weren <u>lease</u> :	
swa he eode longe <u>upward</u> :	
swa longe he eode <u>adunward</u> .	20327

Layamon

Brien eode <u>upward</u> :	
Brian eode <u>dunward</u> .	30758
his brode swaerd he <u>up ahof</u> :	
and haerdliche <u>adun sloh</u> .	21417
& <u>treouwe mon</u> auere beon:	
& neouwar <u>min herm</u> iseon.	31068
no þine <u>heste</u> iuorden:	
ah bi-hated <u>haerm</u> to don.	31561
& ȝif þu <u>þis nult</u> don:	
þu scalt <u>wurse under-fon</u> .	31583
& ȝif <u>þat nult</u> don:	
þu scalt <u>wurse afon</u> .	31707
longe bið <u>auer</u> :	
no iseo ȝe me aeft <u>naeuere</u> .	32160
swa longe swa bið <u>aeuere</u> .	
her ne cume we <u>naeuern</u> .	20823
þis wes al heore <u>gome</u> :	
for Ardures kinges <u>sceome</u> .	21003
heore ȝelp & heore <u>gome</u> :	
ilomp heom seoluen to <u>scame</u> .	21007
þenne beod þer <u>forcudest</u> :	
deoren alre <u>pruttest</u> .	20869
þa weoren <u>aerhest</u> :	
þat aer weoren <u>baldest</u> .	21730

Layamon

þu eart cristine mon:

& we al swa sunden.

Saexisce men beoð:

haede hundes.

þa hedene us hatied:

21899

& þe cristine us sari makied.

21911

Layamon

III.

þenne were his cun iscend:
 mid scomeliche witen.
 heore wurdscipe iloren:
 a þissere world-richen.

20461

nu ich wulle ȝifen him grid:
 & leten hine me specken wið.
 nulle ich hine slae no ahon:
 ah his bode ich wulle fon.

20879

weþer heo walden haelden grid:
 & gretan þes londes king.
 þe heo wolden mid wiðere:
 þan kinge wið-stonden.
 and ȝif he nolde awaei fleon:
 & touward Alemaine teon.
 and he wolde on londe:
 mid fehte atstonden.

1416

20527

hit likede wel þan kinge:
 buten for ane þinge.
 hit of-þuhte him ful sone:
 for þan swikedome.
 ȝif heo fluzen to burȝen:
 þer heo for-wurðen.
 ȝif heo flozen to þa wunde:
 þer hi heom forduden.

31445

20663

Layamon

nude we scullen wepen:

þae aer richen weore.

for wurdscipe ualled adune:

þer wes aer wunne.

30295

alle þa hine lufeden:

he heom gon griþien.

alle þa him heolden wið:

he bi-nom heore lif.

31152

Summe hit gonnen raeden:

summe to for-beoden.

summe þer heolden wel to:

summe nolden hit no.

30245

þurh elleouen 3ere:

þe king wunede 3ere.

& elleouen 3ere.

þe sorh3e wunede here.

31871

Ofte heo luten adun:

alse heo wolde liggen:

ofte heo up lupen:

alse heo fleon wolden.

1880

3if we sceoted to heora mæde:

þat biðure imone deað.

3if we heom ilefed:

þat biðure muchele lure.

3if heo wel wexit:

977

heo willed wonien us...

Layamon

quelen þa eorles:

quelen þa beornes.

quelen þa þeines:

quelen þa sweines.

quelen þa lareden:

quelen þa leouweden.

quelen þa aeldren:

quelen þa ȝeonzeren.

quelaen þa wifmen:

quelen þa wanclen.

31825

For ȝerstendaei wes Colgrim:

monnen alre kennest.

nu him is al swa þere gat:

þer he þene hul wat.

21299

ȝerstendaei wes Baldulf:

cnihten alre baldest.

nu he stant on hulle:

& Auene bi-halded.

21319

ȝerstendaei wes þe kaisere:

kennest alre kingen.

nu he is bicumen hunte:.

& hornes him fulied.

21335

The Anglo-Saxon method of securing contrast is quite evident from the lists that have been given. That it differs from the practice of Layamon is also patent, even though minor resemblances appear. Thus, general and convenient antithetical ideas appear in both,- the dear and the loathly, the high and the low, life and death, youth and age, joy and sorrow. Yet the expressions of these ideas are so various that no definite comparison of similarities is possible. The differences become apparent by a perusal of the three lists. List I shows the Beowulf method of contrast within the verse, and between prominent alliterating words of the two half lines: feasceaft funden, he þaes frofre gebad. With the typical Beowulf examples the first Layamon list is congruous: monie þar fuhtan: monie flaem makeden. In both the half line may even be sufficient for completing the contrast: Beowulf- ne leof ne lað; Layamon weore heom lef weore heom lað. Naturally the Layamon examples alliterate more rarely than those of Beowulf, although alliteration strengthens a number of them. The Beowulf shows a preference for nouns which is not characteristic of Layamon; in the Middle English poem there is evident a general tendency to make use of verbs and adjectives, and more especially to combine two parts of speech. The greatest significance, however, lies in the fact that the Beowulf list of verbal contrasts is much longer than the corresponding Layamon list, and that it exhibits much greater variety.

List II is a departure from the Beowulf standard. In it appears intentional antithetical effect, stressing less the words than the contrasting ideas. The Beowulf list, though it contains a few effective passages, is short. The Layamon list, on the contrary, is extensive, containing many interesting examples. Thus Layamon's fondness for parallelism is shown by the following:

þe faeie he sloh þe quike he bond	1290
nis þar nan swa heih:	
nis þer nan swa laih.	985
þe an hine putte hiderward:	
and þe oðer hine putte ʒeondward.	30780
Brien eode upward:	
Brian eode adunward.	30758

The effect of rime in knitting the lines closely together is evident in:

þe king him gon to slaepen:	
and Brien gon to wepen.	30263
for scome he ne mihte fleon:	
no for haerme her beon.	31853
we beoð under uote:	
a þe is al þa bote.	21925
þenne beoð þer forcudest:	
deoren alre pruttest.	20869
þer neoren eorles:	
no wurðer þene cheorles.	30992

swa longe swa bið æuere:

her ne cume we næuer.

20823

ƿis wes al heore gome:

for Ardures kinges scome.

21003

The close relation of the half lines and the brevity of the idea conveyed gives to the excerpts an epigrammatic tone, which is heightened in such passages as:

ƿat heo ærest biȝeted:

after heo hit leosed.

20775

ƿa heðene us hatied:

& ƿe cristine us sari makied.

21911

for ƿe riche haued muchel rum:

to raesen bi foren ƿan wrecchan.

1003

This epigrammatic effect is supplemented by ironical passages:

bidden for eower saulen:

ƿat se ne wurden heom nauaere.

21453

ne miht ƿu na wiht so fleon:

ȝif ƿu us wilt heonne fleman.

1578

Lien nu ƿere Colgrim:

ƿu were iclumben hære.

21431

Swulc ƿu woldest to haeuene:

nu ƿu scalt to hælle.

21441

These specialized uses of antithesis are foreign to Beowulf.

There are epigrams in the two passages:

Selra bið aeghwaem

þæt he his freond wrece, þonne he fela murne 1384

Deað bið sella

eorla gehwylcum þonne edwit-lif 2890

but they are moral epigrams,- aphorisms, rather,- serious and didactic. Perhaps the best of the list is the quick and natural retort of Hroðgar, with its succession of light initial syllables, and its central massing of emphasis:

Ne-frin þu aefter saelum! Sorh is geniwod 1322

On the whole, the Beowulf examples of List II are less effective than the varied and artistically compact passages of Layamon.

List III is a more complicated extension of List II.

The Beowulf examples here are more significant than under II. Those at l. 3016 and 3023, a part of the somber and poetic forebodings of Wiglaf's messenger, are effectively managed; and the passage at l. 183 is even more elaborate, with the antithetical balance excellently maintained through several members. Yet even here we find the Layamon list longer and more noteworthy, and its parallelism strongly marked. In the passage at l. 31825 we find parallel construction worked out almost to the point of monotony, slightly relieved by a series of antithetical doubles. The passage at l. 977 includes three contrasting groups arranged in a series which combines to make an impression of strong contrast. The effect is slightly weakened by a neglect of climactic

order, but the passage as a whole has the stamp of conscious and successful artistry. The examples at l. 1416 and 1880 have the further adornment of double contrast,- in the one instance of noun with noun and verb with verb, in the other of a duplicate set of verbs. The last passages quoted have, together with the regular contrasting idea,- identical in the three cases,- the adverbial contrast of erstendaei and nu, and the additional effect of parallelism and dramatic repetition.

Thus it is evident that the greater complexity of Layamon's antithesis separates his use from the Anglo-Saxon method. While Beowulf uses word contrast with excellent effect, List I of Layamon is so simple as to result almost spontaneously from any poetic effort. To predicate Anglo-Saxon origin because of natural similarity is unnecessary. List II is far removed from the Beowulf standard, and List III goes beyond the verse unit, the typical limit of contrast in Beowulf. The antithesis of Beowulf is verbal; the antithesis of Layamon is notional, related to Anglo-Saxon method only by the very general connection of a natural language practice.

H. Catalogs. Brandl: hilde-waepnum ond heado-waedum,
 billum ond byrnum

39

Purely as a matter of convenience, I have divided the lists which follow, including in List I catalogs made up of concrete details, in II of persons, in III of places, and in IV of abstractions. Division of the Beowulf material is really unnecessary, and valuable only as it furnishes a means of comparison with Layamon. The Layamon lists, however, are scarcely intelligible without some system of discrimination. For this reason, too, I have separated List I into A and B, setting forth in A regular noun catalogs, and grouping in B divergencies in which the verb shares prominence with the noun.

In both poems List I is of greatest significance and the rest are to be regarded as merely supplementary. In the discussion which follows, observations are in general drawn from List I, the other lists being definitely specified in any cases where they may happen to furnish excellent examples of the phenomena involved.

CatalogsBeowulf

I.

hilde-waepnum	ond heado-waedum,	
billum ond byrnum		39
þæt ic sweord bere	oððe sidne scyld,	
geolo-rand to gude		437
	feorh cyninges,	
breost-gewaedu	ond se beah somod	1210
þær him Hygd gebead	hord ond rice,	
beagas ond brego-stol		2369
	þær he folc ahte,	
burh ond beagas		522
	hond rond gefeng,	
geolwe linde,	gomel swyrd geteah	2609
	urum sceal sweord ond helm,	
byrne ond byrdu-scrud	bam gamaene	2659
	hord forstandan,	
bearn ond bryde		2955
Him big stodan	bunan ond orcas,	
discas lagan	ond dyre swyrd	3047

Beowulf

helmum behongen, hilde-bordum,
 beorhtum byrnum, swa he bena waes 3139

Hwanon ferigeaþ ge faette scyldas,
 graege syrcan ond grim-helmas,
 here-sceafta heap 335

Bruc ƿisses beages, Beowulf leofa,
 hyse, mid haele, ond ƿisses hraegles neot,
 ƿeod-gestreona 1216

Het ƿa in beran eafor heafod-segn,
 heafo-steapne helm, hare byrnan,
 guð-sweord geatolic 2152

Hyrde ic, ƿaet he ƿone heals-beah Hygde gesealde,
 wraetlicne wundur-maðdum, ƿone-ƿe him Wealhðeo geaf,
 ðeodnes dohtor, ƿrio wicg somod
 swancor ond sadol-beorht 2172

ƿaet he on Biowulfes bearm alegde,
 ond him gesealde seofan ƿusendo,
 bold ond brego-stol 2194

him on bearm hladen bunan ond discas
 sylfes dome, segn eac genom,
 beacna beorhtost 2775

nam on Ongendio iren byrnan,
 heard swyrd hilted ond his helm somod 2986

Beowulf

Waes ƿaet beorhte bold tobrocen swide
 eal inne-weard iren-bendum faest,
 heorras tohlidene; hrof ana genaes
 ealles ansund

997

Forgeaf ƿa Beowulfe bearn Healfdenes
 segen gyldenne sigores to leane,
 hroden hilde-cumbor, helm ond byrnan;
 maere madƿum-sweord

1020

Him waes ful boran ond freond-laƿu
 wordum bewaegned ond wunden gold
 estum geeawed, earm-hreade two
 hraegl ond hringas heals-beage maest

1192

aet ƿaem ade waes eƿ-gesyne
 swat-fah syrce, swyn eal-gylden,
 eofer iren-heard, aepeling manig

1110

ƿa waes on healle heard-ecg togen,
 sweord ofer setlum, sid-rand manig
 hafen handa faest; helm ne-gemunde,
 byrnan side, ƿa hine se broga angeat.

1298

 ond his magum aetbaer
 brun-fagne helm, hringde byrnan,
 eald sweord etonisc, ƿaet him Onela forgeaf,
 his gaedelinges gud-gewaedu,
 fyrð-searo fuslic

2614

Beowulf

Dyde him of healse hring gylðenne
 ƿioden ƿrist-hyðig, ƿegne gesealde,
 geongum gar-wigan, gold-fahne helm,
 beah ond byrnan

2809

Setton him to heafdon. hilde-randas,
 bord-wudu beorhtan; ƿaer on bence waes
 ofer aepelinge yð-gesene
 heaðo-steapa helm, hringed byrne,
 ƿrec-wudu ƿrymlic
 ƿaet hie him oðer flet eal gerymðon,
 healle ond heah-setl, ƿaet hie healfre geweald
 wið Eotena bearn agan moston,
 ond aet feoh-gyftum Folcwaldan sunu
 dogra gehwylce Dene weorƿode,
 Hengestes heap hringum wenede,
 efne swa swiðe sinc-gestreonum
 faettan goldes, swa he Fresena cyn

1242

1086

maððum-sigla fealo,
 gold glitinian grunde getenge,
 wundur on wealle ond ƿaes wyrmes denn,
 ealdes uht-flogan; orcas stondan,
 fyrn-manna fatu, feormend-lease,
 hyrstum behrorene: ƿaer waes helm monig,
 eald ond omig, earm-beaga fela,
 searwum gesaeled. Sinc eade maeg,

Beowulf

gold on grunde gum-cynnes gehwone
ofer-higian: hyde se-ðe wylle!
Swylce he siomian geseah segn eall-gylden,
heah ofer horde, hond-wundra maest

2757

gud-byrne scan
heard hond-locen, hryng-iren scir,
song in searwum, þa hie to sele furdum
in hyre gryre-geatwum gangan cwomon.
Letton sae-mepe side scyldas,
rondas regn-hearde wid þaes recedes weal;
bugon þa to bence: byrnan hringdon,
gud-searo gumena; garas stodon,
sae-manna searo, samod aetgaedere,
aesc-holt ufan graeg

321

Beowulf

II

þanon untydras	ealle onwocon,	
eotenas ond ylfe	ond orc-neas,	
swylce gigantas		111
Herebeald ond Hædcyn	oððe Hygelac min	2434
Heorogar ond Hroðgar	ond Halga Til	61
þæt he to Gifðum	oððe to Gar-Denum	
oððe in Swio-rice,		2494

Beowulf

III

donon he gesohte swaesne eðel,
leof his leodum lond Bronginga,
freodo-burh faegere 520

 Hie dygel lond
warigeað, wulf-hleoƿu, windige naessas,
frecne fen-gelað, aer fyr-gen-stream
under naessa genipu nider gewited 1357

 no he on holm losaþ,
ne on foldan faeƿm, ne on fyr-gen-holt,
ne on gyfenes grund, ga ƿaer he wille 1392

steap stan-hlido, stige nearwe,
enge an-ƿaðas, un-cuð gelað,
neowle naessas, nicor-husa fela 1409

Beowulf

IV

	od- p aet unc flod todraf,	
wado weallende,	wedera cealdost,	
nipende niht	ond nor p an wind	545
	no hine wiht dweled,	
adl ne ylðo,	ne him inwit-sorh	
on sefan sweorced,	ne gesacu ohwaer	
ecg-hete eowed		1735
p aet ec adl odde ecg	eafopes getwaefed,	
odde fyres feng	odde flodes wylm	
odde gripe meces	odde gares fliht	
odde atol ylðo,	odde eagena bearhtm	
forsited ond forsworced		1763

CatalogsLayamonI. A.

mid stelene orde:	
& mid starka biten.	
mid stocken & mid stanen:	624
& ȝeorned mine madmas.	
& mine leoue dohter:	1043
mid hornen & mid hunden:	
& mid fif hundred cnihten.	1424
to nimen his heortes & his hindes:	
& al ȝa deor ȝat ich finde.	1448
mid allen heora uenge.	
& mid seoluere & mid golde:	1773
mid bouren & mid hallen.	
mid haeȝe stan walle.	2025
scipien heom mid londe:	
mid seoluere & mid golde.	20012
hafden and heore honden:	
& heore white halmes.	20535
ȝisles ich wulle hebben:	
of haexten his monnen.	
hors & heore wepan:	
dales & dunes	20884

Layamon

mid heore speren longe:	
and mid sweoreden swide stronge	21396
mid clubben swide graete.	
mid spaeren and mid graete uazen:	21504
he ȝaef heom lif he ȝef heom lumen:	
& heore lond to halden.	21935
sae & þa sunne.	
wind and þa wide se:	30611
nom him an honde:	
of seoluer and o golde.	
.....	
nom he tunnen gode:	30668
swe scarp wes þe pic:	
þe staf wes swide sellic.	30752
and bitechen me his sune:	
his gold and his gaersume.	31066
uppen alle þe londe:	
uppen seoluer and uppen golde.	31080
he bi-nom heore lif.	
and heore leoden:	
and al þat heo leof hæfden.	31155
his teldes alle sette.	
his marken & his mare:	
and eke his mon-weorede.	31219

Layamon

he nom his madmes alle:
 and his mon deore. 31857

 heo luveden bi wuden:
 heo lufeden bi wurten.
 bi moren and bi rote: 31883

 mid scelden and mid burnen:
 mid wifen and mid children. 31922

 bi sixe bi seouene:
 bi tene bi eolleue.
 bi twelue bi twenti
 bi þritti bi feowerti. 31929

 heo bi-tahten heore hors:
 and heore burnen.
 scaftes & sceldes:
 & longe heore swerodes. 20913

 þa burh wes wel iʒarwed:
 binnen lut ʒearen..
 he ʒef heo his stepmoder:
 for þon lofe of his broþer.
 & Lauinion þen castel:
 & muchel lond þer to. 222

 on sterren and on sunne:
 and on þare sae brade.
 isiht he cude:
 a winde and a mone.

Layamon

of þan uisce þer he wlaet:
and of wurmen þer heo crepe.

30495

þene heom al his aȝte:
þe he bi eten mahte.
& alle his scipen gode:
þa floten bi sae flode.
& his dohter Ignogen:
heore duc to quene.

1029

mid wrscipen heȝen.
mid mete & mid drinchen:
& mid murie gleo-dreme.
mid seoluer & mid golde:
þe elche bar an honde.
mid horsen & mid scruden:

1821

mid fenne & mid raeode:
mid watere swiðe braede.
mid fiscen & mid feoȝelen:
mid uniuele þinge.
þat water is unimete brade:
nikeres þer badied inne.
þer is aeluene ploȝe:
in atteliche pole.
sixti aeit-londes:
beod i þan watere longe.
in aelc of þan aeit-londe:
is a clude hæh and strong.

Layamon

nes naestied arnes:

& oðere graete uoʒeles.

21741

ʒaet is alreforwarde:

ʒat heo us ifreoie.

sone ʒar after:

ʒurne we his dohter.

ʒaet he heo ʒeue ure lauerde:

Brutun to his bedde.

of his corne he us ʒeue swa muches:

ʒaet we beon iquemed.

gold & garsume:

& his gode hors.

& al his beste maete cun:

ʒe his men habbed.

& alle ʒa lidinde scipen:

ʒe on his londe beoð.

& alle at bi-houed:

ʒa scipen to driuen.

of monnen & of wapnen:

931

LayamonI. B.

He nom þa Englisca boc: an oþer he nom on Latin: boc he nom þe þridde:	31
heo rihten heora rapes: heo raerden heora mastes. heo wunden up seiles:	1099
breken braden speren: brustleden sceldes. feollen Saexisce men:	20142
he þe wule binden. quellen þine leoden: ond þi lond aȝen.	20380
wind heom com on wille: heo wunden up seiles to coppe. scipen gunnen liðen: leod-scopes sungen.	30606
þa falden heo adune: heremarken uaze. heo wurpen sceldes sone:	30998
þa sunne gon to scine: þe rein bi-gon to rine. þe qual' gon to stunte:	31889
al þridden dale mi lond: ich wolde setten Brutan on hond.	

Layamon

& freoien al his folc:

& freonscipe makien.

& Ignogen mine dohter:

zeuen eowre duke.

1057

pat me hit him to brohte:

alle his aihte.

& greidede his scipen gode:

bi þan sae flode.

& al pat þær to bi-houede.

1077

þæt to hire he wolde teman:

& wrchen hire ane temple.

& on lichesse of raede golde:

whenne he come to londe.

& æ to his liue:

hire willen idriȝen.

1265

he braeid hæȝe his sceld:

forn to his breosten.

he igrap his spere longe:

his horse he gone spurie.

21351

a-marden þas leoden.

burȝes he barnde:

castles he ualde.

his here wrohte on londe:

harmes uniuoȝe.

30458

Layamon

þurh hire þu miht biwinnen:

lufe of hire cunnen.

and iwinne al þi kine-lond:

to þire azere hond.

and wunien on londe:

and walde þine riche.

31098

and he wulle þi mon bi-cume:

and to ȝisle seollen þe his sune.

and of þe his kine-lond halden:

and for lauerd þe ikenne.

& on aelchere þeode:

beon ȝaru to þine neode.

he wule beon þi mon icoren:

31052

þeos to wuden wenden:

and þer gunnen wunien.

and barnden Cadwalanes lond:

and eoden him ludere an hond.

& his folc sloȝen:

a feole cunnes wissen.

31262

ah ȝif þu wult me lenen:

& þine laeue iunnen.

and þu me wulle fulsten:

and ferde bi-taechen.

and swa muchel of þine garsume:

god swa þe þunche.

31567

of heore quale-side.

& hu heo ifaren hafden:

Layamon

elleue 3eren.

& hu ƿat ufel wes at-stunt:

& hu ƿa tunes ibuld.

and hu ƿer wes faei3er lond:

inoh seolues and gold.

31900

3eue us e king & al his gold:

& ƿa madmes of his lond.

3ef us peal 3eue us hors:

3eue us haihe scrud.

3eue us aenne ende:

of his kine-londe.

3eue us 3islaes ƿer to:

895

ƿar is fuzel ƿar is fisc:

ƿer wuniad feire deor.

ƿar is wode ƿar is water:

ƿar is wilderne muchel.

weallen ƿer beoð feire.

wuniad in ƿon londe:

eotantes swide stronge.

1235

His sconken he helede:

mid hose of ftele.

Calibeorne his fweord:

he sweinde bi his side.

hit wes iworht in Aualun:
 mid wiȝele-fulle craften.
 Halm he set on hafde:
 haeh of stele.

ȝer on wes moni ȝim-ston:
 al mid golde bi-gon.

he wes Uderes:

ȝas adelen kinges.

he wes ihaten Goswhit:

aelchen odere unilic.

He heng an his sweore:

aenne sceld deore.

his nome wes on Bruttisc:

Pridwen ihaten.

ȝer wes innen igrauen:

mid rede golde stauen.

an on-licnes deore:

of drihtenes moder.

His spere he nom an honde:

ȝa Ron wes ihaten.

21135

To-gadere gunnen resen:

ȝeines riche.

breken speren longe:

Layamon

sceldes brastleden an honde.

heouwen heȝe helmes:

scaenden ȝa brunies.

feollen aerm kempes:

aemteden sadeles.

drem wes on uolke:

ȝa eorde gon to dunien.

urnen ȝa brockes:

of reden blodes.

feollen a folckes:

falewede nebbes.

Bruttes gunnen breoden:

balu wes on uolken.

30401

gaeres heo letten gliden.

breken braede weiȝes:

brustleden scaftes.

gold-uȝe sceldes:

scanden bilifes.

feollen ȝa cnihtes:

faleweden nebbes.

ȝeond ȝan feldes wide:

Layamon

swulten men uaeiȝe.
 blod orn in ȝe weiȝe:
 streames swiȝe brade.

30981

feollen ȝa uaiȝe.
 brokes ȝer wnen:
 mid unimete stremen.
 of bloden ȝan rede:
 ȝe balu wes unimete.
 helmes ȝer gullen:
 beornes ȝer ueollen.
 sceldes gunnen scenen:
 scalkes gunnen swelten.

31227

and hu he sette moting:
 & hu he sette husting.
 and hu he sette halimot:
 & hu he sette hundred.
 and ȝa nomen of ȝan tunen:
 on Sexisce runen.
 & ȝilden he gon rere:
 mucle & swiȝe maere.
 & ȝa chirchen he gon dihten:
 after Sexisce irihten.
 and Sexis he gon kennen:
 ȝa nomen of ȝan monnen.

31993

al nim ȝi seoluer and ȝi gold.
 nim an hundred hunden:
 nim an hundred haueken.

Layamon

nim an hundred steden:
 nim gold-fah i-wede.
 and send þas gretinge:
 to Cadwadlan kinge.

31402

þider comen kinges:
 and eke here-þringes.
 þider comen eorles:
 þider comen beornes.
 biscopes þider comen:
 and boc-ilerede men.
 riche and hene:
 þider heo comen alle.

31530

quelen þa eorles:
 quelen þa beornes.
 quelen þa þeines:
 quelen þa sweines.
 quelen þa lareden:
 quelen þa leouweden.
 quelen þa aeldren:
 quelen þa zeongeren.
 quelaen þa wifmen:
 quelen þa wancien.

31825

CatalogsLayamon

II.

of kunne & of folke: of monne & of ahte.	94
ƿa wepmen weren iwexan: ƿa wimen wel iƿowene. & heore nutene: neotsume weren.	339
of gode cnihten. wið outen wifmen: ƿe noht ne cunnen of wepnen. children & hinen:	365
wapmen & wifmen: ƿa weolezen & a weaðlen	426
summe he sloh summe he bond: ƿa beste quike he at-heold.	767
beornes and eorles: & ƿa hali biscopas.	20389
alle ƿine men iborne: Englisce and Bruttisce. eorles & beornes: cnihtes & claerckes.	31553
ƿer wes Oswy of-slazen: & idon of lif-dagen. & his sune & his aem: .	

Layamon

& eorles sume uiuen.

ƿer weoren niȝe ƿuseude:

ƿringes norderne.

islaȝen i ƿan daeiȝe:

31735

ƿer comen seouen kinges:

and six sunen kinges.

seouentene eorles:

and sixti ƿusend beornnes.

31196

ƿer feollen seouen kinges:

and six sunen kinges.

his eorles his beornes:

his cnihtes his cheorles.

ƿer wes ƿe swein & ƿe cnaue:

beien of are laȝe.

31246

AElc of his birlen:

& of his bur-ƿaeinen.

& his ber-cnihtes:

gold beren in honden.

to ruggen and to bedde:

iscrud mid gode webbe.

Nefde he neuere naenne cod:

ƿaet he nes keppe swide god.

neuaer nanes cnihtes swein:

ƿaet he naes bald ƿein.

19942

Layamon

þa tuʒen toward hirede:

alle þat weoren ihadded.

& þreo biscopes wise:

a boke wel ilaered.

preostes & mucnekes:

unimete monie.

canones þer comen:

monie & wel idone.

mid alle þan halidomen:

þa hahst an londe weoren.

and ʒeornden Ardures grid:

and his admeden.

þider þa wifes comen:

þa i þan londen wuneden.

heo waeiden in haere aermen:

heore children aermen.

21855

buten Noe & Sem:

Japhet & Cham.

& heore four wiues:

23

þere gene cun Heleine:

þes kinges sune Priami.

& muchel folc of his þeoden:

331

Childric ihaten.

& Colgrim & Baldulf:

20794

Ebissa & Ossa:

Octa & of þine cunne ma.

21447

Layamon

Colgrim wes þe hæhst mon:

þat ut of Sax com.

after Hengeste:

& Horse his broder.

& Octa & Ossa:

& heore iuere Ebissa.

20026

þer lai þe kaisere:

& Colgrim his iuere.

& Baldulf his broder:

& moni an oðer.

21039

þer Childrich lið i ueldes.

Colgrim & Baldulf:

mid baldere strengde.

þat Alemainisce uolc:

þat us hæfed ihaermed.

& þat Saexisce uolc:

þat sorȝen us bihated.

þat alle habbeoð aquaelde:

þa hæhste of mine cunne.

Constanz and Costantin:

& Uðer þe wes fader min.

and Auriliaen Ambrosie:

mines fader broder.

& moni þusend monnen:

of adele mine cunne.

20620

Layamon

wes þe wei holh & long:

þa lude (clude?) weren stronge.

761

no on uelde no on wude:

no nauere nare stude.

20377

dales & dunes:

& al mi drihtliche uole.

21437

of dalen & of dunen:

& of bæcchen deopen.

21775

wenden ouer woldes:

& ouer wildernes.

ouer dales & ouer dunes:

ouer deope wateres.

21487

he scal hebben payes weste:

and wildernesse inoze.

and monie mod-sorhze:

his monscipe scal ualle.

30334

þeond cludes & þeond cliuene.

þeond chirchen & þeond munec-cliuene:

þeond wudes & þeond liden.

32217

and sende in to Denene:

to Galwade & to Scotland

30368

Orcaneie & Galeweie:

Man & Murene.

and alle þa londas:

þe þer to laeien.

21047

ouer þen lac of Siluius:

& ouer þen lac of Philisteus.

bi Ruscikadan heo nomen þa sae:

& bi þe montaine of Azare.

1279

To Peito he sende:

sele his þeines.

& sum touward Flanders:

feondliche swide.

and to Turuine:

tweie þer wenden.

& into Gascuinne:

cnihtes aec gode.

20483

Al Scot-þeode:

he ȝaf his ane þeine.

& al Nord-humberlond:

he sette his broðer on hond.

Galeweore & Orcaneie:

he ȝaf his ane eorle.

him seolf he nom from Humbre:

þat lond into Lundene.

20418

he nom Sumersete:

& he nom Dorsete.

and al Deuene-scire:

þat volc al for-ferde.

and he Wiltun-scire:

mid wiðere igraette.

he nom all þa londes:

in to þaere sae stronde

21013

Layamon

and senden to Sexlonde.

he sende in to Denene:

he sende in to Noreine.

in to Wellisce londe:

in to Scotlonde.

in to Orcaneize:

in to Galwai3e.

in to Islonde:

in to Frislonde.

in to Gutlonde:

31167

Layamon

IV.

þar aros wale & win:

& wider-heppes feola

404

muchel dom muchel dune:

muchel folkes dream.

1009

mid wiȝeleden mid wrenchen:

mid wunderliche strengden.

1894

þesne wop & þesne rop:

& reouden uniuoȝe.

21929

her wes wop & her wes rop:

and reouden uniuoȝe.

muchel hunger & haete:

20439

mid hungere & mid hete:

mid feole cunne haermen.

mid wapnen mid waeteren:

mid feole wan-siden.

21893

mid griȝe mid friȝe and mid lufe.

31598

The lists of noun catalogs are in many respects similar. The typical example cited by Brandl is not essentially different from the Layamon catalog

heo bi-tahten heore hors:

and heore burnen.

scaftes & sceldes:

& longe heore sweordes.

20913

More extended catalogs from the two poems are:

Forgeaf ƿa Beowulfe bearn Healfdenes

segen gyldenne sigores to leane,

hroden hilde-cumbor, helm ond hyrnan;

maere maðƿum sweord

B.1020

mid wrscipen heƷen.

mid mete & mid drinchen:

& mid murie gleo-dreme.

mid seoluer & mid golde:

ƿe elche bar an honde.

mid horsen & mid scruden:

L. 1821

On the surface, then, the noun catalogs of the two poems appear closely related. The examples quoted, however, have been chosen with a view to showing similarities; comprehensive and impartial examination of the lists indicates that the resemblances are, after all, superficial.

From the point of view of content the two reflect some differences of social organization. The noun catalogs of the Beowulf are made up almost exclusively of arms and treasure,

or a combination of them,- beah ond byrnan. One use of the catalogs is to depict the generosity of prince to hero, or the homage of the ae eling to his lord. The catalogs of weapons, of course, exhibit the warlike nature of the people, but even these may be merely the form that gift-giving takes. In two places only is the emphasis of the Beowulf catalogs shifted, and in the second of these the departure is slight.

There is, to be sure, plenty of fighting in Layamon, and giving of treasure as well. But the weapons of Layamon are largely represented in action,- practical helps rather than symbols of knightly valor; the gift-giving is forced, meeting the demands of a victorious people setting its price; and the catalogs are by no means so exclusively confined to gifts and armor.

For the purposes of the present study the stylistic differences in the catalogs are naturally of greater moment than the diverse social life reflected in them. The Layamon list is much less homogeneous than the Beowulf list. Several of its manifestations invite attention. List I is subdivided, with regular noun catalogs collected under A, and some significant deviations reserved for B. List I A begins with a number of abbreviated catalogs. It is noticeable that most of these require something more than the mere details of the catalog to fill out the line, the preposition mid being especially useful.

mid hornen & mid hundem:

& mid fif hundred cnihten.

1424

mid scealden and mid burnen:

mid wifen and mid children.

31922

hafden and heore honden:

& heore white halmes. 20535

he 3aef heom lif he 3ef heom lumen:

& heore lond to halden. 21935

Sae & ƿa sunne.

Wind and ƿa wide se: 30611

mid stelene orde:

& mid starka biten.

mid stocken & mid stanen: 624

The examples here cited illustrate another difference in the catalogs of the two poems. It is evident that the Beowulf examples are, on the whole, consistent. Like objects are collected. In

hord forstandan,

bearn ond bryde 2955

and

feorh cyninges,

breost-gewaedu ond se beah somod 1210

aer he folc ahte,

burh ond beagas 522

there is a combining of the inanimate with the animate, but the case is unusual in Beowulf. In Layamon it is quite common. The first example quoted joins quite impartially horns and hounds and knights, just as wives and children fill out a line started with shields and burnies. The combination may even be somewhat ludicrous, as in this example chosen from List II:

þa wepmen weren iwexan:

þa wimen wel iþowene.

& heore nutene:

neotsume weren.

339

Apparently Layamon is not much concerned with consistency in his catalogs. He is evidently less interested in what he is saying than in his manner of saying it. His combinations may or may not be appropriate. Yet even though they fall short of the precise Beowulf standard, they accomplish Layamon's intention. By them he secures a balanced long line with corresponding halves.

It is interesting to note that beyond this narrow limit of two or three or four consecutive half lines, Layamon's pure noun catalogs deteriorate slightly. His introduction of extraneous words results in loose passages wherever he attempts to vary these words. The example at l. 1821, quoted earlier, is one of the most perfect of the extended noun catalogs in List I A, and its satisfactory effect is due entirely to repetition of the preposition mid. The example at l. 931 has forceful parts, and these are held together by repetition. In other words, Layamon's effective passages are parallel.

The deviations under B show most clearly Layamon's use of noun catalogs, and consequently this is his most significant division. Here the verb comes into prominence to link the details of the catalogs into effective parallel

passages.

þa sunne gon to scine:
 þe rein bi-gon to rine.
 þe qual' gon to stunte:

31889 .

heo rihten heora rapes:
 heo raerden heora mastes.
 heo wunden up seiles.
 breken braden speren:
 brustleden sceldes.
 feollen Saexisce men:

20142

In longer passages this method contributes geatly to the poetic effect of the Middle English poem:

and hu he sette moting:
 & hu he sette husting.
 and hu he set sciren:
 and makede frið of deoren.
 & hu he sette halimot.
 & hu he sette hundred.

31993

Obviously it is not in Layamon only that we find parallelism, which is a natural result of the catalog device. From List IV of Beowulf are drawn the following poetic lines:

þæt þe adl oððe ecg eafopes getwæfed,
 oððe fyres feng oððe flodes wylm
 oððe gripe meces oððe gares fliht
 oððe atol ylðo, oððe eagenas bearhtm
 forsited and foreworced.

1763

Yet we feel that parallelism in Beowulf is natural or occasional, rather than conscious and fundamental. Where the enumeration alone does not fill the line, though it is frequently sufficient, the Beowulf catalogs preferably use variation.

hond rond gefeng,

geolwe linde, gomel swyrd geteah 2609

Bruc þisses beagas, Beowulf leofa,

hyse, mid haele, ond þisses hraegles neot,

þeod-gestreona

Layamon's nearest approach to variation appears in

heore scalen wleoted:

swulc gold-faze sceldes.

þer fleoted heore spiten:

swulc hit spaeren weoren, 21326

where it is highly probable that the distinction between scales and fins is of less importance than the extension of the dramatic figure involved. This use of variation in Layamon corresponds in a measure to the use of parallelism in Beowulf. Since in the older epic parallelism is not a verse necessity, it is there reserved chiefly for emotional moments, with added vigor because of its rarity.

In relation to stylistic differences the length of the various lists is important. All the Layamon divisions are longer than the corresponding divisions of Beowulf, in which II, III and IV are noticeably short. This is because the interest of the

Beowulf in the details of the catalogs tends to attract all cases to I, while the effort of Layamon to secure parallelism results in a slightly more even distribution and in much longer lists. Moreover the individual passages of Layamon are long. In the few extended passages of Beowulf, variation shares interest with the cataloging device; Layamon's long catalogs are decidedly more numerous, and are single in aim. Measured by the full line, some of Layamon's passages are no longer than Beowulf catalogs which appear shorter to the eye. Yet they give an effect of greater length because of Layamon's preference for the Schwellvers. Miss McNary points out that Layamon was attracted by the iambic rhythm of Wace because it permitted extra stresses.¹ She regards 10% as a conservative estimate of his hypermetrical lines, giving 39.3 as the probable percentage, and 45.4% as possible.² For these reasons, Layamon's passages, frequently long, create an impression of length greater than the actual count of lines might justify.

In reviewing these differences, we are led to the natural conclusion, supported by previous observations of varied phenomena in the two poems, that Layamon's use of catalogs is not derived from Anglo-Saxon practice. The interest of Beowulf is primarily in the details themselves, and the characteristic device of variation, employed here as

1. Studies in Layamon's Verse p.35.

2. Ibid. p. 21-22.

elsewhere, serves to connect the items of the catalogs. Layamon, on the contrary, is interested in his numerous details largely for their inestimable value as appropriate elements for parallel structure,- one of the chief poetic devices of the Middle English epic.

CONCLUSION

By a consideration of the minor verse devices of Layamon's Brut and of Beowulf, we reach several conclusions.

A. The Beowulf use of preposed pronouns as a modification of Kennings is far superior in aesthetic effect to Layamon's generally feeble use.

B. So, too, in adverbial phrases Beowulf exhibits a greater number of poetic expressions. Even where Layamon secures poetry in his phrases, as, for example, in terms referring to the sea, whose emotional appeal inspired both poets to rise to a higher level of art, he fails to attain the vigor and diversity of the Beowulf.

C. Typical adjectives, by their very nature, generally lack poetic effect. Yet even here Layamon's phrases are more commonplace, and his greater percentage of repetition shows him to be less eager for variety than the Beowulf poet, and, on the whole, more prosaic.

D. The superior poetic diction of the Beowulf comes out more clearly, however, in its decorative adjectives, which surpass those of Layamon both in their number and in their poetic quality. The more numerous compounds of Beowulf are an index to the loftier tone of the Anglo-Saxon poem. Krackow points out that in the Middle English period, compounds no longer served as poetic devices in the language.

E. The Beowulf shows, moreover, greater skill in the use of couplets, which are more compact than in Layamon, thus receiving stronger stress, and securing the heightened effect of alliteration.

We see, then, that in the five divisions of the material which deal primarily with poetic diction in single words and combinations, the Beowulf shows a larger vocabulary and greater discrimination in the use of words. The last three divisions come also under the general head of diction, but in them the idea receives greater emphasis. Hence there is a line of division at this point, although it can not be sharply drawn.

F. It is to be remarked that both poets adopt a circumlocutory method of palliating harsh facts. Thus mankind prefers to veil death in periphrastic terms. The feeling is natural, and it need be no cause for surprise that both the Beowulf and the Layamon make use of easy figurative & euphemistic expressions. Yet it cannot be questioned that the Beowulf poet reveals a more vivid imagination, both in the varied turns of thought which he evolves from commonplace euphemism, and in the more poetical expression at his command.

G. Antithesis marks a turning point in the poetic methods of the two epics. Both employ contrasting words and ideas, but their fundamental aim is not the same. Beowulf seeks to join antithetical words in the single line. Layamon has something of this in a simpler and less effective form, but

his use of antithesis is essentially different from the Beowulf use. His antithetic effects are largely aphoristic, or epigrammatic, or even ironical. As a result he is more given than Beowulf to complication of form. The contrast of the Beowulf heightens the poetic effect of its diction; the contrast of Layamon reveals an aphoristic tendency which is quite noticeable in the style of his verse.

H. The catalogs bridge over the gap between minor and major devices. As catalogs they do not primarily determine style. They do, nevertheless, foreshadow the significant difference in the verse method of the two poems. In the Beowulf catalogs, variation appears, while Layamon exhibits an unreserved preference for parallelism of structure.

Thus it is evident that in spite of some similarities, which are, from the point of view of style, superficial, the Beowulf and the Brut are not essentially alike. The eight verse devices which have been considered are alike in reflecting more differences than similarities. Even in B, C, D, and E, where, the devices are closed to familiar prose speech, we find only a limited number of similarities, and in the remaining categories the resemblances constantly decrease. In no wise can the Old English epic be looked upon as the prototype of the later chronicle. Layamon's heritage from early poetics is too slight to be significant, - so slight, indeed, as to be practically inseparable from language inheritance. In all the verse

devices which are essentially Anglo-Saxon the Beowulf poet shows himself a master, while Layamon uses them scarcely more frequently or more cleverly than acquaintance with a common language naturally allows. On purely Anglo-Saxon poetic ground Layamon is prosaic and conversely, where he achieves poetry he departs from the earlier method, or at least so modifies it to meet his needs that it is no longer recognizable as Anglo-Saxon. Only as a natural concomitant to speech is Anglo-Saxon verse tradition carried over into the Middle English period. To determine the real poetic value of the spirited chronicle we must seek comparison in its own field, since to view it as a lineal descendant of Anglo-Saxon is to be led astray.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES

May 24, 1915.

Professor Walter Miller,
Chairman, Graduate Conference,

Dear Sir: I have carefully examined the thesis of Miss
Frances Miller and hereby recommend its acceptance.

Yours sincerely,
Chester Murray

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

May 15, 1915.

Dear Dean Miller:

I submit herewith.

Miss Frances Miller's dissertation for the
degree of Master of Arts, just received.
It has my approval.

Sincerely yours

H. M. Baldwin

University of Missouri - Columbia

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