Purpose: The purpose of this assignment is to analyze the universal elements of poetry and literature in a response to Anglo-Saxon elegies.

Task:

1. Read “The Seafarer,” “The Wife’s Lament,” and “The Wanderer.”
2. Choose one of the following topics and complete a 250-word paper.
   1. Describe how the poems use poetic language (alliteration, metaphor, imagery, etc) to convey an elegiac tone.
   2. Compare and contrast the experiences of the speakers of the poems. How is each experience universal?
   3. Tell how modern readers can relate to the themes of the poems using evidence from the texts from then and today.
3. Write your own elegy. What do you lament? The elegy must contain the following elements:
   1. Alliteration
   2. Metaphor
   3. Imagery
   4. At least 25-lines
   5. A universal theme