

## Anglo-Saxon Period in English Literature

### Anglo-Saxon Literature

- Began as an oral tradition.
  - Stories, poems and songs were sang aloud and passed on to generations orally through *minstrels* "scoops"
- Poems had a strong beat and alliteration but no rhyme.
- Made use of "caesura"
  - A cutting or break within a line of poetry.
    - Allows to singer to catch a breath.
- Was more oriented toward **image**
  - Depiction is strong.
- Contains a purpose **to name** through "kenning" where two images are joined to create a new word-name.
  - whale-path = sea
  - bone-house = chest
  - world-candle = sun
  - hawk's-land = sky
  - fighting-gear / battle-gear = Body armor
  - Battle-sweat = Blood