

6 Torques

Read the text about torques below and think of the verb that best fills each gap. Choose from the infinitive forms of the verbs in the box, but remember that in each gap you need to put the verb in the present, past or past participle form, as necessary in the grammatical context. There is an example at the beginning (0).

adopt call come fight find give kill know (x 2)
like (x 2) make rewards show take twist wear (x 5)

Queen Wealhtheow (0) *rewards* Beowulf with a torque. This piece of jewellery is a stiff, circular necklace (or sometimes a bracelet), open-ended at the front. The word 'torque' (1) from the Latin verb *torqueo* – meaning 'to (2) ' – because of the twisted shape of the collar.

Torques were (3) in very early times, but are best (4) as necklaces (5) by Celts in Britain, France and Spain. Celtic gods and goddesses are often (6) wearing torques. The Anglo-Saxons (7) torques, too, and a beautiful torque was (8) among the treasure at Sutton Hoo (see pages 80-83). Torques were a sign of high social status, and were often (9) as a prize to warriors who had (10) bravely.

The Roman consul Titus Manlius (11) a Gaul (a Celt from France) in single combat and (12) his torque. Afterwards he always (13) it, and so he was (14) Torquatus (meaning 'the one who (15) a torque'). After this, the Romans (16) the torque as a decoration for brave soldiers.

The hippie movement of the 1960s and 1970s (17) torques fashionable again as necklaces and bracelets and also as rings.

What sort of jewellery do you (18) wearing? And what do you (19) about the origin of the jewellery that you (20) ?

