It's a classical result by Huber that the number of closed geodesics of length bounded by L on a closed hyperbolic surface S is asymptotic to exp(L)/L as L grows. This result has been generalized in many directions, for example by counting certain subsets of closed geodesics. One such result is the asymptotic growth of those that are homologically trivial, proved by Katsura-Sunanda and Phillips-Sarnak. A homologically trivial curve can be written as a product of commutators, and in this talk we will look at the growth of those that can be written as a product of g commutators (in a sense, those that bound a genus g subsurface). As a motivating example of our methods, we'll give a geometric proof of Huber's theorem. This is joint work with Juan Souto.