

i Instructions

University of Oslo

Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages

Autumn 2021

ENG2166 – Middle English, introduction

4-hour written exam without supervision, December 1 at 15:00 PM.

Practical information about the examination

This exam consists of seven questions. Answer **every** question. Your answers should be made up of full sentences. One-word answers are not acceptable.

The final two questions are essay questions, whereas the earlier questions invite shorter answers. An indicative length is given when appropriate. It is always in the range of 100-300 words for a shorter answer, whereas an essay must be longer than 400 words. Make sure to allocate time to every question.

Do not waste your time looking for the special characters *ȝ* and *þ*. If you need them, it is perfectly fine for you to spell out 'yogh' and 'thorn', e.g. write *thorn-at* to represent *þat*.

Inspira will automatically save your answer every 15 seconds. Your answers will be automatically submitted in Inspira when the examination time is up. After starting the exam, you will see your remaining time in the upper left corner.

If you want to withdraw from the examination, please click on the icon in the right corner, and then choose "withdraw".

Sources and referencing

It is important that you familiarize yourself with the rules for sources and referencing: <https://www.hf.uio.no/english/studies/sources-referencing/index.html>

It is not mandatory to include a bibliography (reference list) if it is a short take-home examination (2-6 hours). Using other people's, or your own previously delivered material without declaring it properly may be considered as cheating or attempted cheating. The consequences of cheating or attempted cheating may be severe for you as a student, please follow the link for more information: <https://www.uio.no/english/studies/examinations/sources-citations/>

Contact information









If you are experiencing technical difficulties during your examination or have further questions, please call 22 84 10 70 or 22 85 91 73.

1 Question 1

The Rolle extract (enclosed) has the variants *thay* (l. 38), *pay* (l. 43), *paire* (l. 36), *theyre* (l. 42), *thayme* (l. 37), *pame* (37) for the personal pronoun. Comment on the selection of these variants rather than any of the alternatives available in Middle English.

Write 200-300 words.

Fill in your answer here

Format | **B** | *I* | U | x_2 | x^2 | I_x |  |  |  |  |  |  | Ω |  |  | Σ |

Words: 0

Maks poeng: 10

2 Question 2

Comment on concord (subject-verb agreement) in:

a) *some fowheles are of gude flyghyng, þat passes fra a lande to anothinge* (ll. 33–34)









and

b) *thay flye fra erthe to heuene, and rystes thayme thare in thoghte* (ll. 38–39)

Both sentences occur in the Rolle extract (enclosed).

Write 200-300 words.

Fill in your answer here

Format | **B** | *I* | U | x_2 | x^2 | I_x |  |  |  |  |  |  | Ω |  |  | Σ |

Words: 0

Maks poeng: 10

3 Question 3

Comment of the derivational and inflectional morphology of the forms:

c1) *accordandly* (Enclosed Rolle extract, l. 1)











c2) *delyttes* (Enclosed Rolle extract, l. 42)


What do these two forms tell you about contact between English and French?

Focus on the linguistic features involved. A later question addresses the nature of the contact situation.

Write 100-200 words.

Fill in your answer here

Format | **B** | *I* | U | x_2 | x^2 | I_x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



Words: 0












Maks poeng: 10


4 Question 4

Elaborate on why it is significant that the spelling forms *lufe* (l. 40) and *lufes* (l. 43) have medial *-f-* rather than medial *-v-* in the enclosed Rolle extract. Bear in mind that Robert Thornton, the copyist of the this particular copy of Rolle's text, was active in the first half of the fifteenth century.

Write 100-200 words.

Fill in your answer here

Format ▾ | **B** *I* U x_2 x^2 | *I*_x |   |    |   |   |   |



Words: 0

Maks poeng: 10

5 Question 5a

Translate Texts A and B below into correct Present-Day English, i.e. do not provide a literal translation. Glosses are provided for select words.

Text A:

Fyrste she muste luke whanne that she comethe in to here office whate ys owynge to þe saide offyce by diuerse fermours and rentegedereres and see þat it be payd as sone as she may and thenne must she receyue yerly off the collectore off Werley at þe fest of Seynt Michell I solidos.

Text B:

It liketh hem to be clene in body and goost
Of my estat ne wol I make no boost

Glosses:

boost, noun: Boast

estat, noun: Stature, build, bodily form.












fermour, noun: 1. (a) A collector of rents or taxes, a bailiff or steward in charge of a town or manor, a collector of church revenues; (b) one who rents or leases land; ?also, a bailiff or steward; (c) one who leases a mill or a weir; one to whom livestock are entrusted. (Source: *Middle English Dictionary*)


rent(e-gaderer(e, noun: 1. (a) A rent collector; a tax collector; (b) as surname. (Source: *Middle English Dictionary*)

I solidos: 50 English shilling.

Werley: This is a place name.

Fill in your answer here

Format ▾ | **B** *I* U x_2 x^2 | I_x |   |    |   |   |  |  |



Words: 0

Maks poeng: 10

6 Question 5b

Give reasons why it is correct to describe Texts A and B as being examples of late Middle English as opposed to Present-Day English. You will want to address lexis (vocabulary), inflectional morphology, derivational morphology, spelling and/or syntax/word order, as appropriate.

Write 200-300 words.

Text A:

Fyrste she muste luke whanne that she comethe in to here office whate ys owynge to be saide offyce by diuerse fermours and rentegedereres and see þat it be payd as sone as she may and thenne must she receyue yerly off the collectore off Werley at þe fest of Seynt Michell I solidos.

Text B:

It liketh hem to be clene in body and goost
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Glosses:

boost, noun: Boast

estat, noun: Stature, build, bodily form.












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Werley: This is a place name.

Fill in your answer here

Format ▾ | **B** *I* U x_2 x^2 | *I*_x |   |    |   |   |  |  |



Words: 0

Maks poeng: 10









7 Question 6


ESSAY QUESTION

How would you go about localising a text by means of the *fit*-technique? Describe the process in step-by-step fashion.

Your essay must be at least 400 words long.

Fill in your answer here

Format | **B** | *I* | U | x_2 | x^2 | I_x |  |  |  |  |  |  | Ω |  |  | Σ |



Words: 0

Maks poeng: 20










8 Question 7

ESSAY QUESTION

John of Trevisa, translating Ranulph Higden, observes in *Polychronicon*, ll. 27-35 that French had ceased to be the primary language of instruction in English grammar schools by 1384. Describe the changing roles of English and French in the Middle English period.

Your essay must be at least 400 words long.

Fill in your answer here

Format | **B** | *I* | U | x_2 | x^2 | I_x |  |  |  |  |  |  | Ω |  |  | Σ | 

Words: 0

Maks poeng: 20

Question 1
Attached



Richard Rolle, *The Bee and the Stork*, ll. 33-47.

Transcription

Wharefore, accordandly, Arystotill sais þat some fowheles
are of gude flyghyng, þat passes fra a lande to anothire.
35 Some are of ill flyghyng, for heuynes of body, and for
þaire neste es noghte ferre fra þe erthe. Thus es it of thayme
þat turnes þame to Godes seruys. Some are of gude
flyeghyng, for thay flye fra erthe to heuene, and rystes
thayme thare in thoghte, and are fedde in delite of Goddes
40 lufe, and has thoghte of na lufe of þe worlde. Some are þat
kan noghte flyghe fra þis lande, bot in þe waye late theyre
herte ryste, and delyttes þaym in sere lufes of mene and
womene, als þay come and gaa, nowe ane and nowe
anothire. And in Iesu Criste þay kan fynde na swettnes; or if
45 þay any tyme fele oghte, it es swa lyttill and swa schorte,
for othire thoghtes þat are in thayme, þat it brynges thaym
till na stabylnes.

Translation

Wherefore, accordingly, Aristotle says that some fowls
are of good flying, that pass from one land to another.
35 Some are of ill flying, for heaviness of body, and
because their nest is not far from the earth. Thus is it
of them that turn themselves to God's service: some are of
good flight, for they fly from earth to heaven, and
rest them there in thought, and are fed in delight of
40 God's love, and have thought of no love of the world;
some are, that cannot fly from this land, but on the
way let their heart rest, and delight them in various
loves of men and women, as they come and go, now
one and now another, and in Jesu Christ they can find
45 no sweetness, or if they any time feel aught, it is so little
and so short, for other thoughts that are in them, that
it brings them to no stableness.

Question 2

Attached



Richard Rolle, *The Bee and the Stork*, ll. 33-47.

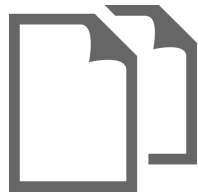
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