i Information page

Answer **three** of the questions. Write **at least** 300 words in answer to each question. **Note:** You will lose points if you answer more than three of the questions.

This is a 4-hour written examination.

You must submit your answer in English.

You may represent special characters by spelling them out; e.g. 'thorn' for the Runic character by that name, or 'long-i' for the phoneme by that name.

What you write will be stored automatically every 15 seconds.

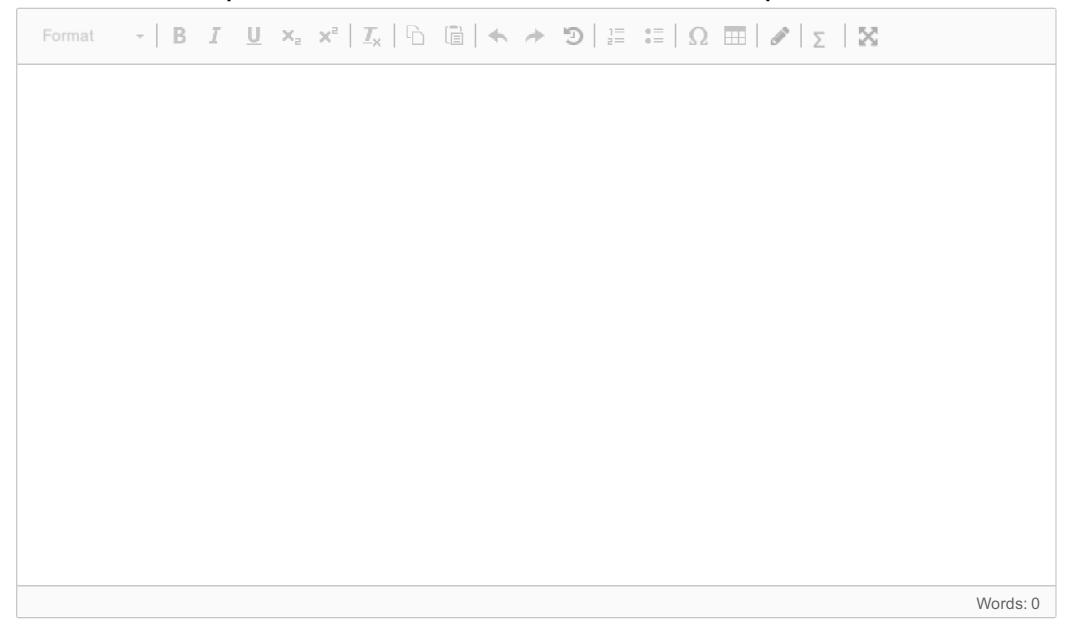
You are not allowed to use any aids, such as a monolingual English dictionary or a thesaurus.

Exam questions

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- 1. Discuss the roles of Central French and Anglo-French in the Middle English period.
- 2. Discuss the notion of 'Chancery Standard' (Samuels's Type IV) in relation to standardisation.
- 3. Describe the consequences of weakening of vowels in unstressed syllables on Middle English phonology, syntax, or morphology.
- 4. Orthographic variation is a characteristic of Middle English. Give an account for why variation could survive.
- 5. What is the 'Celtic hypothesis'?
- 6. Give examples of dialectal distributions relevant to a characterisation of Middle English.
- 7. Elaboration of function is a stage in Einar Haugen's standardisation model. How does this stage play out during the Middle English period?
- 8. Some older literature describes the poet Geoffrey Chaucer as the "father of the English language". Is this view of him justified, and if so, on what grounds?
- 9. Describe at least one syntactic change of relevance to the Middle English period.

Answer three of the questions. Write at least 300 words in answer to each question.



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