

i Information

University of Oslo

Department of Literature, Area Studies and European Languages

Spring 2021

ENG4166 – Middle English, introduction

4-hour written exam without supervision, 28 May at 09:00 AM.

Practical information about the examination

This exam consists of **two** questions.

Answer **both** questions. Question 1 counts 60%. Question 2 counts 40%. A pass mark is required on each question.

Write a minimum of 500 words per question. Always write in grammatically complete sentences. Single-word answers will not be accepted.

Please note: Earlier browser versions of Edge and Chrome are affected by a bug. You may experience that you delete a whole paragraph when removing content using backspace in the text area. This can be undone using the Undo buttons or ctrl+z (cmd+z for Mac).

To avoid the bug completely, use the newest version of these browsers, or Firefox (PC and Mac) or Safari (Mac).

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 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 other difficulties during your examination or have further questions, please call 22 84 10 70.

1 Question 1

QUESTION 1 (60%)











You may use the notation “[thorn]”, “[long-a]”, etc. to represent the symbols “þ”, “ā”, etc. in the interest of time.


Text A is a text you will not have seen before. It is glossed.

TASK: (1) Identify text A as early or late Middle English, and (2) indicate the geographical region to which it belongs (broadly understood). Justify your answer by pointing to orthographic, phonological, morphological, lexical, and/or syntactic features you consider relevant.

[Attachment as pdf](#)

Fill in your answer here

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



Words: 0

Maks poeng: 0

2 Question 2

Question 2 (40%)











You may use the notation “[thorn]”, “[long-a]”, etc. to represent the symbols “þ”, “ā”, etc. in the interest of time.

Text B is a text we have discussed in class. It is glossed.

TASK: (1) Identify text B as early or late Middle English, and (2) indicate the geographical region to which it belongs (broadly understood). Justify your answer by pointing to orthographic, phonological, morphological, lexical, and/or syntactic features you consider relevant.

[Attachment as pdf](#)

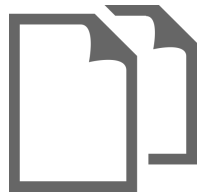
Fill in your answer here

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

Words: 0

Maks poeng: 0

Question 1
Attached



Text A: UNSEEN TEXT

1	Bot we sely shepardes : that walkys on the moore		
2	In fayth we ar nere handys : out of the doore		
3	No wonder as it standys : if we be poore		
4	For the tylthe* of oure landys : lyys falow as the floore	*tylthe, <i>n.</i> 'cultivation, crop, soil'	
5	We ar so hamyd* // Fortaxed and ramyd*	*past participle, crippled; past participle, overreached	
6	We ar mayde hand-tamyd With thyse gentlery men*	*gentry, <i>n.</i>	
7	Thus thay lefe vs oure rest : oure lady theym wary*	*curse, <i>v.</i>	
8	These men that ar lord-fest* : thay cause the ploghe tary	*attached to a lord	
9	That men say is for the best : we fynde it contrary		
10	Thus ar husbandys opprest* : in pente* to myschary	*tenant/farmer oppressed	*deception, deceit
11	Thus hold thay vs hundur // Thus thay bryng vs in blond*	*trouble, confusion.	
12	It were greatte wonder // And* euer shuld we thryfe	*if	
13	For may he gett a paynt* slefe : or a broche now on dayes	*past participle	
14	Wo is hym that hym grefe : or onys a gane says		
15	Dar noman hym reprefe* : what mastry he mays*	*reprove, reprimand	*makes
16	And yit may noman lefe : oone word that he says		
17	He can make purveance // With boste and bragance		
18	And all is through mantanance // Of men that ar gretter		
19	Ther shall com a swane : as prowde as a po*	*peacock	
20	He must borow my wand : my ploghe also		
21	Thou I am full fane* : to graunt or he go	*joyful, happy, glad, <i>adj.</i>	
22	Thus lyf we in payne : Anger and wo		

Question 2

Attached



Text B: SEEN TEXT

The manuscript has initial <z>, regularised by the editor to <s> for ease of readability.

1 Þe laste is mest vour an lodlakest¹ þet ne is nazt to nemny². Þe ilke senne is aye kende, þet þe
2 dyeyel tekþ³ to man oþer to wyfman ine vele maneres þet ne byeþ nazt to nemni⁴ vor þe materie
3 þet is to moche abomynable. Ac ine sscrifþe⁵ hit ssel nemni⁶ þe ilke to huam hit is bevalle. Vor ase
4 moche ase þe senne is more vour and more grislich, þe more is worþ þe sscrifte⁵. Vor þe ssame⁷
5 þet me heþ of þe sigginge⁸ is grat del of þe penonce. Þis senne is suo onworþ⁹ to Gode þet he
6 dede rine ver berninde¹⁰ and bernston¹¹ stinkinde ope þe cite of Sodome and of Gomorre, and
7 asenkte vif cites into helle. Þe dyvel himself þet hit porchaceþ¹², heþ ssame huanne man hit deþ
8 and þe eyr is anvenymed¹³ of þe dede.

1: most loathsome

2: named

3: teaches

4: name

5: confession

6: be named

7: shame

8: saying

9: displeasing (*lit.* unworthy)

10: *lit.* rain fire burning

11: brimstone

12: causes (*lit.* purchases)

13: poisoned; *cp.* venom, *n.*