



Høgskolen i Telemark

Fakultet for allmennvitenskapelige fag

MIDTEKSAMEN

I

2029 ENGLISH THROUGH THE AGES

16.10.12

Tid: 3 timer

Målform: Engelsk

Sidetal: 2 sider + vedlegg, totalt 5 sider

Hjelpemiddel: Engelsk-engelsk ordbok

Vedlegg: Tekster fra gammel- og middelengelsk

Denne eksamenen teller 40% av den endelige karakteren i kurs 2029.

Eksamensresultatene blir offentliggjort på nettet via Studentweb

The candidates should answer three questions in total; question 1 or 2 from part 1, question 1 or 2 from part 2 and the whole of part 3. If you choose the questions with two parts, both a) and b) must be answered.

PART 1 (40%)

1. What are the main characteristic features of Old English as regards morphology and syntax / word order? Illustrate some of your points by referring to concrete textual features in Appendix 1 below (*Ohthere*).

OR

2. a) Give a brief outline of the Anglo-Saxon invasions and how these paved the way for the main dialects of Old English.

b) What was the nature of the language contact situation between the Scandinavians and the English? Mention some concrete linguistic changes which the contact with Scandinavian/Old Norse brought about.

PART 2 (40%)

1. What are the most important changes that took place from Old English to Middle English, with respect to phonology, morphology and syntax? Use the two versions of *the Prodigal Son* in Appendix 2 to illustrate some of your points.

OR

2. a) Give a brief outline of the French influence on English following the Norman Conquest in 1066.

b) In what ways was the contact situation with French different than the situation with Scandinavian earlier? Your answer may take political/historical and social aspects into account, in addition to linguistic ones.

PART 3 (20%)

1. a) Comment on the word order of the following three (grammatically correct) Old English and Present-Day English sentences from the point of view of the **information principle** and/or **the principle of end weight**.

b) Then briefly explain why OE was freer than PDE to arrange the clause in accordance with these principles, referring to the examples where relevant.
 - a. [Ac hyra ar is mæst on þæm gafole] **þe þa Finnas him gyldað**
[but their revenue is mostly in the tribute] which the Finns them pay
 - b. On the edge of the grass lay a rubber ball dented with toothmarks.
 - c. There is an easier way through the woods.

APPENDIX 1: OHTHERE (extracts)

early Old English, c. 900 CE

- 1 Ða sceolde he ðær bidan ryhtnorþanwindes, for ðæm þæt land
Then should he there wait-for north wind, because the land
- 2 beag þær suþryhte, oþþe seo sæ in on ðæt land, he nysse hwæþer.
bowed there southwards, or the see in on the land, he knew-not which.
- 3 Ða siglde he þonan suðryhte be lande swa swa he mehte
Then sailed he from there southwards along land as-far-as he could
- 4 on fif dagum gesiglan. Ða læg þær an micel ea up in on þæt land.
in five days sail. Then stretched there a great river up in on the land.
- 5 Ða cirdon hie up in on ða ea, for þæm hie ne dorston forþ bi þære
Then turned they up in on the river, because they not dared past the
- 6 ea siglan for unfriþe, for þæm ðæt land wæs eall gebun
river sail for hostility, because the land was all inhabited
- 7 on oþre healfe þære eas.
on the-other half of-the river.
-
- 8 He wæs swyðe spedig man on þæm æhtum þe heora speda on beoð,
He was very wealthy man on the possessions which their wealth of consisted,
- 9 þæt is on wildrum. He hæfde þa gyt, ða he þone cyningc sohte,
that is on wild animals. He had still, when he the king sought,
- 10 tamra deora unbebohtra syx hund. Ða deor hi hatað hranas;
of-tame animals unsold six hundred. The animals they called reindeer:
- 11 þara wæron syx stælhhranas, ða beoð swyðe dyre mid Finnum.
of-those were six decoy reindeer, which are very precious among Lapps.

APPENDIX 2: THE PRODIGAL SON (extracts)

Old English version (c. 1000 CE)

- 1 Ða he hy hæfde ealle amyrrede, þa wearð micel hunger on þam rice and he
When he them had all spent, then became big hunger in the country and he
- 2 wearð wædla. Ða ferde he and folgode anum burhsittendum men þæs rices;
became poor. Then went he and followed one city-dwelling man of-the country;
- 3 ða sende he hine to his tune þæt he heolde his swin. Ða gewilnode he his
then sent he him to his farm so-that he kept his pigs. Then wanted he his
- 4 wambe gefyllan of þam beancoddum þe ða swin æton, and him mon ne sealde.
stomach fill with the bean-pods that the pigs ate, and him one not gave.
- 5 Ða bepohte he hine and cwæð, Eala hu fela yrðlinga on mines fæder huse
Then considered he himself and said, Alas how many hired men in my father's house
- 6 hlaf genohne habbað, and ic her on hunger forwurðe! And he aras þa and com to
food enough have, and I here in hunger perish! And he arose then and came to
- 7 his fæder. And þa gyt þa he wæs feorr his fæder, he hine geseah and wearð
his father. And still when he was far from his father, he him saw and became
- 8 mid mildheortnesse astyred and ongear hine arn and hine beclypte and cyste
with pity moved and towards him ran and him embraced and kissed
- 9 hine. Ða cwæð his sunu, Fæder, ic syngode on heofon and beforan ðe. Nu ic ne
him. Then said his son, father, I sinned in heaven and before you. Now I not
- 10 eom wyrpe þæt ic þin sunu beo genemned; Ða cwæð se fæder to his þeowum,
am worthy that I your son be called; Then said the father to his servants,
- 11 Bringað hræðe þone selestan gegyrelan and scrydað hine, and syllað him hring
Bring quickly the best garment and dress him, and give him ring
- 12 on his hand and gesce to his fotum.
in his hand and shoes on his feet.

Middle English version (c. 1380 CE)

- 1 And aftir þat he hadde endid alle þingis, a strong hungre was maad in þat
 And after that he had spent all things, a strong hunger occurred in that
- 2 cuntre, and he bigan to haue nede. And he wente, and drouȝ hym to oon of þe
 country, and he began to have need. And he went, and went him to one of the
- 3 citeseyns of that cuntre. And he sente hym in to his toun, to fede swyn. And he
 inhabitants of that country. And he sent him in to his farm, to feed pigs. And he
- 4 coueitide to fille his wombe of þe coddis þat the hoggis eeten, and no man
 coveted to fill his stomach with the bean-pods that the pigs ate, and no man
- 5 ȝaf hym. And he turnede aȝen to hym silf, and seyde, 'Hou many hirid men in
 gave him. And he turned again to him self, and said, 'How many hired men in
- 6 my fadir hous han plente of looues; and I perische here thorouȝ hungir.' And he
 my father's house have plenty of bread; and I perish here through hunger.' And he
- 7 roos vp, and cam to his fadir. And whanne he was ȝit afer, his fadir saiȝ hym,
 rose up, and came to his father. And when he was yet afar, his father saw him,
- 8 and he was stirrid bi mercy. And he ran, and fel on his necke, and kisside hym.
 and he was stirred with mercy. And he ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him
- 9 And þe sone seide to hym, 'Fadir, I haue synned in to heuene, and bifore þee; and
 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned in to heaven, and before you; and
- 10 now I am not worþi to be clepid þi sone.' And þe fadir seide to his seruauntis,
 now I am not worthy to be called your son. And the father said to his servants
- 11 'Swiȝe brynge ȝe forþ þe firste stoole, and clothe ȝe hym, and ȝyue ȝe a ryng in
 'Quickly bring you forth the best robe, and clothe you him, and give you a ring in
- 12 his hoond, and schoon on hise feet.
 his hand, and shoes on his feet.