



Høgskolen i Telemark

Fakultet for allmennvitenskapelige fag

MIDTEKSAMEN

I

2029 ENGLISH THROUGH THE AGES

15.10.13

Tid: 3 timer

Målform: Engelsk

Sidetal: 1 side + vedlegg, totalt 4 sider + forside

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. Give an outline of the main characteristic features of Old English (morphological and syntactic / word order). You should illustrate some of your points by referring to concrete textual features in Appendix 1 below (*Ohthere*).

OR

2. 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.

PART 2 (40%)

1. Give an outline of the French influence on English from 1066 to c. 1500. In what ways was the contact situation with French different than the contact situation with Scandinavian in the Old English period? Your answer may take political, historical and social aspects into account.

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.

- a. He mid eallum his mægene wið Romane winnan angan
He with all his power with Romans war began

(Everything between He and angan constitutes old information)

- b. There is a woman outside.

- c. It was great that you could help me with this.

APPENDIX 1: OHTHERE (extracts)

early Old English, c. 900 CE

- 1 Swiþost he for ðider, toeacan þæs landes sceawunge, for þæm
Above-all he went there, besides the land's exploration, because-of the
- 2 horshwælum, for ðæm hie habbað swiþe æþele ban on hiora toþum.
walruses, because they have very excellent bone in their teeth
- 3 Ða læg þær an micel ea up in on þæt land. Þa cirdon hie up in on ða ea,
Then stretched there a great river up in on the land. Then turned they up in on the river,
- 4 for þæm hie ne dorston forþ bi þære ea siglan for unfriþe, for þæm ðæt land
because they not dared past the river sail for hostility, because the land
- 5 wæs eall gebun on oþre healfe þære eas
all inhabited on the-other half of-the river

- 6 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,
- 7 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,
- 8 tamra deora unbebohtra syx hund. Þa deor hi hatað hranas;
of-tame animals unsold six hundred. The animals they called reindeer:
- 9 þara wæron syx stælhranas, ða beoð swyðe dyre mid Finnum.
of-those were six decoy reindeer, which are very precious among Lapps.

- 10 Ac hyra ar is mæst on þæm gafole þe ða Finnas him gylðað.
But their income consists mostly of the tribute which the Lapps them pay.

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 hine
with pity moved and towards him ran and him embraced and kissed him

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