

National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

2nd ARTS EXAMINATION
Semester 2, 2000-2001
GR 205 Middle High German I

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Time allowed: three hours.

Answer questions 1, 2 and one other question.

1. The following is from a love song by Heinrich von Morungen (a dawn-song – it evokes (30%) a scene, set in the past, in which lovers must part at dawn after spending a night together- the song has been described as one of the most beautiful ever written in German).

Scan all three stanzas a few times, then follow the instructions below.

Owê, - sol aber mir iemer mê geluhten durh die naht noch wîzer danne ein snê ir lîp vil wol geslaht? der trouc diu ougen mîn. ich wânde, ez solde sîn des lichten mânen schîn. dô tagete ez.	5	(wol) <i>geslaht</i> , adj. qualifying <i>lîp</i> <i>triegen</i> stv., class 2 <i>waenen</i> , 'think, imagine' <i>lieht</i> , adj. qualifying <i>mâne</i>
"Owê,- sol aber er iemer mê den morgen hie betagen, als uns diu naht engê, daz wir niht dürfen klagen: 'Owê, nu ist ez tac', als er mit klage pflac, dô er jungest bî mir lac. dô tagete ez."	10 15	
Owê,- si kuste âne zal in dem slâfe mich. dô vielen hin ze tal ir trehene nider sich. iedoch getroste ich sie, daz si ir weinen lie und mich al umbevie. dô tagete ez.	20 25	

- (i) Identify the 18 finite verbs in the text (5 in stanza 1, 7 in stanza 2, 6 in stanza 3).
 - (ii) Four of them are followed by an infinitive verb; identify the four infinitives.
 - (iii) For your own convenience, enclose all non-essential elements (genitive, adverbial and prepositional phrases) in brackets- you need not transcribe this into your exam script.
 - (iv) Identify the subject and (where applicable) direct object of each finite verb in the main clauses.
 - (v) Why does the text say *die naht* in line 3 but *diu naht* in line 13?
 - (vi) The prefix *ge-* is used twice before a verb. What does it mean (or do)?
 - (vii) The prefix *en-* is used once before a verb. What does it mean (or do)?
 - (viii) In which lines do we hear the man's, in which the woman's voice?
 - (ix) What do you think the refrain words mean?
 - (x) The meaning of the word *dürfen* is different from in NHG. What do you think it means here?
 - (xi) Translate the text into English prose (note: stanza 3 is *esaiet*. It may well be best to do it first and work back).
2. Write a comparative outline of the changes from Middle High German to New High German in two of the following: (30%)
- nouns
 - adjectives
 - strong verbs
 - phonology
3. EITHER: (30%)
- Write an essay on the portrayal of social outsiders in the texts studied on the course.
- OR:
- Describe the forms, uses and functions of dance in medieval Germany, quoting from relevant texts.
- OR:
- You are one of the flagellants taking part in the procession into Strassburg in July 1349. Write a detailed account of the procession and its effect.