

National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

2ND ARTS EXAMINATION
Summer 1999
GR 205 Middle High German I

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Time allowed: three hours

Answer all three questions.

1.(a) Translate the following text into English:

„Slâfest du, friedel ziere?
man wecket uns leider schiere:
ein vogellîn sô wol getân
daz ist der linden an daz zwî gegân.“

„Ich was vil sanfte entslâfen,
nu rüefestu, kint, wâfen.
liep âne leit mac niht gesîn.
swaz du gebiutest, daz leiste ich, friundin mîn.“

Diu frouwe begunde weinen.
„Du rîst und lâst mich eine.
wenne wilt du wider her zuo mir?
owê du fuerst mîn fröide sament dir!“

(b) Identify the 15 words containing diphthongs in the text, and indicate which of these have been monophthongized in New High German and which have not.

(c) Identify all the long vowels (monophthongs) in the text that have become diphthongs in New High German cognate words.

(d) Which noun has a different gender in New High German?

(e) What are we told about the social position of the two characters?

(f) Comment briefly on the relationship between the man and the woman as revealed in the text.

2. Translate the following text into English:

Ein ritter tugende rîche
nam ein wîp êlîche.
dô wolde si ir willen hân
und des sînen niht begân.
daz mohte er niht erlîden
und hiez si ez gar vermîden.
dô si durch vlêhen noch durch bete
deste baz noch deste rehter tete,
dô dröuwete er ir sêre;
dô dröuwete si im noch mêre.
er sluoc ir einen vûstslac.

3. "Though it varies from genre to genre, the depiction of relations between men and women in Middle High German literature is always centred on the power struggle between the sexes." Discuss this statement, basing your answer on the evidence of the texts studied during the semester and including reference to at least two of the genres: love song, heroic epic, *Schwank*.