

**SKOLEEKSAMEN
2008/HØST**

ENG4154: Old English, Introduction
Varighet: 4 timer/hours

Fredag, 5. desember 2008

Answer ONE question from Part I, and ONE question from Part II. Candidates are reminded that in linguistic commentary they are expected to use standard conventions, including phonetic symbols, where appropriate.

Candidates may use one English-English dictionary.

Candidates must receive a pass mark on both parts of the exam.

Part I (60%)

EITHER

1. First, identify the work from which the following extract is taken, and state what is known about its authorship and probable date of composition. Second, translate it into idiomatic present-day English (you may, if you wish, give a literal translation first). Third, answer questions (a) – (e) immediately following this text. Numbers in parentheses refer to the line numbers of the printed text.

- 1 836. ...and þy fultumode Beorhtric Offan þy hē hæfde his
2 dohtor him tō cwēne.
- 3 853. Hēr bæd Burgred Miercna cyning and his witan
4 Æþelwulf cyning þæt hē him gefultumode þæt him Norþ-
5 wēalas gehīersumode. Hē swā dyde, and mid fierde fōr ofer
6 Mierce on Norþ-wēalas, and hīe him ealle gehīersume dydon.
7 And þy ilcan gēare sende Æþelwulf cyning Ælfred his sunu
8 tō Rōme. Þā wæs domne Lēo pāpa on Rōme, and hē hine tō
9 cyninge gehālgode, and hine him tō biscop-suna nam.
- 10 Þā þy ilcan gēare Ealhhere mid Cantwarum and Huda mid
11 Sūþrigum gefuhton on Tenet wiþ hæþnum herige, and ærest
12 sige nāmon; and þær wearþ manig mann ofslægen and
13 ādruncen on gehwæpere hand. And þæs ofer Ēastran geaf
14 Æþelwulf cyning his dohtor Burgrede cyninge of West-
15 seaxum on Mierce.

- (a) Give a syntactic analysis of the sentence printed as lines 13-15 (*And þæs ofer ... on Mierce*). How far do the inflections make clear the meaning of this sentence?
- (b) In what case is *on Norþ-wēalas* (6)? What bearing does this have on the meaning of the text?
- (c) What are the number, gender and case of *Æþelwulf cyning* (4) and *manig mann* (12)? How do you know? What are the syntactic functions of these phrases?
- (d) Identify and account for the grammar and meaning of the instances of the instrumental case in this text. To what extent is it necessary to make a distinction between case form and case function in order to determine whether a phrase is in the instrumental case?
- (e) Comment on the subject-verb concord of *bæd* (3), *dydon* (6) and *wearþ* (12).

OR

2. First, identify the work from which the following extract is taken, and state what is known about its authorship and probable date of composition. Second, translate it into idiomatic present-day English (if you wish, you may give a literal translation first). Third, answer questions (a) – (e) immediately following this text. Numbers in parentheses refer to the line numbers of the printed text.

1 And se fore-sægda Hinguar færlīce, swā swā wulf, on land
 2 bestealcode, and þā lēode slōg, weras and wīf and þā
 3 unwittigan cild, and tō bismere tūcode þā bile-witan
 4 crīstenan. Hē sende þā sōna siþþan tō þām cyninge bēotlic
 5 ærende, þæt hē ābūgan scolde tō his mann-rædenne, gif hē
 6 rōhte his fēores. Se ærend-raca cōm þā tō Ēadmunde cyninge,
 7 and Hinguares ærende him arodlīce ābēad: ‘Hinguar ūre
 8 cyning, cēne and sigefæst on sǣ and on lande, hæfþ fela lēoda
 9 geweald, and cōm nū mid fierde færlīce hēr tō lande, þæt hē
 10 hēr winter-setl mid his werode hæbbe. Nū hætt hē þē dǣlan
 11 þīne dīeglan gold-hordas and þīnra ieldrena gestrēon arodlīce
 12 wiþ hine, and þū bēo his under-cyning, gif þū cwic bēon wilt,
 13 for þām þe þū næfst þā miht þæt þū mæge him wiþstandan.’

- (a) Explain the grammatical and syntactic relationships between the words in the phrase *þīnra ieldrena gestrēon* (11). What are the gender, number, and case of *þīnra* and *ieldrena* (*gestrēon* is neuter)?
- (b) What is the grammar and meaning of *fela lēoda geweald* (8-9)?
- (c) What parts of what verbs are *bestealcode* (2), *slōg* (2), and *wilt* (12)?
- (d) What adjective declension is used in each of the following phrases, *se fore-sægða Hinguar* (1), *ūre cyning* (7-8), *þīne dāeglan gold-hordas* (11), and why? How do you know which adjective declension is used?
- (e) Comment on the use of the subjunctive mood in this text extract. You should identify each instance of the subjunctive mood, state whether it is singular or plural, present or past, and indicate why the subjunctive has been used in each case.

Part II (40%)

EITHER

- 3. What is to be understood by ‘case’? It is often assumed that for languages with case inflections, one may rely solely on these inflections to arrive at the meaning of sentences, whereas word order and prepositions are redundant or secondary. To what extent is this true of Old English?

OR

- 4. Explain and give examples of **any 3** of the linguistic terms below:
 - (a) *i*-mutation
 - (b) breaking
 - (c) Grimm’s Law
 - (d) Verner’s Law
 - (e) paradigm
 - (f) vowel grades/gradation
 - (g) the dative absolute

OR

- 5. Old English makes use of both a **strong/indefinite** and a **weak/definite** system of **adjective declension**. Write an essay where you (a) account for the contexts where each type is used, and (b) outline the differences between the two types in terms of inflectional endings.

OR

- 6. The table below presents the principal parts of various Old English verbs. (i) Explain briefly the term ‘principal parts’, then (ii) outline the conjugational systems of the 4 main categories of verbs in Old English, and (iii) supply the

numbered forms missing from the table, and state which category each verb belongs to.

hīeran	hīerþ	hīerde	hīerdon	(1)
(2)	gæþ	ēode	ēodon	ge-gān, gangen
rīcsian	(3)	rīcsode	rīcsodon	rīcsod
cuman	cymþ	cōm	(4)	cumen
bīdan	bītt	bād	bidon	(5)
helpan	hilþþ	(6)	hulpon	holpen
(7)	hæfþ	hæfde	hæfdon	hæfd
witan	(8)	wiste	wiston	witen