

SECOND PUBLIC EXAMINATION

**HONOUR SCHOOL OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
COURSE II**

PAPER A1 ENGLISH LITERATURE 600-1100

TRINITY TERM 2013

Tuesday, 14 May, 2.30 pm – 5.30 pm

Time allowed – Three hours

Answer *three* questions. You should pay careful attention in your answers to the precise terms of the quotations and questions.

Do *not* turn over until told that you may do so.

1. 'When translating Latin, Alfred often loses the balance, compression and epigrammatic force of his original ... his purpose is utilitarian, not stylistic' (DOROTHY WHITELOCK).
2. 'Ælfric looks inward to the monastery not outwards to the larger kingdom' (JAMES CAMPBELL).
3. 'ÆLFRED MEC HEHT GEWYRCAN' (*THE ALFRED JEWEL*).
4. 'Rhythm can be visible in space as it is audible in time; and symmetry, and proportion, are as discernible in time as they are in space' (BASIL BUNTING).
5. Onsend Higelace, gif mec hild nime,
beaduscruda betst, þæt mine breost wereð,
hrægla selest, þæt is Hrædlan laf,
Welandes geweorc. Gæð a wyrd swa hio scel.
(Beowulf, ll. 452-55)

[Send to Hygelac, if death should take me, the best of battle-armours, that my breast wears, the finest of clothing, that is Hrethel's heirloom, Weland's work. Let fate go as it must.]

6. What can we learn from the manuscript context of Old English literature?
7. 'Hagiographical narrative often seems suspended in a timeless medium: historical and personal particularities of the saints tend to be smoothed away' (RACHEL S. ANDERSON).
8. Frige mec frodum wordum! Ne læt þinne ferhð onhæln.
degol þæt þu deopost cunne!
(Maxims I)

[Sound me out with shrewd words. Let not your own intellect be hidden, nor that of which you have deepest understanding be kept secret.]

9. 'Is þæs ænga styde ungelic swiðe
þam oðrum ham þe we ær cuðon,
hean on heofon-ric, þe me min hearra onlag.'
(Genesis B, ll. 356-58)

['This constricted space is very unlike the other home that we knew before, high in the kingdom of heaven, which my master granted me ...'].]

10. AD 973 Her Eadgar wæs, Engla waldend,
corðre micelre, to cyninge gehalgod
on ðære caldan byrig, Acemannescestre.
(*The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, MS. A)

[Here Edgar, ruler of the English, with a great company, was consecrated king in the ancient city of Bath...]

11. 'If we are to read the elegies as one place in the poetry where the internal psychology of the individual matters, then it follows that in Anglo-Saxon England that individual is male, even when, or especially when, that voice is universalized' (CLARE LEES).

12. 'Þa hyrdas getacnodan þa godan lareowas 7 gedefe aldoras ða þe geornlice healdað þæt Cristes yrfe þæt wæron þa geleaffullan menn' (Vercelli Homily V, *To Middan Wintra [At Christmas]*).

[The shepherds betokened the good teachers and the befitting masters, those who eagerly protect that heritage of Christ that were the faithful men.]

Write on exegesis AND/OR teaching in Old English literature.

13. 'The subjective and the inevitable are in perfect balance' (SEAMUS HEANEY).

Discuss the workings of fate in Old English literature.

14. 'Some people ... think that English poetry begins with the Anglo-Saxons. I don't, because I can't accept that there is any continuity between the traditions of Anglo-Saxon poetry and those established in English poetry by the time of, say, Shakespeare. ... It is somebody else's poetry' (JAMES FENTON).

15. 'And there are monsters of amazing size, like King Hygelac, who ruled the Geats and was killed by the Franks, whom no horse could carry from the age of twelve. His bones are preserved on an island in the river Rhine, where it breaks into the Ocean, and they are shown as a wonder to travellers from afar' (*Liber Monstrorum*).

16. Þonne hit wæs renig weder ond ic reotogu sæt.
(*Wulf and Eadwacer*)

[When it was rainy weather, and I sat weeping.]

17. Saga hwæt ic hatte.
(*Riddle 3*)

[Say what I am called.]

18. 'Authorship is a concept foreign to a literature in which ancient traditions are continually refashioned and there is no single correct or original text of a work' (R.D. FULK and CHRISTOPHER M. CAIN).

19. Fore thaem neidfaerae naenig uuiurthit
 thoncsnotturra, than him tharf sie
 to ymbhycggannae aer his hiniongae
 huaet his gastae godaes aeththa yflaes
 aefter deothdaege doemid uueorthae.

(Bede's Death Song)

[Before that enforced journey, none can be wiser than he has need to be, to ponder before his journey hence, what shall be determined for his spirit, either for good or evil, after his death-day.]

20. *Pater noster.*
 þu eart ure fæder, ealles wealdend,
 cyninc on wuldre.

(The Lord's Prayer II)

[*Our Father.* You are our Father, Ruler of all, King in glory.]