



BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2022

Programme – M.A.(ENG)-2021/M.A.(ENG)-2022

Course Name – Old and Middle English/Old and Middle English (including Chaucer)

Course Code - MELS101

(Semester I)

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2:30 Hours

[The figure in the margin indicates full marks. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.]

Group-A

(Multiple Choice Type Question)

1 x 15=15

1. Choose the correct alternative from the following :

- (i) Everyman can be best described as a/an:
- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| a) morality play | b) aesthetic play |
| c) high play | d) thespic play |
- (ii) The Canterbury Tales could be argued to be influenced by which great literary work?
- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Boccaccio's Decameron | b) Dante's Divine Comedy |
| c) Homer's The Iliad | d) Plato's The Republic |
- (iii) The Canterbury Tales is a collection of stories held together by which literary device?
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| a) frame narrative | b) common theme |
| c) common ideology | d) unity of place |
- (iv) Is The Canterbury Tales a finished work?
- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| a) Yes | b) No |
| c) This question has not been answered satisfactorily | d) It was not meant to be finished |
- (v) Who was the leader of Lollardy, a religious reformation movement mentioned in the Canterbury Tales?
- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| a) John Henry | b) John Sommer |
| c) John Wycliffe | d) Wycliffe Jean |
- (vi) Widsith is mostly a _____ of peoples, kings and heroes of a bygone time
- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| a) critique | b) analysis |
| c) survey | d) lament |
- (vii) Who was the first Archbishop of Canterbury, a man who was sent by Pope Gregory to convert the English?
- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| a) St. Augustine | b) St. Paul |
| c) St. John | d) St. George |
- (viii) Widsith claims himself to be from which house?

- a) Drings
c) Myrgings
- b) Byrgings
d) Churgings
- (ix) The _____ and the Saxons were responsible for the eventual coinage of the term Anglo-Saxon
- a) Angles
c) Binglos
- b) Engels
d) Singlos
- (x) "To roof the heads" what is roof referred to?
- a) sky
c) monastery
- b) earth
d) heaven
- (xi) The Anglo-Saxons are not _____ to the British isles.
- a) extant
c) indigenuous
- b) Protestant
d) Far away
- (xii) Bede leaves an account of the _____ of England.
- a) Christianization
c) Mummification
- b) Paganization
d) Stratification
- (xiii) Widsith sings a song composed by _____?
- a) Earmanric
c) himself
- b) Theodric
d) Tribal people
- (xiv) A dream was the source of Caedmun's inspiration. This allows us to:
- a) Draw conclusions about the theories of artistic creation prevalent at that time
c) Postulate that Dream-interpretation has an important part in the study of literature
- b) Surmise that Caedmun was an avid dreamer
d) Take everything Bede said with a pinch of salt
- (xv) According to the venerable Bede, Caedmun felt what when the musical instrument was handed out at a party?
- a) ashamed
c) ecstatic
- b) delighted
d) over-the-moon

Group-B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. Illustrate the opening of the poem 'Wladere' in Fragment-1 (3)
3. Examine Chaucer as a modern poet and a poet of transition with reference to The General Prologue of The Canterbury Tales. (3)
4. Briefly write about the Christian message as embodied in the poem "The Seafarer". (3)
5. Give the reason for the cause of battle and between which parties? Explain in detail. (3)
- OR**
- In which Fragment Waldere starts doubting himself and his sword? Why does he start self-doubting? (3)
6. Characterize King Eormanric according to Widsith. Why is Widsith fascinated with this king. (3)

OR

Analyze why the narrator in "Deor's Lament" resorts to a personal narration of events after having reverted to the religious element? (3)

Group-C

(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

- 7. Recall the ideological conflict between Christianity and Paganism in *Beowulf* and discuss how the conflict plays out in the text. (5)
- 8. Develop an analysis of Chaucer's portrayal of religious life of the 14th Century in "The Prologue" to *The Canterbury Tales*. (5)
- 9. Justify the title 'The Dream of the Rood' as a religious poetry (5)
- 10. Explain the sins in *Everyman*. Why does God send death to *Everyman*? (5)
- 11. Which party was actually responsible for the battle in the poem *Waldere* and why? How did the settlement take place at the end. (5)
- 12. Explain the motif of transience as it operates in "The Seafarer". (5)

OR

Explain the significance of the refrain in the context of the structure of "Deor's Lament". (5)
