

MODERN AND MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES TRIPOS Part IB

SAMPLE PAPER

Paper Ge. 7

INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN LANGUAGE

Answer THREE questions, ONE from each section.

Candidates for this paper may NOT draw substantially on material from their dissertations or material which they have used or intend to use in another scheduled paper. Candidates may NOT draw substantially on the same material in more than ONE question on the same paper.

*STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**20 Page Answer Book x 1**Rough work pad**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**None*

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

SECTION A

- 1 Translate passages (a) and (b), and comment on passage (c). Your commentary should highlight those features which make it representative of its period:

(a)

Thoh erbarmêdes got, Uuisser alla thia nô^t,
 Hiez her Hluduîgan Tharôt sâr rîtan:
 “Hluduîg, kuning mân, Hilph mânan liutin!
 Heigun sa Northman Harto biduungan.”
 Thanne sprah Hluduîg “Hêrro, sô duon ih, 5
 Dôt ni rette mir iz, Al thaz thû gibu^dist.”
 Thô nam her godes urlub, Huob her gundfanon uf,
 Reit her thara in Vrankôn Ingagan Northmannon.
 Gode thancôdun Thê sîn beidôdun,
 Quâdhun al: ‘frô mân, Sô lango beidôn uuir thîn.’ 10
 Thanne sprah lûto Hluduîg ther guoto:
 ‘Trôstet hiu, gisellion, Mîne nô^tstallon!
 Hera santa mih god Ioh mir selbo gibô^d,
 Ob hiu rât thûhti, Thaz ih hier gevuhti.
 Mih selbon ni sparô^ti, Uncih hiu gineriti. 15
 Nû uuillih, thaz mir volgôn Alle godes holdon.
 Giskerit ist thiu hieruuist Sô lango sô uuili Krist.

(b)*

Denn Euangelium ist ein Griechisch wort / vnd heisset auff Deusch /
 gute Botschafft / gute Mehre / gute Newezeitung / gut Geschrey / dauon
 man singet / saget vnd fro^lich ist. Als da Daud den grossen Goliath
 vberwand / kam ein gut Geschrey vnd trostliche Newezeitung vnter das 5
 Ju^dische volck / Dass jr grewlicher Feind erschlagen / vnd sie erlo^oset /
 zu freude und friede gestellet weren / Dauon sie sungen vnd sprungen /
 vnd fro^lich waren.

ALso ist das Euangelium Gottes vnd new Testament / ein gute Mehre
 vnd Geschrey / in alle welt erschollen / durch die Apostel / von einem 10
 rechten Daud / der mit der Suⁿde / Tod vnd Teufel gestritten / vnd
 vberwunden habe / Vnd damit alle die / so in Suⁿden gefangen / mit
 dem Tode geplaget / vom Teufel vberweldiget gewesen / On jr verdienst
 / erlo^oset / gerecht / lebendig vnd selig gemacht hat / vnd da mit zu friede
 gestellet / vnd Gott wider heimbracht. Dauon sie singen / dancken / Gott 15
 loben vnd fro^lich sind ewiglich / So sie das anders feste gleuben / vnd
 im glauben bestendig bleiben.

*The superscript <e> in passage (b) is written over the preceding vowel in the original.

(c)

Ez hete der künec Artûs	
ze Karidôl in sîn hûs	
zeinen pfingesten geleit	
nâch rîcher gewonheit	
ein alsô schœne hôczît	5
daz er vordes noch sît	
deheine schœner nie gewan.	
deiswâr dâ was ein bœser man	
in vil swachem werde:	
wan sich gesament ûf der erde	10
bî niemens zîten anderswâ	
sô manec guot ritter alsô dâ.	
ouch wart in dâ ze hove gegeben	
in allen wîs ein wunschleben:	
in liebte hof und den lîp	15
manec maget unde wîp,	
die schœnsten von den rîchen.	
mich jâmert wærlîchen,	
und hulfez iht, ich woldez clagen,	
daz nû bî unseren tagen	20
selch vreude niemer werden mac	
der man ze den zîten pflac.	

SECTION B

- 2 Discuss critically the traditional division of German into four periods.
- 3 Discuss ways in which Old High German acquired and developed Christian vocabulary.
- 4 ‘The existence of some fairly uniform supra-regional language in the High Medieval period (c. 1170-1250), to which poets strove to conform, has been much debated.’ Discuss.
- 5 ‘No matter how much we belittle the role of Luther in the development of modern German, we must concede that it might have been very different without him.’ Discuss.

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SECTION C

6 Discuss the formation of the periphrastic perfect and pluperfect tenses in German and the functions they perform.

7 Discuss the nature and origins of *i*-Umlaut in German. Account for its spread beyond instances where it is phonologically justified.

8 Compare and contrast some of the main phonological changes produced by the First (Germanic) Sound Shift with those caused by the First (Germanic) Sound Shift with those caused by the Second (High German) Sound Shift.

9 'Phonological changes wreaked havoc with the ENHG strong verb system.' Discuss.

END OF PAPER