English 12 Mrs. Rogers 2015 Fall Mid-term Exam Review

**Anglo-Saxon Period (Study all background notes.)**

***Beowulf***

1. What is an epic poem, and what are its characteristics? (Address setting, plot, dialogue, theme, & style.)

2. What traits does an epic hero possess?

3. What is an epithet?

4. What is a kenning?

5. From where does Beowulf come?

6. Who does Beowulf assist and why?

7. What themes emerge in Beowulf? (These are often universal.)

8. Why aren’t Beowulf’s men able to assist him with Grendel?

9. Describe the fight with Grendel’s mother. (Be sure to include the supernatural.)

10. What do readers learn about honor through the story of Beowulf?

***History of the English Church and People***

11. Who wrote the *History of the English Church and People*? Why is it significant?

12. What information does the reader learn about the people who lived during this time through this piece?

13. Who is Caedmon, and what was his talent?

14. What do readers learn about monasteries during this time?

***The Seafarer, the Wanderer, The Wife’s Lament***

15. According to the seafarer, how has the world changed?

16. Why does the seafarer keep returning to the sea?

17. What sort of world view does the seafarer have?

18. Why is the wanderer alone, and where is he?

19. What emotional state is the wanderer in during the first half of the poem? In the second half?

20. In “The Wife’s Lament,” what is the wife’s problem? Who has caused this?

21. How is the wife feeling?

22. How are others treating the wife?

23. What do speakers in all three poems express?

***The Iliad***

24. Who killed Patroclus?

25. Who feels guilty over Patroclus’s death and why?

26. What does Priam request from Achilles?

27. What causes Achilles to weep?

28. What advice does Achilles give to Priam?

29. Why does Achilles return Hector to Priam?

***Margery Kempe***

30. Why is this piece considered significant? (Consider genre as you answer.)

31. Why was Margery Kempe unusual for her time? (Provide several reasons.)

32. What was Kempe's gift of "holy tears"?

33. Why is Margery Kempe's memoir important?

34. What does the reader learn about Kempe in the first paragraph?

35. Why did Kempe send for her confessor and then not give her confession?

36. Through the text, the reader is able to draw some conclusions about Kempe's illness. What is it she may be suffering from?

37. By the end of the text, what does the reader discover about the change in Margery Kempe’s lifestyle? How does it differ from other women during her time?

38. Why might this piece be written in 3rd person?

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**Medieval Period Be sure to review your background notes and your webquest.**

**Ballads in general**

1. What are the features of ballads?

2. What is the typical rhyme scheme of a ballad?

3. What might you expect to see in a ballad that makes it good for singing?

4. What are the different types of ballads?

5. What drives the plot in a ballad?

6. With regard to characterization, description, dialogue, plot, etc., what do ballads use more often?

**Barbara Allan**

7. Why does Barbara Allan want to die?

8. What is the mystery behind Barbara Allan?

9. Why does John Graeme say he is dying?

10. How does Barbara Allan treat him when she gets to his bedside?

11. What does Barbara Allan do after John Graeme dies?

12. What does Barbara Allan ask her mom to do and what does it imply?

**Robin Hood**

13. What is the plot for this ballad?

14. What questions does Robin Hood ask the old woman?

15. What is implied by the questions Robin Hood asks?

16. How is the old man helpful to Robin Hood?

17. What is his reward for being helpful?

18. Why were the 3 men being hanged in town?

19. Describe the events in town as they unfold after Robin Hood encounters the sheriff.

**Get Up and Bar the Door**

20. What is the tone of this piece?

21. How does the tone of this piece differ from the other two ballads?

22. What does the couple argue about?

23. What is the resolution of the ballad?

**Medieval Romance**

24. What elements does a reader expect to find in a medieval romance?

25. Look at the medieval romances we read in class and see how they fit the classic description.

**Sir Gawain**

26. What challenge does the Green Knight make to King Arthur and his knights?

27. What happens when Sir Gawain meets the Green Knight on New Year’s Day?

28. At the end of the poem, what is the Green Knight’s opinion of Gawain?

29. Who has the hidden or mistaken identity in this piece?

30. What is situational irony? What is ironic in this story?

31. Which of the four traits of medieval romance is most strongly evident in Sir Gawain and the Green Knight?

Defend your choice.

32. What is chivalry?

33. How does Gawain display his chivalrous code?

34. In this narrative, what two main plot events test Sir Gawain’s honor?

**Federigo’s Falcon**

35. Which details in the first paragraph reflect the time setting of the Middle Ages?

36. At the beginning of the story, how does Federigo try to win Monna Giovanna’s love?

37. What was Monna’s opinion of Federigo when she learned he had killed and cooked his falcon?

38. What does the role of the brothers suggest about the status of women during the Middle Ages?

39. What was the cause of Monna Giovanna’s inner conflict when she went to visit Federigo? Do you approve with how she resolved it? Explain your answer.

40. How did Federigo’s meal indirectly cause the death of Monna Giovanna’s son?

41. How were Federigo’s actions in keeping with the code of chivalry and courtly love?

42. At what point in the story does Monna Giovanna change her mind about Federigo?

**Le Morte d’Arthur**

43. To which character do both Sir Gawain and Sir Launcelot have feelings of loyalty?

44. Why does Sir Gawain have a conflict with Sir Launcelot?

45. King Arthur does not show any internal conflict about killing Modred, the usurper. Why

might Arthur be expected to show such a conflict?

46. What part does the supernatural play in the duels between Sir Gawain and Sir Launcelot?

47. Who is Sir Modred, and why does he meet King Arthur’s ships with an army?

48. Explain how King Arthur receives his fatal wound?

49. As the King dies, he asks Sir Bedivere to throw his sword into the lake. What happens next?

50. How does Gawain’s dislike of Launcelot lead to Arthur’s downfall?

51. What warning does Gawain give? What reason does he give for postponing the battle?

52. What treaty does Arthur propose to Mordred? Is the treaty honored? Why or why not?

53. What innocent action starts the battle?

54. Why does Arthur pursue his vengeance on Mordred despite all the warnings he has been given?