

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:—

B.A.

French F3100: French Texts I

COURSE CODE : FREN3100

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 18-MAY-04

TIME : 10.00

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

TRANSGRESSION IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE

Answer TWO questions, ONE from EACH section. Use a separate answer book for each question.

You may answer in English or in French, but no special credit will be given for answering in French rather than English.

Please note that AT LEAST ONE option paper MUST be written in English.

DO NOT BASE BOTH ANSWERS IN THIS PAPER, OR AN ANSWER IN THIS PAPER AND ONE IN ANOTHER OPTION PAPER, ON THE SAME TEXT OR ON SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME MATERIAL.

SECTION A

1. Discuss the view that 'the true focus of the *Jeu d'Adam* is not on the tragedy of the Fall, but on the possibility of hope'.
2. 'In *Le Charroi de Nîmes*, the powerful attack on the transgressions of the king is undermined by the text's comic and parodic elements.' Discuss.
3. 'In *Yvain (Le Chevalier au lion)*, Chrétien is concerned less with reconciling the conflict between homosocial and heterosexual codes than with exploring the failure and redemption of an individual knight.' Discuss.
4. 'A curious aspect of *Amadas et Ydoine* is that, though it features illicit love, marriage-breaking, witchcraft, kidnapping, incest and infanticide, the most serious transgression in the romance appears to be female trickery.' Discuss.
5. Analyse the presentation of Lancelot in *La Mort le roi Artu* in the light of the following comment: 'Lancelot is the most sinful character in *La Mort le roi Artu*, yet the narrative refuses to condemn him'.
6. 'Villon's irony subverts all authority, including that of the testator himself.' Discuss *Le Testament* in the light of this remark.

TURN OVER

SECTION B

7. 'The legal systems of the medieval period are depicted in literature of that time as being frightening, arbitrary and incapable of establishing true guilt or innocence.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE texts you have studied for this course.
8. Discuss the view that 'it is because of the influence of women that men fail in their pursuit of virtue and honour'. Base your answer on TWO or MORE texts studied for this course.
9. Compare and contrast the treatment of disguise and the concealment of identity in TWO or MORE texts studied for this course.
10. 'Medieval literature presents wrongdoing as essentially inexplicable.' To what extent do you agree? Base your answer on TWO or MORE texts studied for this course.
11. Analyse and discuss the relationship between transgression and knowledge as presented in TWO or MORE medieval texts you have studied for this course.

END OF PAPER