

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For the following qualifications :-

B.A.

German C310: Parzival

COURSE CODE : **GERMC310**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **16-MAY-02**

TIME : **14.30**

TIME ALLOWED : **2 hours**

02-C0606-3-40

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TURN OVER

GERMC310

WOLFRAM VON ESCHENBACH: *PARZIVAL*

Time allowed: TWO hours.

Answer TWO questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

Do not draw substantially on the same material in more than one answer.

Do not answer a question on substantially the same topic as that of your assessed essay for this course.

1. Write a commentary on the following passage:

hin gein dem âbent er dersach
eins turnes gupfen unt des dach.
den tumben dûhte sêre,
wie der türne wüehse mêre:
5 der stuont dâ vil ûf eime hûs.
dô wânder si sæt Artûs:
des jaher im für heilikeit,
unt daz sîn sælde wære breit.
Alsô sprach der tumbe man.
10 'mîner muoter volc niht pûwen kan.
jane wehset niht sô lanc ir sât,
swaz sir in dem walde hât:
grôz regen si selten dâ verbirt.'
Gurnemanz de Grâharz hiez der wirt
15 ûf dirre burc dar zuo er reit.
dâ vor stuont ein linde breit
ûf einem grüenen anger:
der was breiter noch langer
niht wan ze rehter mâze.
20 daz ors und ouch diu strâze
in truogen dâ er sitzen vant
des was diu burc unt ouch daz lant.
ein grôziu müede in des betwanc,
daz er den schilt unrehte swanc,
25 ze verre hinder oder für,
et ninder nâch der site kûr
die man dâ gein prîse maz.
Gurnamanz der fürste al eine saz:
ouch gap der linden tolde
30 ir schaten, als si solde,
dem houbetman der wâren zuht.
des site was vor valsche ein fluht,
der enpfîenc den gast: daz was sîn reht.
bî im was ritter noch kneht.

TURN OVER

2. 'Der Erzähler tritt im *Parzival* so dominierend hervor, daß man ihn für die Hauptperson der Dichtung halten könnte.' Discuss.
3. Consider the hypothesis that Wolfram combines a range of narrative modes and registers in his *Parzival*.
4. Discuss colour imagery in the first two Books of *Parzival*.
5. *er küene, traecliche wîs* (4.18). Consider Parzival's story in light of this comment from the prologue to the work.
6. What is the significance of the figure of Keie for our understanding of *Parzival* as a whole?
7. To what extent may *Parzival* be considered a 'Doppelroman'?
8. To what extent may the ending of *Parzival* be described as anticlimactic?
9. Consider the view that the constructions of femininity in Wolfram's *Parzival* are more complex than its constructions of masculinity.
10. Examine the motif of laughter in Wolfram's *Parzival*.

END OF PAPER