

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:–

B.A.

Scand. Studs. SC5330: Runology I

COURSE CODE : SCAN5330

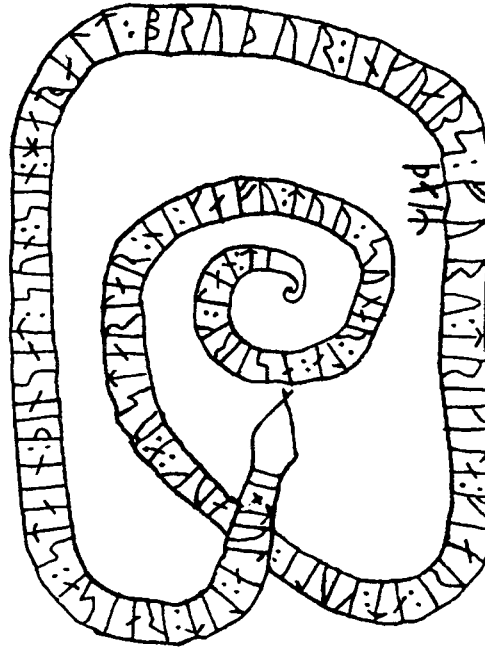
UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 20-MAY-04

TIME : 10.00

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

2. Study the runic inscription reproduced below. Transliterate it into the roman alphabet, commenting on any diagnostic rune forms, translate the inscription into English, and write brief notes on its language and content.



SECTION B (30%)

3. Define and exemplify FIVE of the following terms used in runology: *futhork* unit; the acrophonic principle; ideograph; retrograde rune; bind-rune; transitional inscription; raiser formula; forgery.
4. How far can the runic alphabet be seen as an independent Germanic creation?
5. 'Both the development of the younger *futhork* and its wholesale adoption by eighth-century rune carvers are unsolved mysteries.' Discuss.

6. What factors may have caused Viking-Age rune carvers to use short-twig runes in preference to their long-branch counterparts?
7. Discuss the theory and practice of dotting in runic writing.

SECTION C (30%)

8. What contribution can typological analyses make to the interpretation of older *fupark* inscriptions?
9. 'I think we are bound to conclude that the majority of Viking-Age Scandinavians – at least those of any standing, and those intent on making their way in life – were able to read and write.' Discuss.
10. How far are the formulas used in Scandinavian commemorative inscriptions indicative of the period in which the inscriptions were made?
11. For what purposes were runes used in the high and late Middle Ages (c. 1200-1500)?
12. 'The Vinje I inscription can be dated to the year and the day it was carved.' Discuss.