

## Information

### UNIVERSITETET I OSLO DET HUMANISTISKE FAKULTET

### NFI4120 Old Norse – language and texts Fall 2019

**Time:** November 22, 2019 at 2.30-6.30 PM (14.30-18.30)

This exam consists of three parts. All three parts are to be answered.

The following dictionaries are allowed during the exam:

- Cleasby, Richard & Gudbrand Vigfusson. An Icelandic-English Dictionary.
- Zoega, Geir T. A Concise Dictionary of Old Icelandic.
- Heggstad, Leiv et al. Norrøn Ordbok.

To find the special signs for Old Norse you can either click on the Omega sign on the top of the box you write in, or copy-paste them from here: æ, œ, ǫ, ý, ó

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## Part 1

**Translate the following text into English. The translation should stay close to the Old Norse text, but it should be in comprehensible English.**

1. Which Old Norse text is this?
2. What literary genre does this text belong to?
3. What is the text about?

Þeir Leifr sigldu brott ór Suðreyjum ok tóku Nóreg um haustit. Fór Leifr til hirðar Óláfs konungs Tryggvasonar. Lagði konungr á hann góða virðing ok þóttisk sjá, at hann mundi vera vel mennt maðr. Eitt sinn kom konungr at máli við Leif ok sagði: „Ætlar þú til Grænlands í sumar?“ „Þat ætla ek,“ sagði Leifr, „ef þat er yðvarr vili.“ Konungr svarar: „Ek get, at þat muni vel vera, ok skaltu þangat fara með ørendum mínum, at boða þar kristni.“ Leifr kvað hann ráða skyldu, en kvezk hyggja, at þat ørendi myndi torflutt á Grænlandi.

**Some phrases in this text need some explanation:**

1. The phrase *ór Suðreyjum*:
  - a. What number, case and gender is ‘Suðreyjum’?
  - b. Why is that case used?
2. The verb *tóku*:
  - a. Describe the verb *tóku* in number, gender, tense and mode.
  - b. What is the lexical form of this verb?
  - c. What is the syntactical reference to *tóku*?
3. The phrase *til hirðar Óláfs konungs Tryggvasonar*:
  - a. Describe each word of the phrase in case, number, gender and definiteness.
  - b. What are the syntactical relations?
  - c. Why this case(s)?
4. The verbal form *kvezk* in ‘en kvezk hyggja’
  - a. What particular syntactical construction is this? Explain how it works and how it should be translated (its name describes its function).
  - b. What is the dictionary form of *kvezk*?

## Part 2

**Translate the following text into English. The translation should stay close to the Old Norse text, but it should be in comprehensible English.**

1. Which Old Norse text is this?
2. What literary genre does this text belong to?
3. What is the text about?

En hverr ásanna sá til annars ok þótti nú vera tvau vandræði, ok vildi engi sína hǫnd fram selja, fyrr en Týr lét fram hǫnd sína hægri ok leggr í munn úlfinum. En er úlfrinn spyrnir, þá harðnaði bandit, ok því harðara er hann brauzt um, því skarpara var bandit. Þá hlógu allir nema Týr. Hann lét hǫnd sína.

**Some phrases in this text need some explanation:**

1. The phrase *hverr ásanna sá til annars*:
  - a. There are two genitive forms in this phrase. Why is this case used, and how does it work in either of the instances?
  - b. Which verb is *sá*? Which tense, mode, number, and gender is the form *sá*? Inflect this verb in singular and plural, and in the present tense indicative, and explain the phonological changes in the paradigm.
2. The verb *þótti*:
  - a. Describe the form of the verb in number, gender, tense and mode.
  - b. What is the lexical form of the verb?
3. The phrase *sína hǫnd* in ‘ok vildi engi sína hǫnd fram selja’:
  - a. What kind of pronoun is *sína*?
  - b. What is the reference of the form *sína*?
4. The verbal phrase *brauzt um*:
  - a. What particular form is this verb? What is the dictionary form of the verb?
  - b. How does this verbal form work, and how is it translated?

### Part 3

In the **text from Part 2**, there are **13** verbal forms.

1. Identify all 13 verbal forms and find their lexical forms.
2. Divide your list of verbs into strong and weak verbs.
3. Choose **one** strong and **one** weak verb and present their inflexion in the present tense indicative and past tense indicative.
4. Discuss the main differences in the inflexion paradigms between the strong and the weak verbs.