

1 Translation: Known text

Sensorveiledning

This is a text they have already translated as homework and which was talked through and explained in more grammatical detail during the lessons, although pretty early in the course. The homework consisted of having to mark up all nouns, verbs, adjectives and specifically definite articles, as well as writing down case, number and gender for nouns and adjectives.

Translate the text below into comprehensible English. Add any literal/grammatically closer translations in brackets () after the sentence in question.

Þorsteinn hét maðr; hann var Egilsson, Skalla-Gríms sonar, Kveld-Úlfs sonar hersis ór Noregi; en Ásgerðr hét móðir Þorsteins og var Bjarnardóttir. Þorsteinn bjó at Borg í Borgarfirði. Hann var auðigr at fé ok höfðingi mikill, vitr maðr og hógværr og hófsmaðr um alla hluti. Engi var hann afreksmaðr um vöxt eða afl sem Egill, faðir hans, en þó var hann it mesta afarmenni ok vinsæll af allri alþýðu. Þorsteinn var vænn maðr, hvítr á hárf ok eygr manna bezt.

Han átti Jófríði Gunnarsdóttur Hlífar sonar. Hana hafði átt fyrr Þóroddr, sonr Tungu-Odds, ok var þeirra dóttir Húngerðr, er þar foddisk upp at Borg með Þorsteini. Jófríðr var skörungr mikill. Þau Þorsteinn áttu mart barn, en þó koma fá við þessa sögu; Skúli var elstr sona þeirra, annarr Kollsveinn, þriðri Egill.

Eitt sumar er þat sagt, at skip kom af hafi í Gúfuarós. Bergfinnr er nefndr stýrimaðr fyrir skipinu, norrónn at ætt, auðigr at fé ok heldr við aldr; hann var vitr maðr. Þorsteinn bóndi reið til skips ok réð jafnan mestu, hver kaupstefna var, ok svá var enn. Austmenn vistuðusk, en Þorsteinn tók við stýrimanninum, fyrir því at hann beiddisk þangat.

Þorsteinn was a man's name; he was Egill's son, Skalla-Grímr's son, Kveld-Úlfr's son, hersir from Norway; and/but his mother was called Ásgerðr and was Björn's daughter.

Þorsteinn lived at Borg in Borgarfjörðr. He was wealthy in worldly goods and a great leader, a wise man and calm and a moderate man in all affairs. He was not an extraordinary man in stature and strength as Egill, his father, but he was the most excellent man and popular with the whole

community. Þorsteinn was a pretty man, white of hair and the prettiest-eyed of men.

He was married to Jófríðr Gunnarsdóttir, Hlíf's son. She had before been married to Þóroddr, Tungu-Oddr's son, and their daughter was Húngerðr, who was then raised at Borg with Þorsteinn. Jófríðr was a very capable person. She and Þorsteinn had many children, but few appear in this saga; Skúli was their oldest son, the second Kollsveinn, the third Egill.

One summer it is said that a ship came from the sea to Gúfuarós. The shipowner is named Bergfinnr, Norse in origin, rich in wealth and better in age; he was a wise man. Þorsteinn farmer rode to the ship and advised best as always where the marketplace was, and so it was still. The Easterners arranged for accommodation, but Þorsteinn took with him the shipowner, because he bid him there.

2 Translation: Unknown text

Sensorveiledning

This is a text they haven't encountered yet, taken from Gunnlaugs saga, chapter 4.

Translate the text below into comprehensible English. Add any literal/grammatically closer translations in brackets () after the sentence in question.

Gunnlaugr reið þá í brott þaðan ok kom um kveldit ofan til Borgar, ok bauð Þorsteinn bóndi honum þar at vera, ok þat þiggr hann. Gunnlaugr segir Þorsteini hversu farit hafði með þeim feðgum. Þorsteinn bað hann þar vera þeim stundum, sem hann vildi, ok þar var hann þau missari ok nam lögspeki at Þorsteini, ok virðisk öllum mönnum þar vel til hans. Jafnan skemmtu þau Helga sér at taffi ok Gunnlaugr; þau vóru mjök jafnaldrar. Helga var svá fōgr, at þat er sögn fróðra manna, at hon hafi fegrst kona verit á Íslandi.

Gunnlaugr rode then away (from there) and around evening came down to Borg, and Þorsteinn bóndi (the farmer) asked him to be there, and he accepted that (agreed to that). Gunnlaugr tells Þorsteinn how it has gone with him and (his) father. Þorsteinn asked him to be with them for a while, as he wanted, and he was there half a year and studied law with Þorsteinn, and all menn there liked him well. Often they Helga and Gunnlaugr (the two of them) amused themselves playing; they were almost like in age. Helga was so pretty, that this is the learned men's tale,

that she has been the prettiest woman on Iceland.

3 Grammar questions

Sensorveiledning

The table below provides an overview over which answers are expected for each question. Students can score extra points if they go beyond the expected answers. These are shown in an extra column.

Question	Points	Extra
Determine all underlined words from each text grammatically.	40,5	
The phrase “Þorsteinn hét maðr” is difficult to translate into English. Explain why.	2	1
“maðr” shows an irregular declension pattern. List all possible forms in a table.	4	
Which case(s) do the nouns in the phrase “hann var Egilsson, Skalla-Gríms sonar, Kveld-Úlfs sonar hersis ór Noregi” show? Explain the construction.	3	1
Define each part of “it mesta afarmenni” and explain the grammatical construction.	5	
Explain the two constructions “þeim feðgum” and “þau Helga ok Gunnlaugr”.	2	
The phrase “Helga var svá fõgr” contains an adjective. Give the lemma and explain the form in the sentence.	2	
	58,5	60,5

Determine all underlined words from each text grammatically. If you like, you can use tables to help you keep track of all required information.

Each right answer gives 0.5 points.

word	type	gender	case	number	def/indef	degree	strong/weak	lemma	points	19,0
vænn	adj	m	N	sg	-	pos	strong	vænn	7 x 0.5	3,5
manna	noun	m	G	pl	indef	-	strong	maðr	7 x 0.5	3,5
honum	pronoun	m	D	sg	-	-	-	hann	5 x 0.5	2,5
þeim	pronun	m	D	pl	-	-	-	þeir	5 x 0.5	2,5
feðgum	noun	m	D	sg	indef	-	strong	faðir	7 x 0.5	3,5
vel	adv	-	-	-	-	pos	-	vel	2 x 0.5	1,0
þau	pronoun	n	N	pl	-	-	-	þeir	5 x 0.5	2,5

verb	strong/weak	person	number	tense	mood	voice	(in)finite	lemma	points	21,5
var	strong	3	sg	pret	ind	act	fin	vera	8 x 0.5	4,0
hafði	weak	3	sg	pret	ind	act	fin	hafa	8 x 0.5	4,0
átt	strong	-	-	-	-	-	past. part./sup.	eiga	3 x 0.5	1,5
koma	strong	3	pl	pres	ind	act	fin	koma	8 x 0.5	4,0
vistuðusk	weak	3	pl	pret	med-pas	act	fin	veita	8 x 0.5	4,0
þiggr	strong	3	sg	pres	ind	act	fin	þiggja	8 x 0.5	4,0

3.1 Questions for Translation: Known text

The phrase “Þorsteinn hét maðr” is difficult to translate into English. Explain why.

- required (1p each = 2p):
 - Old Norse has no bespoke indefinite article like English “a”
 - “einn” or “nókkurr” can be used instead, but are not required, so nouns simply stand as indefinite nouns
- extra points (1p):
 - the verb “heita” needs to be translated as a passive construction to English, but not in German or modern Norwegian, where the construction remains the the same

“maðr” shows an irregular declension pattern. List all possible forms in a table.

	Singular	Plural	0.5 points/right answer
N	maðr	menn	0.5 + 0.5
A	mann	menn	0.5 + 0.5
D	manni	mönnum	0.5 + 0.5
G	manns/mannz	manna	0.5 + 0.5

Which case(s) do the nouns in the phrase “hann var Egilsson, Skalla-Gríms sonar, Kveld-Úlfs sonar hersis ór Noregi” show? Explain the construction.

Each answer gives a point (= 3p).

- all of the nouns are G. m. sg.

- except “ór Noregi”, which is D. m. sg. and
 - “Egilsson”, which is N. m. sg. without nominative-r, which can appear as a side form of “sonr” (1 extra point if they figure that out)
- this is a genealogical list explaining Þorsteinn’s ancestry in order from son to great-grandfather: he (hann) is listed in the nominative, while the other names appear in the genitive to express “son of”: he was Egil’s son, son of Skalla-Grímr, son of Kveld-Úlfr, a hersir from Norway

Define each part of “it mesta afarmenni” and explain the grammatical construction.

Each answer gives a point (= 5p).

- it = N. sg. n. def. article
- mesta
 - superlative of mestr
 - using the weak declension on account of the article
 - taking the N. sg. n. form after the noun in question, “afarmenni”
- afarmenni = N. sg. n.

3.2 Questions for Translation: Unknown text

Explain the two constructions “þeim feðgum” and “þau Helga ok Gunnlaugr”.

Each answer gives a point (= 2p).

- þeim is a dual referring to Gunnlaugr and his father, therefore it is the masculine form in the dative
- þau is also a dual in the nominative plural neuter because Helga is female and Gunnlaugr male

The phrase “Helga var svá fǫgr” contains an adjective. Give the lemma and explain the form in the sentence.

Each answer gives a point (= 2p).

- fagr, where -r is part of the stem
- N. sg. f. shows an u-Umlaut, hence -a- becomes -ǫ-