

TULANE UNIVERSITY

I hereby pledge my word of honor that I have neither given nor received assistance on this examination.

SIGNED

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612

Dr. Sumiansky

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In this excerpt, the Poet is attempting to distinguish between the monk in the tale and the realistic and worldly monk on the pilgrimage. Thus, the purposeful attempt to qualify the man's character.

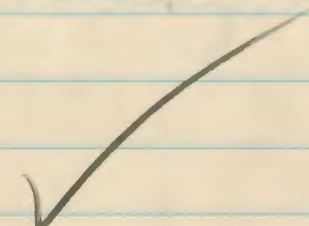
II Trivium and quadrivium
are the names given two
courses of study in the Medieval
universities. The trivium is
composed of grammar, rhetoric,
and logic and leads to the
Bachelor of Arts degree. The
quadrivium is composed of
geometry, astronomy, arithmetic,
and music and leads to the
Master of Arts degree. These
two courses were the staples
of the Medieval university
curricula.

III Fabliau is the name given those
Medieval stories which are characterized
by bawdiness. As opposed to the
Romances, they normally center around
certain picaresquely stock
situations. Chaucer's Miller's,
Reeve's, Shipman's, and Merchant's
Tales are fabliaux but are
notable in that they contain
greater detail of setting and
character, greater involvement,
less plot-for-plot's-sake, and
in certain cases combine the
element of the exempla with
the fabliaux.

IV This phrase seems to suggest the state of two people in the tales. One is Constance on the boat of the Man of Law's Tale, the other is Palamon when he is the sole inhabitant of the prison.

X spoken by Arcite
said of Nicholas

V This is a cutting remark on the part of Harry Bailly which is addressed to the Cook in connection with his meat pies. Not only was food contamination fairly wide spread in 14th century England, but also there might understandably exist a degree of antagonism between an innkeeper and the Cook who supplies his inn's food - or, any Cook for that matter.



✓ The Harry Bailey "smelle(s) a
Fallere in the wynd" in
the epilogue to the Man of
Law's Tale when the French
guest suggests he refrain
from using such colorful
language. This is a very
clever come-back, incorporating
the purity and reform of
the Gollard movement which
would naturally frown
upon (unnecessary) cursing.

✓ VIII The Melody of Love describes
a condition common among
lovers in which the body literally
wasted away from the mental
torture of unrequited love.
Sleep was difficult, and the
heart burned so that the lover
was forced to emit sighs. It is
alluded to in the case of
Arcite in The Knight's Tale who
suffers exceedingly after he
has left imprisonment in
Athens. Finally, his appearance
changes.

X This excerpt is taken from
the opening lines of the
Shipman's Tale and this
and other lines, because of
their use of "no" as a
feminine pronoun, suggest
that this tale was originally
intended for the Wife of
Bait.

No Constance

X The "sworn brotherhood" had to do
with the knightly oaths of
loyalty. This oath of brotherhood
became stronger at times even
than the marriage vow. The
term and its implications
occur in The Knight's Tale;

✓ More realistic is its application
to the guilds of the day and
thereby would include the
baterasher and the other
guildsmen on the pilgrimage.

also Shipman's Tale

✓ ¶ Pynchbeck was a contemporary
sergeant of law at Chaucer's
time whom Chaucer is
supposedly satirizing in his
sketch of the Man of Law.
He appears a pompous, super-
ficially wise man who is
basically not so intelligent
as he himself supposes. It is
Manly who has an illuminating
discussion upon this.

Pam

¶ Choleric is the name of
one of the four states in which
men may be. The others are
sanguine, melancholy, and
phlegmatic. In the Canterbury
Tales, the Reeve is described
as being choleric and this
suggests that this is generally
short-tempered and irascible.

✓

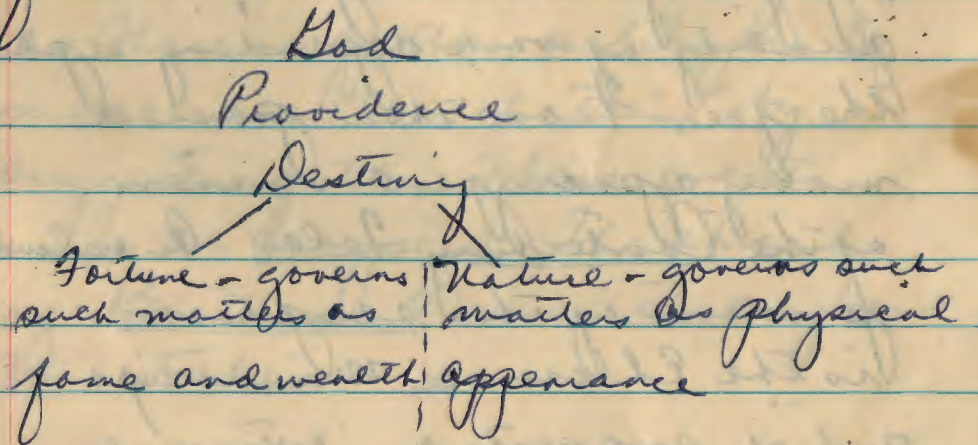
XII Prime is one of the divisions of the day, from midnight until two a.m. Half-way prime would indicate

No. that the hour was one o'clock in the morning. The

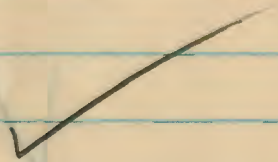
6-9 Am
7:30 Am
Medieval day was divided into such segments as motu, sesto and time.

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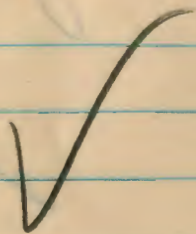
XIII Fortune and nature are, together, on the bottom rung of what might be called the Boethian hierarchy. A simple diagram may explain their functions:



Destiny directs God's will directly through them to man.



XIV. The scriptoria were the writing establishments in which monks acted as the printers and publishers of their day. For a fee they would copy any manuscript, the quality of work depending upon the fee. From them passed many apocryphal versions of the Contest of Tales. A valuable product of the scriptoria is the Ellesmere Manuscript which suggests an extremely high price was paid the monks.



XV

Egeus' philosophy is notably Boethian and is not out of context in The Knight's Tale. After the lists have resulted in almost double tragedy he, as Theseus' father, attempts to make some "consolation" by suggesting that these events must be accepted. The thread of Boethian Φ runs throughout this tale.

