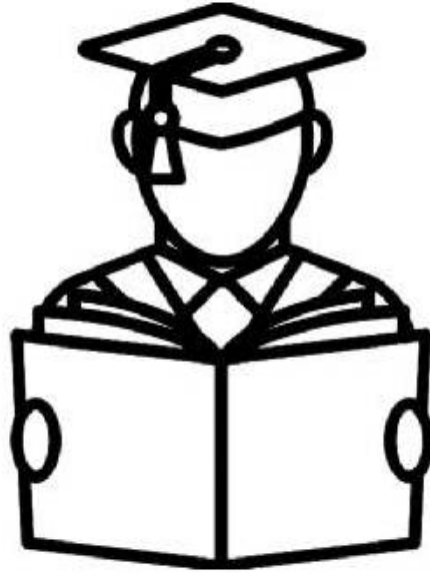


चौधरी PHOTOSTAT

"I don't love studying. I hate studying. I like learning. Learning is beautiful."



"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

Hi, My Name is

ENGLISH

UGC NET

Anglo Saxon

Beowulf - early and greatest epic, or heroic poem in literature. It begins with a prologue. writer is unknown.

* Beowulf fights with three dragons -

- 1) with the dangers of the sea
- 2) the conquering of the sea itself and
- 3) the conflict with the hostile forces of nature.

Widsith - author and date of composition are unknown.

Beowulf's Lament -

The Seafarer - seems to be in two distinct parts -

- 1) Shows the hardships of ~~life~~ the ocean life.
- 2) 2nd part is an allegory

Both are first recorded speech, which the Anglo-Saxons may have brought with them when they first conquered Britain.

The Fight at Finnsburgh and Waldere - a war song of fifty lines, is covered on the inside of a piece of parchment, describing with sixty warriors, against the attack of Finn and his army.

* Anglo-Saxon denotes two of the three Germanic tribes - Jutes, Angles and Saxons.

Caedmon - 'Paraphrase' the book opens with a hymn of praise, and then tells of the fall of Satan and his rebel angel from heaven.

Cynewulf - Greatest of the Anglo-Saxon poets, excepting only the unknown poet of Beowulf.

* The Christ, Juliana, The Fates of the Apostles and Elene.
↳ a didactic poem in three parts, first celebrating the Nativity, second the Ascension and the third "Boonsday".

Alfred (848-901) - Alfred is known chiefly as a translator. His important translations are four in number -

- 1) Orosius's Universal History and Geography
- 2) Bede's History (1st great historical work written on English soil)
- 3) Pope Gregory's Shepherd's Book and
- 4) Boethius's Consolations of Philosophy.

* Last known poem of the Anglo-Saxon period, 'The Battle of Maldon', otherwise called, 'Byrhtnoth's Death'.

ANGLO-NORMAN PERIOD (1066-1350)

- * Battle of Hastings - 1066.
- * Harold - last of the Saxon king.
- * In the Norman period literature was in the hands of the clergy and Nobles; that the common people could not read, and had only a few songs and ballads for their literary portion.
- * There was of Oriental tales called 'The Seven Wise Masters'. There are legends of the Virgin and the saints, a paraphrase of Scripture, a treatise on the seven deadly sins.
- * All the scholarly works of the period, like William of Malmesbury's History and Anselm's Cur Deus Homo, and Roger Bacon's Opus Majus, the beginning of modern experimental science, were written in Latin. While nearly all other works were written in French, or else were English copies or translations of French original.

Geoffrey of Monmouth (d. 1154):- His work is 'Historia Regum Britanniae' is noteworthy, not as literature, but rather as a source book from which many later writers drew their literary materials.

14th Century

Age of Chaucer (1340-1400)

Chief features of 14th Century as the Age of Chaucer

The age of Chaucer is one of the most active, complicated, vexed and entangled transitional periods in the history of England. This age faced dramatic change from old to new, there were drastic changes in society, religion etc.

Social Changes - It was a great social, political, religious and literary activities.

Politically it was a period of 100 year's war (1338-1453) which released and strengthened the feeling of national consciousness and patriotism both in England and France.

* Two battles during the 100 years war -

- i) Battle of Crecy (1346) - Black prince.
- ii) Battle of Poitiers (1356)

Black Death - (1348) An epidemic called Black Death devastated $\frac{1}{3}$ population and reoccured in 1362, 1367 and 1370. It led discontent supply of labour and demand of grosseries in England. It gave rise to the labour, lower class.

Major Writers and Their Works

(1340-1400)

* Geoffrey Chaucer - Father John Chaucer,
Mother Agnes Chaucer

Born in the reign of Edward III 1327-77
lived through that of Richard II 1377-99
died in the reign of Henry IV 1399-1413

* When Chaucer was still in his teen, ^{(19 years) (17 yrs)} he was appointed in the service Lionel, afterward duke of Clarence ~~the~~ 3rd son of Edward III

* ~~when~~ He also went with Duke travel of 100 years war, siege of reighs

* Chaucer was ransomed in 16 £ from the royal purse.

with

Roed

* Married ¹ Phillipa sister of IIIrd wife of Duke John of Gaunt, influential Duke of Lancaster.

* English was introduced in court in 1362. and 1363 in Parliament.

* Died in 1400, and was buried in that part of Westminster Abbey which afterwards came to be known as the Poet's Corner. 1st poet was buried in W. A.

* ~~He married with the~~ Geoffrey Chaucer was also known as -

- a) Father of English poetry.
- b) Grandfather of English novel.
- c) Father of English language.
- d) "Morning star of Renaissance."

*

*

Important Comments and Quotations:-

① "Chaucer is the first great painter of character."
- A.C. Ward.

② "He found English a dialect and left it a language."
- Bowel

③ "The well of English undefiled"
- Ed. Spenser.

④ "Under his influence rhyme gradually displaced alliteration in English poetry."
- W.H. Hudson

⑤ "Specially charming feature of his poetry is its fresh out of doors atmosphere."
- W.H. Hudson.

⑥ W.J. Long has called his "prologue to the Canterbury Tales" - "Prologue to the modern fiction."

⑦ "Had Chaucer written in prose, it is possible that his 'Troilus and Criseyde' and not Richardson's 'Pamela' would be celebrated as the first English novel."
- S. D. Neil

⑧ "I see all the pilgrims, their humours, features and their very dress as distinctly as if I has supper with them at the Tabbard Inn in South works."
- Dryden

Works of Chaucer:-

Chaucer passed through the three period of his carrier-
a) The French b) The Italian and c) The English,
of which the last is the most important and
original.

a) The French Period:-

* Followed two French writers De Lorries and De Meung

* Translated their lengthy romance "The Romaunt of the Rose" into English. It consists of 8000 lines.

* It depicts the drawbacks of marriage and the deceitfulness of women.

2)* "The Book of the Duchess" (1369) ^{on} a long allegory the death of Blanche the ~~dead~~ wife of his powerful patron.

Hadow remarked on this poem "Chaucer shows that truth to life and impatience of artificiality which are to become two of his most striking features."

3)* "The Parliament of Fowls." Rhyme-Royal

4)* "Complaint unto Pity" a shorter poem remarkable for its skillful use of the French seven lined stanza or "Rime Royal".

"An ABC"

The Complaynt of Mars

(1370-84)

b) The Italian Period - * Visited Italy in 1372 and came in contact with Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio.

* 1) "Troilus and Criseyde" poem of 8200 lines adopted from Boccaccio's - 'Il Filostrato' ^{> (Mid 1380's)}

* Written in Rime Royal and considered first novel of English in verse. → ab ab bcc (7 lines stanza)

* He dedicated this poem to John Gower.

* 2) "The House of the Fame" - It is a dream allegory type poem written in Octo syllabic couplet.

"written full of names
Of folk that hudden grate fames."

(The House of Fame)

* 3) "Legende of Good Women" - incomplete.

* 1st attempt to use the Heroic Couplet in English.

* Originally planned to narrate 19 ~~viz~~ tales of virtuous women of antiquity, remarkable for their chastity, sincerity and devotion to love. but he could compose only 8 legends.

* 4) "Anelida and Arcite"

* 5) "Parlament of Foules" - Characterization of

shows Chaucer's true comic spirit.

c) The English Period - (1386-1400)

* 1) The Canterbury Tales -

* 29 characters, including Chaucer. ^{Detailed pen picture} are given of 21 of them.

* Started their journey in the month of April.

* They all met at the Tabard Inn Southwark, going for the pilgrimage to the shrine of Thomas A. Becket at Canterbury.

* Only 23 pilgrims tell stories. Chaucer tells 2 stories. (24 stories)

* Twenty nine characters -

1) The Knight - loves trouble - adventures and has taken part in several holy wars.

2) The Squire - was "a lover and lusty bachelor". He was the son of knight, fond of singing. He was as fresh as is the month of May.

3) Yeoman - He wore a medal of St. Christopher on his breast. He also had a sword and a shield and bore a mighty bow in his hand.

➤ Nun of Prioress - She had a nasal voice, shy and smiling, was devoted to her religious duties. She had a small hounds (dogs). She spoke French fairly and daintly.

➤ Monk - Lover of riding and hunting. He thinks that Augustine should have his labour to himself alone.

➤ Friar - "His eyes twinkled in his head aright,
As do the stars in the frosty night."
He had arranged marriages of many women at his own cost.

➤ Merchant - He wore a motley dress and had a forked beard.
He wished that the sea should be kept free at any cost. He was so wise that none could judge that he was in debt.

➤ Clerk - "A Clerk ther was of Oxeford also."
He was rich in studies and philosophy but poor in money, was wearing a ragged overcoat. Both he and his horse were models of leanness.

9) Sergeant of the Law - He was a very busy man, had won many honours and earned fee. He often had been Justice of Assize.

10) Franklin:- "white was his beard as is a daisy."

11) Haberdasher

12) Dyer

13) Carpenter

14) Weaver

15) Carpet maker

16) Cook:- He was adept in art of cooking.

17) Shipman:- came from Dartmouth, wore woollen gown.
He drank too much. If he fought and had the upper hand, he drowned his enemy in the sea.

18) Doctor:- He treated his patients on the basis of astrology and humours.

He was a rich man and wore rich thin silk. "For gold in physic is a cordial. Therefore he loved gold in special."

19) The Good wife of Bath:- was a worthy woman all her life, husbands at Church door. She loved to laugh and chat in company. Alison - clothmaker
She was experienced of five husbands also.

20) Parson:- was a shepherd and not mercenary. He would use the proverb:- "That if gold rusts, what shall Iron do?" For if a priest be foul, on whom we trust. No wonder is a lewd man to rust."

21) Plowman:- Honest, good and true. He paid his tithes fully and regularly.

22) Miller:- His beard is red and fond of playing a bagpipe.

3) Maniciple (Butler: House-keeper):- He knew well the art of buying etables. This maniciple was able to outwit all his more than thirty masters who were well versed in legal matters.

4) Reeve (Bailiff):- His beard was as closely shaven as it could be.

5) Suammoner:- He "had a fire red cherubin face",
"As hot he was, and lecherous, as sparrows".
"With scaled brows black and piled beared - Of his village children were afraid."
He wore a garland on his head and loved garlic, onions and leeks, was very fond of eating and drinking. "He would suffer for a quart of wine, A good fellow to have his concubine."

26) Pardoner:- His hair looked as if it was made of wax, was fond of singing.
With his oily tongue, able to attract customers.

27) Chaucer Himself:- Anybody who tells a tale must tell as nearly as he can remember each word spoken by a person however rude or unfit it may be; otherwise his tale will be untrue.
* "My wit is short you may well understand."

29) Dyer -

- 28) Host - Name was Harry Bailly.
- * It was he who suggested that each pilgrim will tell two tales on the journey and two on the return journey. And he himself shall be the judge.
 - * Whosoever tale will be adjudged the best will be given a supper 'paid by all'.
 - * There was a lottery as to who should be the first to tell his tale: lots were drawn and Knight's name emerged and as the journey started, the knight started his tale.
 - * Knight tells the first and Parson tells the last tale. Knight tells the "Palamon and Arcite" tale.
 - * Chaucer tells the tale of Malibeus. He tells two tales.
 - * The tales of Malibeus (Chaucer's tale) and the Parson's tale are composed in prose, rest of the tales are in the form of Heroic couplet.
 - * There are total 20 finished and four (4) partly completed tales in the Canterbury Tales.
 - * Nun's Priest's merry tale of "Chanticleer and Fox."
 - * Clerk's tale - "Potent Griselda"
 - * There were three priests accompanying others. Thus there were 32 persons in the whole party.

⇒ "Here is God's plenty" — ~~Ed~~ Dryden

⇒ "He found English a dialect and left it a language."
— Lowes

2) "The Lake of Stedfastnesse"

3) "Complaynte to Chaucer to His Emptypurse"

2) John Gower (? - 1408)

Date of birth is not known but was Chaucer's contemporary and died after 8 years ~~years~~ of Chaucer's death.

(*Miroir de l'Homme*) - French title.

1) Speculum Meditantis - It runs in 30000 lines. It is a long sermon in French. It is an description of corruption, and immortality of the epoch. This work was called "Moral Gower" by Chaucer.

2) Vox Clamantis - It was the work in Latin Couplets, which was inspired by "The Peasant's Revolt" of 1381. It is a dream allegory in Latin. It shows gloomy picture of violence, corruption and disorder of the age.

3) Confessio Amantis (1384) -

It is a collection of tales in English octosyllabic couplets. It is an art of encyclopedia of the art of love. Gower wrote in the East Midland as Chaucer did. It comprised 100 (hundred) stories and runs more than 40,000 lines. It is an allegorical setting with discussion on the seven deadly sin. It is written about 1387 possibly on the occasion of his 1st marriage and addressed to the married people.

3) William Langland (1332-1400)

1) The vision of William concerning Piers the Plowman

'Piers the Plowman' appears in its many manuscript in three forms, respectively, the A B and C text. The A text is the shortest being about 2500 lines long, the B is more than 7200 lines and the C which is clearly based upon B is more than 7300 lines.

It was supposed that this vision of 'Piers the Plowman' took place in 1362. The poem itself tells of the poet's vision on the Malvern Hills. The poem on the whole consists of 11 visions and has the incoherence of a dream. "Who lie the best on cat" —

It is written in old alliterative meter.

The poem may be considered under the following heads:

- * 1) A picture of contemporary life and manners of 14th cen.
- * 2) As a satire upon religious abuses and vices of the age.
- * 3) As a work of reform
- * 4) As an allegory of life.
- * 5) As a last alliterative work in poetry.
- * In the presentation of seven deadly sins there are some comic touches in the manner of Chaucer.