

The class has covered the following versions of the *Semetey* narrative:

- Oral performances, ‘Birth of Semetey’ and ‘Semetey’ collected in 1862 by Wilhelm Radloff (printed in St. Petersburg 1885)
- The first known manuscript by a Kyrgyz hand containing a Manas-tale: Maldibay Borzu uulu’s record of two distinct variants (c. 1899)
- The first Manas variant printed by a Kyrgyz publisher (1925): the variant by Timbek Japıy uulu (c. 1898-1902)
- The first recording: a variant sung by Kenje Kara (1903/4)

In two pages, standard formatting, **either**

- a. Compare and explain a change in detail – e.g. plot, gender, religion – between at least two variants.
- b. Argue which variant of *Semetey* you consider the most significant and valuable.