**Name: Philip Dumaresq**

**Course Name: Major Authors in English**

**Date: May 3rd, 2016**

**Assignment: Essay Outline**

**Topic: Sir Lancelot breaking his oath as a knight of the Round Table.**

**Title:**

**Thesis Statement:**

Sir Lancelot does not follow his oath as a knight of the Round Table because numerous times, he commits various crimes against the people.

**Main idea One:**

Sir Lancelot is continually committing treason against king Arthur.

**Supporting Idea 1.A:**

When Meliagaunt accuses Queen Guinevere of sleeping with the wounded knights, Lancelot goes along with it and fights for the queen in trial-by-combat, even though it was him she slept with.

**Quotation 1.A (complete with line numbers):**

“Ye shall ride tomorrow an-hunting; and doubt ye not, Sir Lancelot will not go with you. And so, when it draweth towards night, ye may send the Queen word that ye will lie out all that night, and se ye may send for your cooks. And then, upon pain of death, that night we shall take him with the Queen.”

Page 470, line 9-13

**Supporting Idea 1.B:**

When Sir Meliagaunt kidnaps Queen Guinevere, Sir Lancelot, regardless of the dire situations, takes advantage of it to sleep with her.

**Quotation 1.B (complete with line numbers):**

“So, to pass upon this tale, Sir Lancelot went to bed with the Queen and took no force of his hurt hand, but took his pleasance and his liking until it was the dawning of the day; for wit you well, he slept not, but watched.”

Page 453 line 34-37

**Main idea Two:**

In various places throughout the story, Lancelot commits murder against the unarmed and the innocent

**Supporting Idea 2.A:**

Meliagaunt kidnaps Queen Guinevere, and, in order to save her, Sir Lancelot kills an innocent carter rather than throw him from the cart and let him live.

**Quotation 2.A (complete with line numbers):**

“’Thou shalt not go with me,’ said the carter. Then Sir Lancelot leapt to him, and gave him backward with his gauntlet a rearmain that he fell to the earth stark dead.”

Page 449-450 Line 34,35-1

**Supporting Idea 2.B:**

At the execution of Queen Guinevere, Sir Lancelot shows up and fights his way through people to save her

**Quotation 2.B (complete with line numbers):**

“and who that stood against them, there were they slain, full many a noble knight: for there was slain […] and so in rushing and hurling, as Sir Lancelot thrang here and there, it misfortuned him to slay Sir Gaheris and Sir Gareth, the noble knight, for they were unarmed and unawares.”

Page 480, Line 21-30

**Main idea Three:**

On top of being treasonous against the king, Lancelot goes to extreme measures to make sure it can never be proved.

**Supporting Idea 3.A:**

Sir Lancelot kills numerous other knights of the Round Table when trying to escape the trap they’ve set to catch him and Queen Guinevere.

**Quotation 3.A (complete with line numbers):**

“And then Sir Lancelot set all open the chamber door, and mightily and knightly, he strode in among them; and anon at the first stroke he slew Sir Agravain, and anon the twelve of his fellows – within a while he laid down cold to the earth, for there was none of the twelve knights might stand Sir Lancelot one buffet.”

Page 473, line 29-33

**Supporting Idea 3.B:**

Sir Lancelot uses his title and reputation as a way to discredit any way that he could possibly commit treason against Arthur.

**Quotation 3.B (complete with line numbers):**

“’God defend me,’ said Sir Lancelot, ‘that ever I should encounter with the most noble king who made me knight.”

Page 484, Line 20

**Secondary source:**

“The ideal of knighthood that Malory presents is summarized in the oath sworn by the Round Table knights: to avoid treason and wrongful quarrels; to show mercy; never to offer violence, especially sexual violence to gentlewoman […] and to fight on their behalf.”

Cooper, Helen. Introduction. Malory vii-xxiii. Malory, Sir Thomas. Le Morte Darthur Oxford:  Oxford UP, 1998.  Print.

Malory, Thomas.  *Le Morte Darthur*.  Ed. Helen Cooper. Oxford:  Oxford UP, 1998.  Print.