

2. Sir Gawain and the Green Knight Quiz



1. Which of the following time brackets comprises the Anglo-Norman period in England?

- a) 1044-1259
- b) 952-1066
- c) 1066-1340**
- d) 1020-1450

2. The Battle of Hastings was fought between William the Conqueror of Normandy and whom?

- a) Harold Godwinson**
- b) Harold Harefoot
- c) Harald Olafsson
- d) Harald Gormsson

3. Which of these was not a consequence of the Norman Conquest of England?

- a) The foundation of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge
- b) A zest for refined life and the knightly code
- c) Implementation of *laissez-faire* economics**
- d) Religious crusades to claim Jerusalem from the infidels

4. During the Anglo-Norman period, which of the following became the language of court?

- a) English
- b) French**
- c) Latin
- d) Flemish

5. Which of these is not one of the seven deadly sins?

- a) Gluttony
- b) Sloth
- c) Wrath
- d) Dishonesty**

6. The “Wheel of Fortune” was a pervasive idea throughout the Middle Ages. What did it not represent?

- a) The ephemeral nature of earthly things
- b) The stability of all things**
- c) An evolution of the Old English “wyrd”
- d) That important things in life come from within

7. The Ptolemaic conception of the universe stated what?

- a) That the earth was located at the centre of the universe**
- b) That the sun was located at the centre of the universe
- c) That the planets align once every decade
- d) That the Age of Aquarius would signify the end of the world

8. How many estates was medieval society divided into?

- a) 2
- b) 3**
- c) 4
- d) 5

9. Where is the Black Death thought to have originated?

- a) Vietnam
- b) India
- c) China**
- d) Pakistan

10. Which of the following did not contribute to the spreading of the Black Death to Europe?

- a) Rats
- b) Fleas
- c) Ships
- d) Pigs**

11. In the High Middle Ages, the transition towards which movement began?

- a) Feudalism
- b) Renaissance**
- c) Gothic
- d) Romanticism

12. Which of these is not a characteristic of medieval literature?

- a) Heroism
- b) Moral lessons
- c) Idealised behaviour
- d) Stream of consciousness**

13. Medieval heroes often suffered from what?

- a) Lovesickness**
- b) Amnesia
- c) Vanity
- d) Agoraphobia

14. Which rhetorical device corresponds to the following definition?

“A form of extended metaphor, in which objects, persons, and actions in a narrative, are equated with the meanings that lie outside the narrative itself. A story with two meanings: a literal and a figurative one.”

- a) Allusion
- b) Allegory**
- c) Antiphrasis
- d) Antithesis

15. Which of the following does not characterise the hero's quest in medieval literature?

- a) His journey towards a goal
- b) His tragic flaw
- c) His cowardice in battle**
- d) His code of conduct

16. When was *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* written?

- a) 1375-1400**
- b) 1030-1070
- c) 1400-1450
- d) 1280-1320

17. The author of the text is often referred to as what?

- a) The Ruby Poet
- b) The Sapphire Poet
- c) The Pearl Poet**
- d) The Diamond Poet

18. The piece is composed of how many stanzas?

- a) 100
- b) 101**
- c) 200
- d) 202

19. What is the name of the short line followed by four longer rhymed lines which appear after an irregular number of unrhymed lines in the text?

- a) The hook-and-round technique
- b) The dip-and-sweep technique
- c) The squat-and-helm technique
- d) The bob-and-wheel technique**

20. The text is a verse romance. How would you define this genre?

- a) A Middle-English alliterative romance**
- b) A romantic work in rhymed verse
- c) A religious work in unrhymed verse
- d) A romantic work in a Romance language

21. Which of the following is not a medieval genre?

- a) Religious prose
- b) Narrative prose
- c) Novel**
- d) Romance

22. What type of hero is Sir Gawain?

- a) Epic
- b) Chivalric**
- c) Epigonic
- d) Anti-heroic

23. The text reveals the author's aversion to increasing corruption in what?

- a) The knightly code**
- b) The feudal system
- c) The tax system
- d) The Church

24. The tale is told in the third person, except when the narrator describes events from his own perspective. What is this technique called?

- a) The eyewitness technique**
- b) The separation technique
- c) The bystander technique
- d) The partition technique

25. At the start of the tale, which place and time are described?

- a) Glastonbury in Summer
- b) Stonehenge at Easter
- c) Bath in Autumn
- d) Camelot at Christmas**

26. With which device does the poet exaggerate the Green Knight's features?

- a) Hyperbaton
- b) Hyperbole**
- c) Hypophora
- d) Hypotaxis

27. How does the Green Knight offend King Arthur when he first enters the hall?

- a) By asking who the King is**
- b) By sitting on his throne
- c) By eating from his plate
- d) By declaring his love for Queen Guinevere

28. Which two colours does the Green Knight wear?

- a) Green and blue
- b) Green and gold**
- c) Green and red
- d) Green and silver

29. Why does the Green Knight have the right to criticise the fact that King Arthur's knights are not fulfilling their duties?

- a) Because of his age
- b) Because of his family's connections
- c) Because he is a knight**
- d) Because he has supernatural powers

30. What is the Green Knight's objective in proposing the Beheading Game?

a) To reveal the true nature of knighthood

b) To win Guinevere's hand in marriage

c) To become King of England

d) To gain fame and riches

31. The Beheading Game is a motif which first appeared in the literature of which country?

a) France

b) Wales

c) Germany

d) Ireland

32. In the Middle Ages, what did the head symbolise?

a) Self-consciousness

b) Selflessness

c) Selfishness

d) Self-abandonment

33. After Sir Gawain chops off the Green Knight's head with the axe, what happens?

a) The Green Knight picks up his severed head and reminds Gawain to find him in a year and a day at the Green Chapel

b) The Green Knight bleeds to death and King Arthur orders his knights to carry away his body as a mark of respect

c) Sir Gawain flees the hall in a fit of guilt, shocked at his own strength

d) Sir Gawain picks up the Green Knight's severed head and places it on the table in front of King Arthur

34. Which of these is not a virtue of the pentangle on Sir Gawain's shield?

a) Friendship

b) Generosity

c) Modesty

d) Chastity

35. When does Gawain prepare to leave Camelot and find the Green Knight?

a) On New Year's Day

b) On All Saints' Day

c) On Easter Sunday

d) On his birthday

36. During his search, Gawain rides through the Northwest of England on a horse called what?

- a) Mingolet
- b) Pringolet
- c) Wingolet
- d) Gringolet**

37. What do Gawain and Lord Bertilak exchange on the second day of the chastity test?

- a) Two kisses for a green girdle
- b) Two kisses for a wild boar's head**
- c) Two rings ring for the skin of a fox
- d) Two kisses for a herd of deer

38. What does Lady Bertilak tell Sir Gawain about the green girdle?

- a) That it will protect whoever wears it from death**
- b) That it will match his outfit perfectly
- c) That whoever wears it will be irresistible to women
- d) That whoever wears it will be able to see into the future

39. What does the guide tell Sir Gawain before leaving him at the border of the forest on New Year's Day?

- a) That Lord Bertilak is really the Green Knight
- b) That he will not tell anyone if he decides to quit the game**
- c) That Lady Bertilak was lying about the green girdle
- d) That he should return to see King Arthur as soon as possible

40. What sound confirms Gawain's suspicions that he has reached the Green Chapel?

- a) Chapel bells
- b) A scythe against a grindstone**
- c) A choir singing
- d) The Green Knight's voice

41. The Green Knight draws blood from Sir Gawain's neck on which strike?

- a) The first
- b) The second
- c) The third**
- d) None of the above

42. Who is Morgan le Faye (the old lady at Lord Bertilak's castle)?

- a) **Gawain's aunt and King Arthur's half sister**
- b) Gawain's grandmother and King Arthur's mother
- c) Gawain's aunt and King Arthur's cousin
- d) Gawain's half sister and King Arthur's aunt

43. When Sir Gawain realises that he has failed the Green Knight's test, what does he view the green girdle as a symbol of?

- a) Courage
- b) Love
- c) Nature
- d) **Shame**

44. Why do the castle characters remain nameless until the end of the piece?

- a) They are less important than the Camelot characters
- b) The narrator does not know what they are called
- c) **They function as abstract elements of change and represent nobility at large**
- d) They are figments of Sir Gawain's imagination

45. How do Arthur and his court react to Gawain's sin?

- a) They think of him as a failure for showing weakness
- b) They blame him for taking up the challenge in the first place
- c) They understand that Gawain acted through self-preservation
- d) **They patronise him and turn the girdle into a fashion statement**

46. Whose reaction to Gawain's sin is the most rational?

- a) Arthur
- b) Gawain
- c) **The Green Knight**
- d) Morgan le Faye

47. Which of these characteristics of the text clearly differentiates it from Beowulf?

- a) More sophisticated moral foundations
- b) Women as powerful instruments of change
- c) The use of Middle English
- d) **All of the above**

**48. performs a relevant structural and thematic role in SGGK,
both at
a formal and at a symbolic level.**

Symmetry

**49. “Not all, I think, for
But some of courteous grace
Let him how was their head
Be spokesman in that place.”**

dread

**50. “You are not Gawain, the glorious’ the Green man said. [...]
Yet, you lacked, sir, a little loyalty there,
But the cause was not cunning, nor courtesy either,
But that you loved your own: the less, then, to blame”**

life