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THE INFORMANT

RIDDLE

With the offering of a new course (Linguistics 570 CA, Studies in Linguistic Structures: Old English Structure, 10:00 - 11:50 MW) in the Winter Semester, it seems appropriate for us to announce the placement examination.

So here is Exeter Riddle Number 47, in the West Saxon dialect, arranged in poetic form, with alliterating half-lines, and with macrons added to indicate vowel length.

Moððe word fræt; mē ðæt ðūhte
 wrætlicu wyrd, ðā ic ðæt wundor gefrægn,
 ðæt se wurm forswealg wera gied sumes,
 ðeof in ðýstro ðrymfæstne cwide
 and ðæs strangan staðol. Stælgieſt ne wæs
 wihte ðý glēawra ðē hē ðām wordum swealg.

All you have to do to satisfy the prerequisite for the Old English Structure course is to [() = optional]:

1. Give the modern name for the moððe that fræt the word. (That is, solve the riddle.)
- (2.) Please parse the riddle. (That is, describe the morphological form and syntactic function of each word.)
- (3.) Translate it. (That is, translate it into Modern Standard English.)
- (4.) Identify the alliterating sound in each line. (That is)

The first twenty-four people to pass the test and submit the correct results to the Chairman of the Linguistics Department will be admitted to the course without further ado. (All others will be admitted with further ado, such as "What is your name and student number?")

MYSTERY BALLAD

The April 1970 issue of The Informant featured a nineteenth century mystery ballad in an unidentified Norse language. We asked for an identification of the language (it was Faroese, from the Faroe Islands north of Britain) and a rough translation of the text.

The only person to present us with the desired information was Miss Ursula Dissmann, an M.A. student in Medieval Studies, who will be referred to Dr. Larry Syndergaard of the English Department for her reward. Here is the original, with Ursula's translation (slightly altered):

Selamon læt sær klæði skera,
tí hann skyldi brulleyp gera.

Selamon had clothes made for himself,
because he was preparing for marriage.

Hann beyð up á bríkar
mangar menn og ríkar.

He bade to bench ('invited')
many men and rich.

Hann beyð til so mangan mann,
kongins son af Engelland

He invited many a man,
[including] the King's son of England.

Selamon man teinkja:
frillan hon skal skeinkja.

Selamon may think:
the maiden shall serve him.

.

.

Tann fyrsta svövn, íð selamon fár,
frillan á hans armi lá.

The first sleep that Selamon gets,
the maiden in his arms lay.

Tann fyrsta svövn, íð selamon fekk,
frillan af hans armi gekk.

The first sleep that Selamon got,
the maiden out of his arms went.

.

.

[Not to be continued.]

FACULTY AND STAFF

The full-time faculty of the Linguistics Department remains at the same strength (?) as last year (three members: Dwarikesh, Hendriksen, and Palmatier), but the full-time secretary now serves only Linguistics rather than the entire fourth floor of the Tower. Also, Mrs. May Belle Harn has replaced Mrs. Elaine Moyer as secretary, and for the first time the Department has three part-time instructors, four teaching assistants, and three "borrowed" faculty members.

The change in secretarial responsibilities was made possible by the acquisition of two more offices in Sprau--adjacent to the original ones. Mrs. Harn is now in the Chairman's old office (410), and a door has been cut between 410 and Palmatier's new office (409). Dwarikesh and Hendriksen have moved to a new double office (412), and their old office has been outfitted for part-time faculty and teaching assistants (411). When a new full-time faculty member is hired, he will become the official housemother for 411.

SECRETARY

Mrs. May Belle Harn, our secretary since June 1, is not new to Western. Besides having been a student here (majoring in Special Education for the Emotionally Disturbed, which should help her in her new job), May Belle

served as a full-time secretary for the English Department (from August 1966 until August 1967) and as a substitute secretary for the Modern and Classical Languages Department (for three weeks in February-March 1970)--both tours of duty being at least partly in the Tower. She lives on a grape farm near Mattawan with her husband, Elmer, their three children (David, Kathy, and Cindy), two horses (Sheba and Danny Boy), two dogs (Oso and Amigo), and one tom cat (Thomas, of course). May Belle likes to read horoscopes (she's a Gemini) and novels and to garden, sew, and ride horseback. Her favorite saying is "Well, hello there!": "Well, Hello there, May Belle!"

Mrs. Elaine Moyer, our secretary from the start (August 19, 1968--but our typist for a year and a half before that), has moved with her husband, Jack (formerly an Instructor in the English Department) to Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, where Jack is teaching English at Wyomissing High School and Elaine has just given birth to a baby boy (Christopher Alan, 7 lbs. 9 oz., October 12). Elaine was well-known at Western as a member of the Linguistics Department, and we all wish her and her family a healthy and happy future. Good luck!

MRS. MARIE-LOUISE COLE

Mrs. Marie-Louise Cole--known as Ma-Lou to her colleagues--is teaching one section of English as a Foreign Language for the Linguistics Department and one section of Molders of Thought for the College of General Studies. She is the wife of Dr. Roger Cole, Chairman of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, and they are the parents of a baby girl, Colette, 7 months old. Colette might grow up to be trilingual since Dr. Cole is a teacher of German, Mrs. Cole is a native speaker of French, and they both speak English, of course. Mrs. Cole has also studied German (8 years in high school), Latin (8 years in high school), English (4 years in high school and 3 years in college--as well as here in the United States), and Spanish (at Kalamazoo College).

Mrs. Cole was born in the Colmar-Munster area of Alsace, France where she has four older brothers and one younger sister, all of whom are teachers except one older brother, who is a doctor. She taught French in a grammar school in Lancashire, England in 1963-64, received her Licence-ès-Lettres (M.A.) in English from the University of Strasbourg in 1965, and taught English in a high school in Strasbourg in 1965-66. She came to Kalamazoo College in 1966 on a Fulbright Scholarship and taught French there in 1966-67 and then taught French at Western from 1967 to 1970. In the summer of 1968 she took the French Pro-Seminar to Grenoble, and she says that travel is her favorite hobby. Bons voyages, Ma-Lou!

MRS. LALITA MUIZNIEKS

Mrs. Lalita Muiznieks, the Linguistics Department's first graduate with an M.A. in Teaching in the Community College (August, straight A's), is now teaching Linguistics 200, Linguistic Analysis. Mrs. Muiznieks taught Linguistics 506, Intermediate Latvian, for the Division of Continuing Education last summer, and she assisted in other Latvian extension courses for two years before that. She taught Latvian Language and Heritage Seminars

in Portland, Oregon in August of 1969 and in the Catskill Mountains of New York State in August of 1967. She is also currently teaching the language in the Latvian Community School, organized by local Latvian families, on Saturdays and Monday nights. A book of her poems (in Latvian) was published in September of this year, and she has also written a Latvian Alphabet Book, a Geography Workbook (the second edition to appear in 1971), and several articles on the Latvian language.

Lalita was born in Riga, Latvia but left for Germany with her mother and sister in 1944 after Latvia was alternately occupied by Russia (1940) and Germany (1942) and just before Russia occupied it again (1945) and incorporated it into the Soviet Union. In Germany her family lived in several displaced persons camps, where Lalita was introduced to English for the first time. The family then migrated to the United States, first to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where Lalita graduated from high school, and then to Kalamazoo, where she graduated from Western in 1958 (majors in English and German). Lalita is the wife of Dr. Valdis Muiznieks, a Kalamazoo Chiropractor, and the mother of two children--a boy, Zintis (11), and a girl, Sarma (10). Mrs. Muiznieks hopes to work on a Ph.D. in Linguistics and teach at the college level. Labdien!

MR. JOSEPH MUTHIANI

Mr. Joseph Muthiani is in his second year as instructor of Swahili. Last year he taught Basic Swahili in the Fall and Intermediate in the Winter under the "supervision" of Dr. Palmatier (though the Chairman's presence was simply to make it all legal, since Joe was already an experienced teacher). Now he is teaching Basic Swahili again (under his own name), working on a second master's degree (in Teaching in the Community College, with a major in Linguistics), serving on the African Studies Committee (of WMU's Institute of International and Area Studies), co-editing the African Messenger (the magazine of the Kalamazoo African Student Union), serving as Cross-Cultural Training Consultant for the Peace Corps Training Program for Kenya (his eighth P. C. term), and finishing up an autobiographical book (Akumba From Within, to be ready soon).

Joe completed work on his first M.A. (in Sociology) at Western last summer. His thesis was entitled "A Comparative Utility of Theories of Social Change: Parsons and Other Selected Theorists (Olsen, Eisenstadt, Sahlin-Service)." His wife Betty, who is a student in John Willis' Advanced Swahili class, has an M.A. in Biology. She is teaching as a part-time instructor at Kellogg Community College and studying for a Specialist Degree at Western. Joe is a member of Alpha Kappa Delta (National Sociology Honor Society), the Michigan Linguistic Society (whose recent meeting he attended at East Lansing), the African Studies Association (whose meetings he attended in Boston on October 21-24), the Kalamazoo African Student Union (former president and African Studies Committee representative), and the Language Association of Eastern Africa. It's a busy life, isn't it, Joe? Polepole!

MR. SAM HOMSI

Mr. Samir F. Homsi is Dr. Dwarikesh's teaching assistant for Basic Arabic. Sam was born in Nabk, Syria in 1941 and graduated from high school in 1959. He has four brothers and four sisters, and his father is a banker. Sam studied Arts and Arabic Literature in Damascus University, from which he

graduated in 1963. During his last two years in college he studied Electronics at the Civil Aviation School directed by the United Nations, and he also worked as an interpreter (English-Arabic, Arabic-English) for the Chief of the School. In 1962 he enrolled in the Goethe Institute in Damascus, where he studied German and, in return, taught Arabic to diplomats. He served in the Syrian Air Force for two years after graduation and then came to Western in 1965 as a freshman in Engineering and Technology.

While he was an undergraduate here, Sam worked for four years at McDonald's Drive-in, part of the time as manager. He graduated from Western in June 1970 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and is continuing as a graduate student in that field. Besides teaching Arabic and doing graduate work, Sam is a Design Engineer for the Progressive Dynamics Company in Marshall. His wife, Pat, has a B.S. degree in Social Work from W.M.U. and is employed at the Battle Creek Veteran's Hospital. Sam's busy life does not give him much time for his hobbies (sports, reading, stamp collecting, and traveling), so we're grateful that one of his pleasures is teaching Arabic. Sukran!

MR. EIJI OSHIMA

Mr. Eiji Oshima is Dr. Dwarikesh's teaching assistant for Basic Japanese. Eiji was born in Yokohama, Japan, where he attended school through the third grade. Then his family moved to Osaka, where he spent the rest of elementary school and the first two years of junior high. His last year of junior high and his high school years were taken in Tokyo, where he later attended Keio University, majoring in Economics. Eiji then transferred to Western in the fall of 1969 as a Murakami Scholar and finished his B.A. in Economics last April.

During the Spring Session Eiji began his graduate work in Political Science and then spent the summer of 1970 in Japan visiting his parents. Eiji is 22 years old, single, and has one older brother, a graduate student in Engineering at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan. His father is head of the branch factory in Yokohama and a director of the Ebara Production Company, which manufactures air conditioners, fans, pumps, etc. Eiji enjoys his language teaching but hopes to finish his M.A. in 1971, go on for a Ph.D., and teach Political Science at the University level. Yookoso!

MISS BETH WITCHER

Miss Beth Sandlin Witcher is Dr. Palmatier's teaching assistant in Basic Brazilian Portuguese. Her Portuguese background stems from thirteen years spent in Brazil--first in Rio de Janeiro, where she started school at the age of four, and then in São Paulo, where she completed all but the last two years of high school. Beth was born in Macon, Georgia and then moved with her family to Arizona, New Jersey, Brazil, Virginia (where she finished high school), and Kalamazoo. She attended Kalamazoo College for two years and served there as a drill instructor in Portuguese for Dr. Peter Boyd-Bowman.

Beth--or Beth Ann, as she prefers to be called--is now a junior at Western and also works as an International Travel Consultant for Ambassador Travel

Services. She and her father and mother--who is in charge of the women's physical fitness program at the Y.M.C.A. (sic) and is a Spanish major at Western--speak English, Portuguese, and Spanish. And Beth's father--who is Vice President of Upjohn International for the Pacific and South America--also speaks Japanese. Her three younger brothers were all born in Brazil, and some of them still speak Portuguese. Beth's hobbies are crafts (jewelry, yarns) and dancing (o samba, naturally). Bem-vindo!

MISS BARBARA MALCZEWSKA

Miss Barbara Malczewska is Mr. Sohodski's teaching assistant in Basic Polish. Barbara was born and raised in Warsaw, Poland but came to the United States (Battle Creek) on a visitor's visa in the spring of 1965 to see her aunt, Mrs. Gertrude Wolinski, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Western. During that summer, Mrs. Wolinski was in an automobile accident, so Barbara stayed on with a student's visa and entered high school at Battle Creek St. Philips. She had studied no English up to this point, so her first semester of high school was quite an experience.

After finishing high school, Barbara entered Western and is now a Junior, majoring in Russian and minoring in French, German, and (hopefully) Linguistics. Barbara's family remains in Warsaw. Her father, a bookkeeper for the Great Warsaw Theatre, also speaks German as a result of his imprisonment in Germany (including Auchwitz) during the Second World War. Barbara's brother, who was in the United States from 1960 to 1962, is a music major (oboe and piano) in the Warsaw Music Academy. Barbara also plays the piano, and she enjoys listening to classical and semi-classical music and collecting antiques. She recently became a permanent resident of the United States. CZĘŚĆ BARBARO!

DR. HENDRIKSEN

Dr. Daniel P. Hendriksen, Associate Professor of Linguistics, presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Michigan Linguistic Society at Michigan State University on October 3, 1970. The paper, entitled "From Paradigm to Practice in Linguistics," illustrates how the recent developments in linguistics can be characterized as a scientific revolution of the type described in Thomas Kuhn's book, The Structure of Scientific Revolutions. The linguistic revolution has shifted the attention of many linguists from empiricism to rationalism, from surface structure to underlying structure, from elements to rules, and from differences to universal features. Dr. Hendriksen illustrated the revolutionary nature of the change through the new practices and problems in teaching English as a foreign language and in teaching reading. The paper will appear in Volume 2 of the MLS publication, Michigan Linguistic Society Annual Meeting--to be published sometime in 1971.

Dr. Hendriksen also participated in an interesting exchange program last August involving thirty-seven Japanese university students (and their leaders) who were on Western's campus to study "American Life" and "English as a Foreign Language." The four-week intensive program was co-sponsored by the Council for International Educational Exchange (office--United Nations Plaza) and Western's Division of Continuing Education. Instruction in English--by Dr. Hendriksen and our graduating major, Mike Holaday--was followed by lectures from local professors and students on education, politics, economics, religion, sports, music, student movements, racial issues, etc. The group

and their English instructors toured various establishments in Michigan, and then the Japanese students spent an additional month traveling in the United States. Our campus was one of eight in the country to conduct such a program.

DR. DWARIKESH

That's right. It's now Dr. D. P. S. Dwarikesh, Assistant Professor of Linguistics, following the completion of his dissertation and his successful oral defense of same last July 30 at the University of Chicago. The dissertation, entitled "Historical Syntax of the Conjunctive Participial Phrase in the NIA Dialect of the Madhyadesa ('Midland') of Northern India," is now being retyped, and the Ph.D. degree will be conferred officially in December. The advisor for his graduate work, Professor Norman Zide, Chairman of the Department of Linguistics at the University of Chicago, was also the man who introduced us to Dr. Dwarikesh (by mail) back in the spring of 1968.

An early chapter of the dissertation presents an in-depth investigation into the justification for regarding Hindi (spoken mostly in India and written in the devanagari script) and Urdu (spoken mostly in Pakistan and written in the Arabic script) as separate languages--and concludes that there is absolutely no defense for this separate recognition. This topic will form the basis for a paper which Dr. Dwarikesh will deliver at the Rotating Indian Seminar next Winter Semester. He also recently attended the three-day Midwest Asian Conference at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, with Dr. Robert Shafer, English Department, and several other members of the Asian Studies Faculty.

PLUSES AND MINUSES

1. We wish to welcome the 17 new Linguistics majors and the three new Linguistics minors who have joined the program since last April. The minors are Ross Boersma (Gen. Curric.), Kay Liddicoat (Sec. Ed.-Spec. Ed.), and Kristina Pyrski (Sec. Ed.). The majors who have been in to see the Chairman are Kathy Bignotti (Sec. Ed.-Spanish), James Ek (Sec. Ed.-German), Susan Holaday (Sec. Ed.-English), Constance Mead (Sec. Ed.), Gerald Prestler (Liberal Arts), Darryl Smith (Sec. Ed.-English), and Susan Werdene (Sec. Ed.). The new majors who should make an appointment to see the Chairman about their program as soon as possible are Cynthia Curtiss (Lib. Arts), Cynthia Gonyea (Lib. Arts), Carol Haines (Gen. Curric.), Clare Irvin (Gen. Curric.), Maureen Kelly (Lib. Arts), Heather Kirkpatrick (Sec. Ed.), Patricia Lalone (Lib. Arts), Susan Ludwig (Gen. Curric.), William Moden (Gen. Curric.), and Janice Zbiciak (Gen. Curric.).

2. We're a little bit puzzled by the fact that we now have more majors than we do minors. Somehow, that just doesn't seem right. Maybe we have been trying too hard; but when you're second (that is, the second smallest department on campus), you have to try harder. We would like to think that the word--the word is "linguistics"-- is finally getting around, but we suspect that the credit should go to a computer that can't spell Language. Anyway, minors, let's get with it! Let's hear from the silent minor-ity! Don't just sit there and let the majors outnumber you! Sign up for your rights! In Kalamazoo, the number to call is 3-0064. From the suburbs, call 383-0958. If a major answers, hang up.

3. For the second year in a row, the Linguistics Department has had a summa cum laude student among the graduating seniors. Last December it was Ursula Dissmann, a major. This past August it was Monica Nahm, a minor, now teaching Italian for the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. Other B.A. graduates in Linguistics in August were Linda Clark, from Mason, Robert (Mike) Holaday, who is now residing in Indiana (both with a double major in Linguistics and English), and David Blackstone, a Linguistics minor and English major from Battle Creek. Taking their M.A.'s in August in Teaching in the Community College, with a major in Linguistics, were Kun-ok (Suna) Kim, now working on a Ph.D. in Linguistics at Michigan State University, and Lalita Muiznieks, now a part-time instructor in the Linguistics Department at Western. Also completing an M.A. (in Sociology) in August was Joe Muthiani, our Swahili teacher here since Fall 1969. Joe is now enrolled in the Community College M.A. with a Linguistics major. Congratulations, all!

4. The above list of graduates emphasizes the fact that the Linguistics Department has attracted a number of outstanding foreign-born students to its undergraduate and graduate programs and classes. For example, in the above-mentioned list are Suna Kim (Korea, M.A.), Lalita Muiznieks (Latvia, M.A.), Joe Muthiani (Kenya, 2nd M.A. in progress), and Monica Nahm (England, B.A., summa cum laude, Honors College). Earlier graduates were Ursula Dissmann (Germany, Canada, B.A. summa cum laude, August 1969), and Keiko Okudo (Japan, B.A., December 1969). The August 1970 graduating class also included Mary Berry (Australia, B.S., magna cum laude, Honors College, Speech Path.), now a graduate student in Speech Pathology. Our current international scholar is Rosa Flores, a Linguistics major from Honduras, who ranked twelfth among 165 undergraduate foreign students in grade point average through Winter 1970. We're proud of all of you!

5. Along with his new office (409 Sprau Tower), the Chairman has a new wall-to-wall painting. (Well, it isn't his exactly: it's on loan from the permanent collection of Western's Art Department.) The painting is a 5 foot by 7 foot oil consisting of 3017 (count 'em) little "boomerangs" of many different colors. The white lath frame highlights the whites, but the dominant color is blue, so the green chairs underneath have been hidden by a blue felt cloth. The painting used to hang in the Dean's office; but he thought it looked like a bed of worms (hence the title, "Worms"), so he replaced it with a brownish abstract that looks to us like a sea of mud. Oh well, we shouldn't complain about hand-me-downs, because now we have a matched set of original Strazdins: "Worms," by Vilma Strazdins, and "Under the Exit Sign by the Orange Door," by Vilnis Strazdins (her brother). This talented brother and sister team from Grand Rapids has graduated from W.M.U. and is now working in New York City. Our title for Vilnis' painting comes from the directions that the Chairman left with his wife so that she could locate it at an art exhibit. The note said, "Under the exit sign by the orange door," and that's what it has been called ever since. Come up and take a look.

6. Need an experienced tutor in Amharic? Call Mr. Alemseged Kassaye, c/o Mr. Frank Allen, 345-6850.

GRAFFITO

Marshall Mc Luhan sold his birthright for a pot of message.
(Peter Greenquist)