

Final Exam: Part 3 Syntax, Grammar, and Translation (100 points; 10 points each question)

Ruth Passage

- Ruth 3:9 וַיֹּאמֶר מִי־אַתְּ וַתֹּאמֶר אֲנֹכִי רוּת אֲמֹתְךָ וּפְרִשְׁתָּ כְּנָפֶיךָ עַל־אַמְתְּךָ כִּי גֵאֵל אַתָּה:
- Ruth 3:10 וַיֹּאמֶר בְּרוּכָה אַתְּ לַיהוָה בְּתִי הֵיטִבְתְּ חֲסִדְךָ הָאֲחֵרוֹן מִזֶּה־רֵאשׁוֹן לְבַלְתִּי־לָקֶחַת אַחֲרַי הַבְּחוּרִים אֲסִדֹּל וְאֲסִעְשִׂיר:
- Ruth 3:11 וְעַתָּה בְּתִי אֶל־תִּירָאִי כֹל אֲשֶׁר־תֹּאמְרִי אֶעֱשֶׂה־לְךָ כִּי יוֹדַע כָּל־שַׁעַר עָמִי כִּי אִשָּׁת חַיִל אַתָּה:
- Ruth 3:12 וְעַתָּה כִּי אָמְנָם כִּי אִם [] גֵּאֵל אֲנֹכִי וְגַם יֵשׁ גֵּאֵל קְרוֹב מִמֶּנִּי:
- Ruth 3:13 לִינִי הַלַּיְלָה וְהָיָה בַבֶּקֶר אֲסִיגְאֲלֶיךָ טוֹב יִגְאֵל וְאֲסִי־לֹא יִחַפֵּץ לְגִאֲלֶיךָ וְגִאֲלִיתִיךָ אֲנֹכִי חַיִּיהוּהָ שְׂכָבִי עַד־הַבֶּקֶר:
- Ruth 3:14 וַתִּשְׁכַּב מִרְגְּלָתוֹ [מְרַגְלוֹתָיו] עַד־הַבֶּקֶר וַתִּקֶּם בְּטָרוֹם [בְּ] [טָרָם] יָבִיר אִישׁ אֶת־רַעְיוֹנוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־יְוָדַע כִּי־בָאָה הָאִשָּׁה הַגֵּרָא:
- Ruth 3:15 וַיֹּאמֶר הֲבִי הַמְטַפַּחַת אֲשֶׁר־עָלֶיךָ וְאֶחְזִי־בָהּ וַתֹּאחֲזֵ בָהּ וַיִּמַּד שֵׁשׁ־שְׁעָרִים וַיִּשֶׁת עָלֶיהָ וַיָּבֵא הָעִיר:

Ruth 3:9 He said, “Who are you?” She replied, “I am Ruth, your servant. Marry your servant, for you are a guardian of the family interests.”

Ruth 3:10 He said, “May you be rewarded by the LORD, my dear! This act of devotion is greater than what you did before. For you have not sought to marry one of the young men, whether rich or poor.

Ruth 3:11 Now, my dear, don’t worry! I intend to do for you everything you propose, for everyone in the village knows that you are a worthy woman.

Ruth 3:12 Now yes, it is true that I am a guardian, but there is another guardian who is a closer relative than I am.

Ruth 3:13 Remain here tonight. Then in the morning, if he agrees to marry you, fine, let him do so. But if he does not want to do so, I promise, as surely as the LORD lives, to marry you. Sleep here until morning.”

Ruth 3:14 So she slept beside him until morning. She woke up while it was still dark. Boaz thought, “No one must know that a woman visited the threshing floor.”

Ruth 3:15 Then he said, “Hold out the shawl you are wearing and grip it tightly.” As she held it tightly, he measured out about sixty pounds⁵⁷ of barley into the shawl and put it on her shoulders. Then he went into town, ...

(NET)

1. Discuss the form (what it looks like) of the verb [וּפְרִשְׁתָּ] found at the beginning of Ruth 3:9b. How does this compare with the way the NET translates the verb? Do you agree? Why or why not?

2. Discuss the meaning of this phrase: וּפְרִשְׁתָּ כְּנָפֶיךָ עַל־אַמְתְּךָ. Do you think that the NET version translates it appropriately? No matter how you translate you “lose” something. What connotations in the Hebrew are lost when you translate as the NET does?

3. Comment on the phrase in verse 10 translated by the NET as “May you be rewarded by the LORD, my dear!” Is this a fair sense of the meaning? How would you translate it?

4. The syntax in verse 12 is unusual:

וְעַתָּה כִּי אָמְנָם כִּי אִם [] גֵּאֵל אֲנֹכִי וְגַם יֵשׁ גֵּאֵל קְרוֹב מִמֶּנִּי

Describe the issues that must be dealt with in this verse. What does the [] signify?

5. The ESV translates the end of verse 15 as: “Then she went into the city.” Discuss this in light of the Hebrew and the NET’s translation.

Psalm 23 Passage

Ps 23:1 מְזַמְּרֵן לַדָּוָד יְהוָה רֵעִי לֹא אֶחְסָר:

Ps 23:2 בְּנֵאוֹת דְּשָׂא יִרְבִּיצֵנִי עַל־מֵי מְנַחֹת יְנַהֲלֵנִי:

Ps 23:3 נַפְשִׁי יִשׁוּבֵב יִנְחֵנִי בְּמַעְגְלֵי־צְדָק לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ:

Ps 23:4 גַּם כִּי־אֵלֶּךְ בְּגִיא צְלָמוֹת לֹא־אִירָא רָע כִּי־אֵתָה עִמָּדִי שִׁבְטְךָ וּמִשְׁעֲנֵתְךָ הִמָּה יִנְחֵמֵנִי:

Ps 23:5 תַּעֲרֹךְ לִפְנֵי שְׁלֹחַן נֶגֶד צַרְרֵי דִשְׁנֹתַי בְּשֶׁמֶן רֵאשִׁי כּוֹסֵי רוּיָה:

Ps 23:6 אֵךְ טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יִרְדְּפוּנִי כָּל־יְמֵי חַיִּי וְשִׁבְתִּי בְּבֵית־יְהוָה לְאָרְךָ יָמִים:

Ps 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Ps 23:2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Ps 23:3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Ps 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Ps 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Ps 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

(KJV)

1. What is the central affirmation of the psalm? How did you determine it? What is a Janus Parallelism? Would the section you have chosen as the central affirmation of the psalm qualify as a Janus Parallelism?

2. In verse 6 we find: וְשִׁבְתִּי

How has the MT chosen to understand the consonantal text it received? In other words, explain the pointing that they assigned to the consonants and the verbal root they perceive here. What does the word mean in the MT? How does this affect the understanding for verse 6b? What other way could you point the consonants? How would this change the parsing? How would this change the translation? What does the KJV do? How would you translate it (and why?)

3. Comment on the superscription: מְזַמְּרֵן לַדָּוָד

Give several ways that the lamed preposition can be taken. Describe how each of these ways affects your approach to the psalm and its translation.

4. Discuss the entire phrase יִנְחֵנִי בְּמַעְגְלֵי־צְדָק לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ (You should have a lot to say about this particular phrase!) How would you translate the construct chain? Compare and contrast the KJV translation of this clause with the NRSV translation (“He leads me in right paths”) of this construct chain. How does that affect the meaning? Unpack the phrase לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ. In other words, expand on the meaning of “for the sake of his name.”

5. Discuss אֵךְ טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יִרְדְּפוּנִי כָּל־יְמֵי חַיִּי

How does the KJV translate the verb? What fuller semantic range is present in the Hebrew? Suggest an alternate translation. How does the KJV translate וְחֶסֶד טוֹב? Again, discuss this word pair. Describe the meaning of the Hebrew words. Do they mean something more specific when placed together? Is there another way to capture this meaning in English (in a succinct, poetic sense)?

Final Exam: Part 4 Sight Translation (50 points)

You may use a lexicon for this portion of the exam. *Only what is in the box will be graded!* There are six proper nouns: David, Jesse, Israel, Rehoboam, Adoram, and Jerusalem.

וַיֵּרָא כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל כִּי לֹא־שָׁמַע הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲלֵיהֶם וַיָּשְׁבוּ הָעָם אֶת־הַמֶּלֶךְ דָּבָר לֵאמֹר

מִה־לָּנוּ חֵלֶק בְּדָוִד וְלֹא־נִחַלָּה בְּבֶן־יִשִׁי לְאַהֲלֵיךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל עַתָּה רְאֵה בֵיתְךָ דָּוִד וַיֵּלֶךְ

יִשְׂרָאֵל לְאַהֲלָיו ... וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ רְחַבְעָם אֶת־אֲדָרָם אֲשֶׁר עַל־הַמַּס וַיִּרְגְּמוּ כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל

בּוֹ אָבָן וַיָּמַת וְהַמֶּלֶךְ רְחַבְעָם הִתְאַמֵּץ לְעֹלֹת בַּמֶּרְכָּבָה לָנוֹס יְרוּשָׁלַם: