

University of St Andrews



M.A. THIRD LEVEL EXAMINATION

IT3009: HISTORY OF THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE

January 2002 - Time allowed: 2 hours

Candidates MUST answer BOTH Section A and Section B

SECTION A

1. Discuss 10 of the following [underlining = tonic stress]

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|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a) MERULUM > merlo | b) GLORI <u>A</u> M > gloria |
| c) ECCLESIA <u>M</u> > chiesa | d) EP <u>I</u> SCOPUM > vescovo |
| e) DIGITUM > dito | f) SPECULUM > specchio |
| g) QU <u>A</u> ERERE > chiedere | h) DESTR <u>U</u> CTUM > distrutto |
| i) GL <u>A</u> CIUM > ghiaccio | j) B <u>E</u> NE > bene |
| k) IANUA <u>R</u> IUM > gennaio | k) PLIC <u>A</u> RE > piegare |

2. Comment on 6 of the following [underlining = tonic stress]

- a) SUPERANUM/

2.

- a) SUPERANUM > { soprano
sovrano
- b) MELIUM > meglio
MELIOREM > migliore
- c) PEDEM > piede
FERRUM > ferro
- d) FURNARIUM > fornaio
DANARIUM > denaro
- e) OCCASIONEM > { occasione
cagione
- f) STATIONEM > { stazione
stagione
- g) CLAMARE > chiamare
CLAMOROSUM > clamoroso
- h) SOROR > suora
SORELLAM > sorella

SECTION B

Answer ONE of the following questions

- EITHER 1) Consider how one can explain the profound phonological changes which affected Latin and led to the emergence of the Romance languages, and Italian in particular. Illustrate your answer with concrete examples, where appropriate.
- OR 2) How accurate is it to state that the lexis of Italian is derived essentially from Latin?
- OR 3) Consider how regional variants need to be considered when examining the evolution of Italian vowels and consonants.
- OR 4) Providing specific examples, explain the procedures and problems involved in predicting the phonological and semantic outcomes in Italian of Latin words.
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