

- Love and loss (arranged marriage). Courtly love is a code of behaviour and a lady must be admired. The lady can also be the lady of the house.
- No emotion only behaviour, people became afraid of magic (magic of the dead) establishment of universities scared people.
- England has a lot of history so the best place to set a romance
- Camelot is the traditional place for adventures to start. Makes the reader engage and relates.
- The poem is meant to inspire other knights, inspire order and obedience.
- Conflicts with maintaining obedience (knights are aggressive but need to keep a courtly manner).
- Story telling – Gawain would have been listened to not read. People memorised poems for storytelling. Lots of alliteration. Dark winters = stop working meaning time for storytelling.
- Reading and writing were separate. Growth of schools and universities, it became important for aristocrat sons to attend schools and learn the basics of literacy. More manuscripts were being produced. Private reading was on the rise. Different ways of consuming silent reading vs. storytelling. A book presents whereas storytelling is limited.
- Arthur has the perfect court; the setting could be foreshadowing. Does the poet critique or compliment? Praise due to ideals?
- The poet confuses readers by describing the green knight. Poet also stresses how important King Arthur is, can Gawain live up to the ideals expected?
- The Green Knight is a wake-up call for the court, to prove they are not untouchable. Does the poet critique the high class and their lack of contact with the outside world?
- “Worthily washed” = purity. Participating in chapel vs. livery and feasts
- Knights can’t be in love with the lady of the house
- Round table – people are meant to be equal yet still seated in ranks
- Guinevere – Arthur’s wife, still used as an object