



The Bob and Wheel

Student Name _____ Date _____

Read the following passage from *Gawain and the Green Knight*. Annotate the passage by circling examples of alliteration. Mark the bob and the wheel, and annotate its rhyme scheme.

Lines 37-59 from *Gawain and the Green Knight*, translation by Paul Deane.

One Christmas in Camelot King Arthur sat
at ease with his lords and loyal liegemen
arranged as brothers round the Round Table.
Their reckless jokes rang about that rich hall
till they turned from the table to the tournament field
and jousted like gentlemen with lances and laughs,
then trooped to court in a carolling crowd.
For the feast lasted a full fifteen days
of meals and merriment (as much as could fit.)
Such gay glee must gladden the ear --
by day what a din, and dancing by night!
The halls and chambers were heaped with happy
lords and ladies as high as you like!
There they were gathered with all the world's goodness:
knights as kind as Christ himself,
ladies as lovely as ever have lived,
and the noblest king our nation has known.
They were yet in the pride, in the prime of their youth,
and filled
 as full of heaven's blessing
 as the king had strength of will.
And mighty men surpassing
all were gathered on that hill.

Read the lines out loud. What effect does alliteration have when reading and listening to the poem?