

Comparative Table of Medieval Texts

Text	Language and Date	Questers	Grail	Fisher King/ Maimed King	Waste Land	Question Test
Chrétien de Troyes, <i>Perceval</i>	Old French verse, 1180–90	Perceval	Serving dish, holding a Mass wafer	Perceval's cousin, wounded in battle	Land will be in turmoil because of question failure	Perceval fails to ask the healing question
Robert de Boron, <i>Joseph</i>	Old French verse, 1191–1202	None	Vessel from Last Supper and holding Christ's blood	The Rich Fisherman (Bron)—not sick or wounded	None	None
<i>Perlesvaus</i>	Old French prose, 1200–10	Perlesvaus; Gauvain, Lancelot, Artus	Vessel holding Christ's blood	Perlesvaus's uncle, sick but not wounded	Kingdom is in state of war because of question failure before story began	Perlesvaus failed before story began; Gauvain fails, and Lancelot never sees the Grail
Wolfram von Eschenbach, <i>Parzival</i>	Middle High German verse, 1200–10	Parzival	A precious stone	Anfortas, Parzival's uncle, wounded in punishment for sexual sin	None	Parzival fails on the first visit, but succeeds on second visit
Peredur	Middle Welsh prose, 13th century	Peredur	Severed head on platter	Peredur's uncle, lame	Land is in state of war because of Peredur's failure to ask question	Peredur fails to ask about the head, but it is identified at end of narrative
Vulgate <i>Estoire</i>	Old French prose, 1215–35	None	Vessel ("escuele") from Last Supper and holding Christ's blood	Rich Fisherman (Alain)— not sick or wounded	None	None
Vulgate <i>Queste</i>	Old French prose, 1215–35	Chiefly Galaad, Bohort, Perceval; Lancelot	Dish (escuele) holding Paschal Lamb at Last Supper	Pellehan, Pelles's father, wounded by Lance when he tries to seize the sword on the ship	Caused by Dolorous Stroke (killing of Lambor by Varlan with sword)	None
Post-Vulgate <i>Queste</i>	Old French prose, 1230–40	Chiefly Galaad, Bohort, Perceval	Vessel, never identified	In <i>Suite du Merlin</i> , Pellehan, wounded by Dolorous Stroke (Balain)	Caused by Dolorous Stroke (Balain wielding Lance)	None
Sir Thomas Malory, "Tale of the Sankgreal"	Middle English prose, 1469–70	Galahad, Bors, Percival; Lancelot	"Dysshe" holding Paschal Lamb at Last Supper	In "Tale of King Arthur," Pellam, wounded by Dolorous Stroke (Balain)	Caused by Dolorous Stroke (Balain wielding Lance)	None

THE GRAIL

A CASEBOOK

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