

History of the English Language (WS 2005/6)

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Review of Phonetics/Phonology

Classification of consonants

Consonants are classified along three dimensions:

1. Voicing
2. Manner of articulation: degree of constriction in the oral cavity
3. Place of articulation: constriction in the front or back of oral cavity

Voiced and unvoiced speech sounds

[f]	‘father’	[v]	‘vase’
[s]	‘salt’	[z]	‘zoo’
[t]	‘tree’	[d]	‘door’

Manner of articulation

Plosives	[p] [b] [t] [d] [k] [g]	[c] [ɟ] [q] [G]
Fricatives	[f] [v] [θ] [ð] [s] [z] [ʃ] [ʒ]	[x] [χ]
Affricates	[tʃ] [dʒ]	[ts] [pf]
Nasals	[m] [n] [ŋ]	[ɳ]
Liquids	[l] [r]	[R]
Glides	[w] [y]	

Place of articulation

Bilabial:	[p] [b] [m] [w]	
Labiodental:	[f] [v]	
Interdental:	[θ] [ð]	
Alveolar:	[t] [d] [s] [z] [n] [l] [r]	
Palatal-alveolar:	[ʃ] [ʒ] [tʃ] [dʒ] [y]	[c] [ɟ] [ɳ]
Velar:	[k] [g] [ŋ]	[x] [χ]
Uvular:		[q] [G]
Pharyngeal:		[ħ] [ʕ]
Glottal	[ʔ]	

Table 1. Consonants in English

	bilabial	labiodent.	interdent	alveolar	alv-palatal	palatal	velar
Stops	p b			t d			k g
Affric.					tʃ dʒ		
Fricativ.		f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ		
Nasal	m			n			ŋ
Liquid				l / r			
Glide	(w)					y	(w)

Classification of vowels

Vowels are classified along four dimensions:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Height of the tongue | high – mid - low |
| 2. Advancement of the tongue | front – central – back |
| 3. Lip rounding | rounded - unrounded |
| 4. Tenseness | tense - lax |

Chart of English vowels



English diphthongs

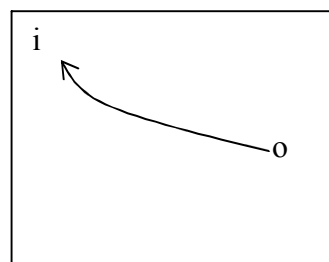
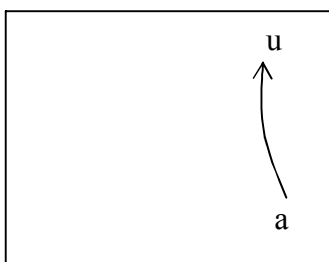
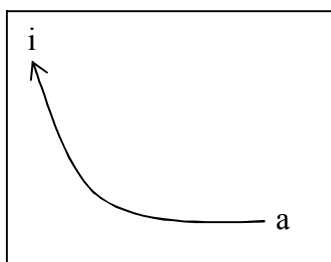


Chart of German vowels

i	y		u
ɪ	ʏ		ʊ
e	ø	ə	o
ɛ	œ		ɔ
		a	

Phonemes and allophones

Aspirated stops and other variants of [t] in English:

[t ^h op]	‘top’	aspirated
[stop]	‘stop’	plain

/p t k/ → [p^h t^h k^h] / # __, __ V
 [p, t, k] elsewhere

Contrastive – complementary distribution

<i>English</i>		<i>Korean</i>	
[læk]	‘lack’	[param]	‘wind’
[ræk]	‘rack’	[irím]	‘name’
[lif]	‘leaf’	[pal]	‘foot’
[rif]	‘reef’	[mal]	‘horse’

/l/ → [r] / V __ V
 [l] elsewhere

/r/ → [l] / __ #
 [r] / elsewhere

Morphophonemic processes

English plural

[kæts]	‘cats’
[dɒgz]	‘dogs’
[bʊʃəz]	‘bushes’
[kɑːz]	‘cars’
[laɪts]	‘lights’
[bæŋks]	‘banks’
[kɪsəz]	‘kisses’
[dʒɪræfəs]	‘giraffes’
[ɡarəʒəz]	‘garages’
[mætʃəz]	‘matches’
[deθs]	‘deaths’

Three allomorphs: [s] after voiceless speech sound
 [z] after voiced speech sounds
 [əz] after sibilants

Place harmony in the negative prefix:

[ɪmˈpɒsɪbəl]	‘impossible’
[ɪnsensɪtɪv]	‘insensitive’
[ɪŋkɒnsɪstənt]	‘inconsistent’

Three allomorphs: [m] before labials
 [n] before alveolars
 [ŋ] before velars

Phonological change

1. *conditioned change* — *unconditioned change*

(i) Examples of unconditioned change

Every instance of Middle English [i] changed to [ai] regardless of the environment.

[fif]	>	[faif]	‘five’
[wif]	>	[waif]	‘wife’

(ii) Examples of conditioned change

Many English dialects have undergone a change in which a vowel is phonetically lengthened before voiced stops.

[bed]	>	[be:d]
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2. *phonemic change* — *allophonic change*

(i) Examples of allophonic change

All of the changes we have seen thus far were examples of non-phonemic change.

(ii) Examples of phonemic change

Table 1. Vowel merger in Germanic

	PIE	Gothic	OHG	PDE
*o	*okto-	ahtau	ahto	‘eight’
*ǵ	*pǵter-	fadar	fater	‘father’
*a	*agro-	akrs	ackar	‘acre’

Table 2. The development of [tʃ] in English

	cat	chaff	chin
Stage 1	katt	keaff	kinn
Stage 2	katt	tʃeaf	tʃinn
Stage 3	katt	tʃaff	tʃinn

Types of assimilation

- Palatalization

English

cheese

child

chin

church

German

Käse

Kind

Kinn

cyrice (Old English)

- Voicing

Latin

strata

lacu

>

>

Italian

strada

lago

- Fusion

nature

education

tissue

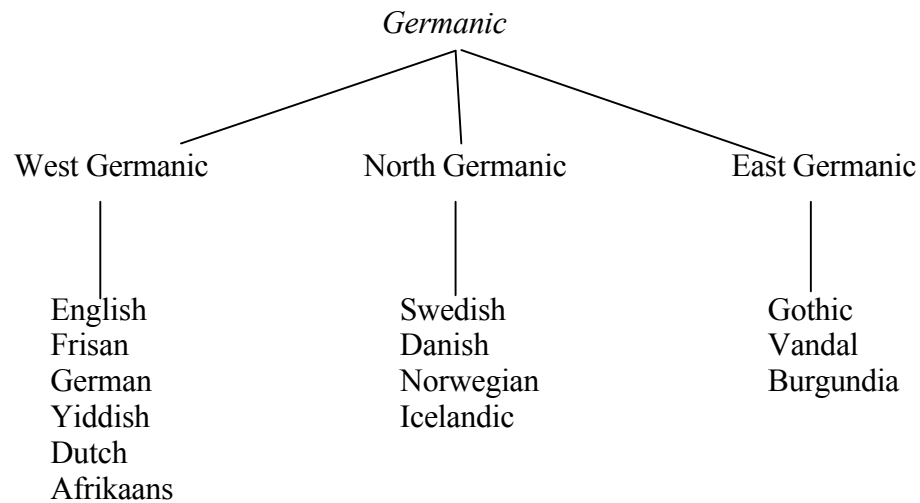
[ty] > [tʃ]

[dy] > [dʒ]

[sy] > [ʃ]

Indo-European Language

Germanic



Comparative evidence

<i>English</i>	<i>German</i>	<i>Swedish</i>
sun	Sonne	sol
house	Haus	hus
cat	Katze	kat
apple	Apfel	äpple
father	Vater	fader
hand	Hand	hand
go	gehen	gar
see	sehen	sar
hear	hören	höra
run	rennen	rännar
dream	träumen	drömar

English

computer
email
internet
jeans
event
laptop
cool
mountain bike
absolutely

German

Computer
Email
Internet
Jeans
Event
Laptop
cool
Mountain Bike
absolute

English borrowings

take
give
they
paper
story
force
wall
street
school
kindergarten

Old Norse
Old Norse
Old Norse
French
French
French
Latin
Latin
Latin
German

English

time
tongue
ten
tame
tent
to
two
twelve
twins

German

Zeit
Zunge
zehn
zahn
Zelt
zu
zwei
zwölf
Zwillinge

*peɪs-
*ed-
*ghebbh-
*aug-
*wed-

‘foot’
‘eat’
‘give’
‘increase’
‘water’

cheese	Käse
child	Kind
chin	Kinn
church	Kirche
cheery	Kirsche
king	König

Romance

<i>English</i>	<i>French</i>
crime	crime
prison	prison
letter	lettre
justice	justice
contract	contrat
music	musique
demand	demander
pronounce	prononcer
propose	proposer
responsible	responsable

<i>English</i>	<i>French</i>
one	un, une
two	deux
three	trois
four	quatre
five	cinq
six	six
seven	sept
eight	huit
nine	neuf
ten	diz

Table 2. Systematic sound correspondences in the Romance languages

	Italian	Sardinian	Romansh	French	Spanish
<i>Hundred</i>	ʧɛnto	kentu	tsjent	sa	θjen
<i>Sky</i>	ʧɛlo	kɛlu	tsil	sjɛl	θjelo
<i>Stag</i>	ʧɛrvo	kɛrbu	tsɛrf	sɛR	θjerbo
<i>Wax</i>	ʧɛra	kɛra	tsaira	sɪR	θera

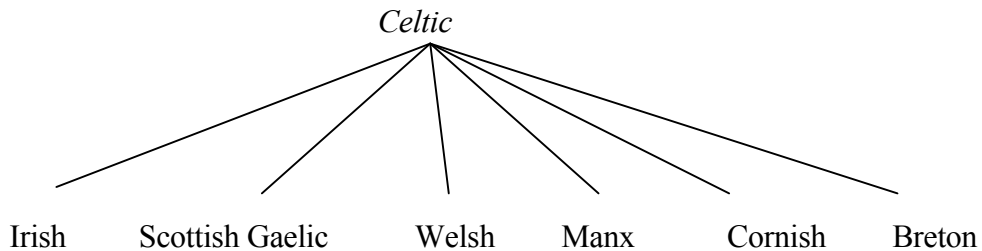
Balto-Slavic



Table 2. Cases in IE

	IE	Sanskrit	German	English	Lithuanian
NOM	*wlk ^{wos}	vrkas	der	he	vilkas
VOC	*wlk ^{we}	vrka	den		vilke
ACC	*wlk ^{wom}	vrkam	des	him	vilka
GEN	*wlk ^{wosyo}	vrkasya		his	
ABL	*wlk ^{wod}	vrkad	dem		vilko
DAT	*wlk ^{woi}	vrkaya			vilkui
LOC	*wlk ^{wei}	vrke			vilke
INST	*wlk ^{wo}	vrka			vilku

Celtic



Speakers today: Welsh (Wales): 250.000
 Irish (Ireland): 500.000
 Gaelic (Scotland): 75.000
 Manx (Isle of man): extinct
 Cornish (Cornwall): extinct
 Breton (Brittany): 500.000

Table 3. Numerals in Indo-European and non-Indo-European languages

English	Gothic	Latin	Greek	Old Ch. Slavic	Sanskrit	Chinese	Japanese
one	ains	unus	heis	jedinu	ekas	i	hitotsu
two	twai	duo	duo	duva	dva	erh	futatsu
three	þrija	tres	treis	trije	trayas	san	mittsu
four	fidwor	quattuor	tettares	cetyre	catvaras	ssu	yottsu
five	fimf	quinque	pente	peti	panca	wu	itsutsu
six	saihs	sex	heks	secti	sat	liu	muttsu
seven	sibun	septem	hepta	sedmi	sapta	ch'i	nanatsu
eight	ahtau	octo	okto	osmi	asta	pa	yattsu
nine	niun	novembe	ennea	deveti	nava	chiu	kokonotsu
ten	taihun	decem	deka	deseti	dasa	shih	to

Table 4. Systematic sound correspondences in the Indo-European

English	Latin	Greek	Irish
fish	piscis	ikhthys	iasg
father	pater	pater	athair
foot	ped–	pod–	troigh
for	pro	para	do
six	sex	hexa	se
seven	septem	hepta	seacht
sweet	suavis	hedys	millis
salt	sal	hal	salann
new	novus	neos	nua
night	noct–	nykt–	(in)nocht
nine	novem	(en)nea	naoi

Table 5. Sound correspondences across unrelated languages

	Arabic	Urdu	Turkish	Swahili	Malay
<i>news</i>	xabar	xabar	haber	habari	khabar
<i>time</i>	waqt	vaqt	vakit	wkati	waktu
<i>book</i>	kitab	kitab	kitab	kitab	kitab
<i>service</i>	xidmat	xidmatgari	hizmet	huduma	khidmat
<i>beggar</i>	faqir	faqir	fakir	fakiri	fakir

The discovery of Indo-European

Table 6. Sound correspondences between Sanskrit, Latin, and Greek

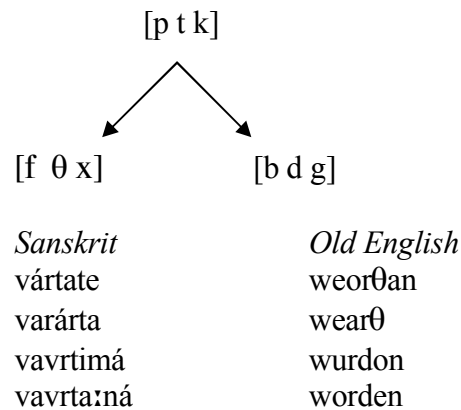
Sanskrit	Latin	Greek
asmi	sum	eini
asi	es	ei
asti	est	esti
smas	sumus	esmen
stha	estis	este
santi	sunt	eisi

Table 1. The first Germanic sound shift (Grimm's law)

	Latin	Old English	Gothic
/p/ → /f/	pedum piscis	fot fisc	fotus fiskis
/t/ → /θ/	tres tu	three [θri] thou [ðaʊ]	thrir thuŭ
/k/ → /x/h/	cordem centum	heart hundred	hairto hund
/b/ → /p/	turba 'crowd'	thorp 'village'	
/d/ → /t/	edo decem	eat ten	itan taihun
/g/ → /k/	ager genus	acre kin	akrs kuni
	IE	Old English	Gothic
/bh/ → /b/	*bhero	beran	baíra
/dh/ → /d/	*dhura	duru	daúr
/gh/ → /g/	*ghostis	gasts	giest

Grimm's Law

*p t k → f θ x/h
 *b d g → p t k
 *bh dh gh → b d g



Neogrammarian Hypothesis

Every sound change takes place according to laws that admit no exceptions.

[Brugmann]

Languages world wide

Uralic (Finnish, Hungarian, Estonian, Tartar)
 Caucasian (Northwest Caucasian, Kartvelian, Dagastan)
 Altaic (Turkic, Tungusic, Mongolian)
 Sino-Tibetan (Chinese)
 Dravidian (Tamil)
 Daic (Tai), Austroasiatic (Vietnamese), Mia-Yao (Mien)
 Austronesian
 New Guinea
 Australia
 Afro-Asiatic (Semitic, Chadic, Cushitic, Berber)
 Nilo-Saharan (Maasai)
 Niger-Congo (Bantu languages)
 Khoisan (!Xung)
 Native American languages (Amerind)

Chinese	1200 million	Indonesian	150 million
English	450 million	Russian	150 million
Spanish	300 million	Bengali	150 million
Hindi-Urdu	150 million	Arabic	150 million
Portuguese	150 million	Japanese	110 million

From Indo-European to Old English

Germanic

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | <i>Indo-European</i> | <i>Germanic</i> |
| | present | present |
| | past | past |
| | future | |
| | perfect | |
| | aurist | |
| | past perfect | |
| 2. | <i>Strong conjugation</i> | <i>Weak conjugation</i> |
| | sing | walk |
| | sang | walked |
| 3. | (1) ein alter Mann | [weak] |
| | (2) alte Männer | [strong] |
| | Old English | |
| | (1) a geongan ceorlas | [weak] 'the young fellows' |
| | (2) geonge <i>ceorlas</i> | [strong] 'young fellows.' |
| 4. | Grimm's law + Verner's law | |

The second German sound shift

time	Zeit
tongue	Zunge
ten	zehn
that	das
there	da
through	durch
pan	Pfanne
path	Pfad
pole	Pfahl

hate
eat
let

hassen
essen
lassen

grip
deep
sleep

greifen
tief
schafen

Old English: Social history and loan words

Early borrowings from Latin (before the Anglo-Saxons conquest)

wall	win
street	must
pit	flasce (latter replaced by 'bottle')
mile	chalk
pepper	copper
butter	mule
onion	dragon
plum	church
pea	bishop

Later borrowings from Latin

Religious words from Latin

angel	anthem
disciple	martyr
noon	nun
offer	pope
priest	psalm
rule	relic
temple	shrine

Germanic words reinterpreted for Christian concepts

God
heaven
hell
Easter [word for pagan festival]

Loan translations

Latin		Old English
'gospel'	>	'god-spell'
(lit. good news)		

Clothing, household, food

cap	pear
sock	radish
silk	oyster
purple	lobster
chest	to cook

The Viking age

Borrowed nouns

law	leg
neck	bag
cake	egg
fellow	dirt
fog	knife
window	sky
skin	skirt
sister [sweaster]	anger

Borrowed verbs

take [niman]	die
get	cast
give	cut [sniðan]
raise	smile
call	drag
want	lift

Borrowed adjectives

flat	loose
low	odd
ugly	wrong
tight	weak
awkward	rotten

Borrowed grammatical morphemes

they	though	are [OE syndon]
their	till	
them	same	
(she)	both	

Borrowed place names

Grimsby	–by ‘farm’
Derby	
Thoresby	
Althorpe	–thorpe ‘village’
Bishopsthorpe	
Linthorpe	

Old English words Later borrowings

shirt	skirt
shoe	skip
shelf	scare
shine	scarf

Old English: Structure

Spelling

þ	[ð or θ]	thorn
ð	[ð or θ]	eth
æ	[æ]	ash
ȝ	[ʒ or g]	yogh
ƿ	[s or z]	
c	[k]	

Phonology

Vowels

Short vowels	Long vowels
i y u	i: y: u:
e o	e: o:
æ	æ:
a	a:

Consonants

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Inter-dental	Alveolar	Alveolar-palatal	Velar
Stop	p b			t d		k g
Affricate					tʃ dʒ	
Fricative		f	θ	s	ʃ	h
Nasal	m			n		
Lateral				l		
Retroflex				r		
Glide	w				j	

Allophonic variation in Old English

[bringan]	to bring	[lovu]	love
[driŋkan]	to drink	[niçt]	night
[fæst]	fast	[mo : na]	moon
[fi : fta]	fifth	[ni : çsta]	next
[ɔffrian]	to offer	[θuŋgeŋ]	full grown
[ɔvnas]	oven	[hlyçan]	to laugh
[ha : t]	hot	[læŋgan]	to lengthen
[hlo : θ]	troop	[hrævn]	raven

Table 1. Umlaut and its development: [u:] > [y:]

	SG Mouse	PL Mice
Original	[mu : s]	[mu : s-i]
Ablaut		[my : s-i]
Loss of ending		[my : s]
Unrounding		[mi : s]
GEV		[mais]

Table 2. Umlaut and its development: [o:] > [ø:]

	SG Foot	PL Feet
Original	[fo : t]	[fo : t-i]
Ablaut		[fø : t-i]
Loss of ending		[fø : t]
Unrounding		[fe : t]
GEV		[fi : t]

1. Irregular plurals

mouse	mice
goose	geese
tooth	teeth
foot	feet
man	men

2. Related verbs

blood	bleed
doom	deem
full	fill

long	length
tale	tell
straight	stretch
lie	lay
fall	fell
older	eldest

Morphology

<i>Category</i>	<i>Example</i>
Plural	tree-s
Genitive	Peter's car
Past	talk-ed
3SG	talk-s
Progressive	talk-ing
Past Participle	beat-en

Nouns

Table 3. Strong declension

	SG	PL
NOM	stan	stan-as
GEN	stan-es	stan-a
DAT	stan-e	stan-um
ACC	stan	stan-as

Table 4. Weak declension

	SG	PL
NOM	nam-a	nam-an
GEN	nam-an	nam-ena
DAT	nam-an	nam-um
ACC	nam-an	nam-an

Pronouns

Table 5. Demonstratives

<i>that/the</i>	Masc	Neut	Fem	Plural
NOM	se	þæt	seo	þa
GEN	þæs	þæs	þære	þara
DAT	þæm	þæ:m	þæ:re	þæm
ACC	þone	þæt	þa	þa
INST	þy:	þy:		

Table 6. Third person pronouns

	M	F	N	PL
NOM	hē	hēo	hit	hie
GEN	his	hiere	his	hiera
DAT	him	hiere	him	him
ACC	hine	hìe	hit	hie

Table 7. First and second person pronouns—singular

	I	you
NOM	ic	þū
GEN	mīn	þīn
DAT	mē	þē, þec
ACC	mē, mec	þē

ic I
 wit speaker and addressee
 wē speaker and a group of addressees

þū you
 git you and I
 yē you PL (excluding the speaker)

Adjectives

German

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------|
| (1) | ein alter Mann | [weak] |
| (2) | alte Männer | [strong] |

Old English

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|----------|
| (1) | sē gōda mann
‘(the) good man’ | [weak] |
| (2) | gōd mann
‘(a) good man’ | [strong] |

Verbs

Strong

sing sang
write wrote
tell told

Weak

walk walked
kiss kissed
ask asked

Old English

climb clomb
creep crope
laugh low
yield yold
step stope

Modern English

climb climbed
creep crept
laugh laughed
yield yielded
step stepped

	Present	Past
Indicative		
1. Sg	sing-e	sang
2. Sg	sing-est	sung-e
3. Sg	sing-eð	sang
Pl.	sing-að	sung-on
Subjunctive		
Sg.	sing-e	sung-e
Pl.	sing-en	sung-en

Prepositions and conjunctions

oththe ... oththe
ge ... ge
tha; ... tha:
na: ... na:
thonne ... thonne
nu: ... nu:
gif ... thonne
thæt ... thæt

‘either ... or’
‘both ... and’
‘when ... then’
‘neither ... nor’
‘when ... then’
‘now that’
‘if ... then’
‘that’ (complement clause)

- (1) **þæt** gefremede Diulius hiora consul, **þæt** **ȝeæt**
that arranged Diulius their consul COMP that
angin wearę tidlice ȝurthogen
beginning was in.time achieved
‘Their consul Diulius arranged (it) that it was started on time.’

Adverbs

friendly
homely
kindly

Word order

- (1) God beheaded Abraham-e ...
God commanded Abraham ...
'God commanded Abraham'
- (2) þa eode se biscop into þa oþære cyrcan
then went the bishop into that other church
'Then the bishop went into the other church.'
- (3) Wie hie ondredon.
We them feared
'We feared them'.
- (4) þa ic þa þis eall gemunde, þa gemunde ic eac hu ...
when I then this all remembered then remembered I also how
'When I remembered all this, then I also remembered how ...
- (5) Gehyrst þu, sælida?
Hear you sailor
'Do you hear, sailor? '

Middle English: Social history and loan words

Early French borrowings

baron
noble
servant
messenger
feast

Nouns

action
age
bucket
carpenter
coast
cost
courage
damage
ease
error
noise
flower
honor
manner

adventure
air
calendar
city
comfort
country
coward
debt
envy
face
fault
force
hour
task

number
pair
person
powder
river
sign
opinion
people
poverty
reason
season
sound
use
honor

Verbs

advise
approach
betray
serve
conceal
count
deceive
delay
enjoy
force
inform
marry
pay
praise
prove
refuse
waste

aim
arrange
change
comfort
consider
cover
declare
desire
enter
form
join
obey
wait
prefer
push
relieve
satisfy

allow
arrive
chase
complain
continue
cry
defeat
destroy
excuse
increase
suppose
observe
please
propose
receive
remember
save

Adjectives

able	active	actual
brief	calm	certain
clear	common	contrary
courageous	cruel	curious
eager	easy	faint
fierce	final	firm
foreign	gentle	hasty
honest	horrible	innocent
large	natural	nice
original	perfect	poor
precious	pure	real
rude	safe	scarce
second	simple	single
special	stable	usual

Loan words from particular semantic domains*Government and administration*

government	crown	state
empire	realm	authority
court	parliament	assembly
traitor	treason	exile
liberty	office	mayor
prince	baron	duke
sir	madam	mistress

Church and religion

religion	sermon	confess
prayer	lesson	passion
chant	sacrifice	chapter
abbey	cloister	virgin
saint	miracle	mystery
faith	mercy	pity
virtue	preach	pray

Law

justice	equity	judgment
crime	judge	attorney
bill	petition	complaint
evidence	proof	bail
ransom	verdict	sentence
award	fine	punishment
prison	accuse	indict

blame	arrest	seize
pledge	condemn	convict
acquit	fraud	perjury
property	estate	heir
entail	just	innocent
<i>Army and navy</i>		
army	navy	pace
enemy	battle	combat
siege	defense	ambush
retreat	soldier	guard
spy	captain	besiege
<i>Fashion</i>		
dress	habit	fashion
robe	coat	collar
veil	mitten	adorn
embellish	blue	brown
fur	jewel	ivory
<i>Meals and food</i>		
dinner	supper	feast
taste	appetite	salmon
beef	veal	pork
sausage	bacon	gravy
cream	sugar	salad
fruits	fig	orange
lemon	cherry	peach
spice	mustard	vinegar
cinnamon	roast	boil
<i>Furniture, social life</i>		
couch	chair	screen
lamp	blanket	wardrobe
recreation	leisure	dance
fool	music	chess
stable	retrieve	falcon
forest	park	tournament
<i>Art, learning, medicine</i>		
art	painting	beauty
color	figure	image
tone	cathedral	ceiling
tower	porch	bay
column	vase	poet
rime	story	paper

pen	study	logic
geometry	grammar	noun
clause	copy	medicine
stomach	ointment	poison

Effects of the French borrowings on the English vocabulary

<i>French borrowing</i>	<i>Lost English word</i>
poor	earm
people	leod
guilty	scyldig
army	here
warrior	cempa
air	lyft
confess	andettan
praise	hearlan

<i>French borrowing</i>	<i>English word</i>
judgment	doom
judge	deem
cordial	hearty
power	might
demand	ask
desire	wish
beef	ox
pork	swine
veal	calf
mutton	cheep

<i>for-</i> (German <i>ver-</i>)	forget, forbear, forbid	
<i>with-</i> (German <i>mit-</i>)	withdraw, withhold	(<i>with-</i> = 'against')
<i>to-</i> (German <i>zu-</i>)	---	

childhood, likelihood, manhood
friendship, kinship, hardship
freedom, wisdom, kingdom

inter-, counter-, re-, trans-, anti-, dis-,
-able, -ible, -ent, -al, -ous, -ive

Borrowings from other languages

adjacent	conspiracy	contempt
custody	distract	frustrate
genius	gesture	history
homicide	include	incredible
individual	infancy	suppress
infinite	innate	intellect
interrupt	legal	magnify
minor	moderate	private
necessary	nervous	picture
polite	popular	prevent
project	submit	prosody
reject	summary	substitute
deck	dock	freight
rover	booze	gin
easel	etching	landscape

Sir Gawain and þe Grene Knyzt (14 century) (Freeborn 210)

The story so far: during the New Year celebration at King Arthur's court a Green Knight rides in, carrying a battle axe, and challenges any knight to strike him a blow with the axe, provide that he can give a return blow a year and a day later. Gawain takes up the challenge.

1. The grene knyzt vpon grounde grayþely hym dresses
2. A littel lut with þe hede, þe lere he discouereȝ,
3. His longe louelych lokkeȝ he layd ouer his croun,
4. Let the naked nec to þe note schewe.
5. Gauan gripped to his ax & gederes hit on hyȝt
6. þe kay fot on þe fold he before sette
7. Let hit down lyȝtly lyȝt on þe naked
8. þat þe scharp of þe schalk schyndered þe bones
9. & schrank þurȝ þe schyire grece & scade hit in twynne,
10. þat þe bit of þe broun stel bot on þe grounde.
11. þe fayre hede fro þe halce hit to þe þere
12. þat fele hit foyned wyth her fete þere hit forth roled.
13. þe blod brayd fro þe body at blykked on þe grene
14. & nyȝwer faltered ne fel þe freke neuer þe helder
15. Bot styȝly he start forth vpon styf schonkes
16. & runyschly he raȝt out, þere as renkkeȝ stoden.
17. Laȝt to his lufty hed & lyft hit vp sone
18. & syȝen boȝeȝ to his blonk, þe brydel he cachcheȝ,
19. Steppeȝ into stelbawe & strydeȝ alofte
20. & his hede by þe here in his honde haldeȝ
21. & as sadly þe segge hym in his sadel sette
22. As non vnhap had hym ayled, þaȝ hedleȝ he were in stedde.

1. The grene knyzt vpon grounde grayþely hym dresses
The green knight on (the) ground readily him(self) arranges
2. A littel lut with þe hede, þe lere he discouereȝ,
A little bend with the head, the flesh he uncovers
3. His longe louelych lokkeȝ he layd ouer his croun,
His long lovely locks he laid over his crown
4. Let the naked nec to þe note schewe.
Let the naked neck in readiness show.
5. Gauan gripped to his ax & gederes hit on hyȝt
Gawain gripped (to) his axe & gathered it on high

6. þe kay fot on þe fold he before sette
The left foot on the ground he before set
7. Let hit doun lyȝtly lyȝt on þe naked
Caused it (to) land swiftly down on the naked (flesh)
8. þat þe scharp of þe schalk schyndered þe bones
(So) that the sharp (blade) of the man sundered the bones
9. & schrank þurȝ þe schyire grece & scade hit in twynne,
& cut through the fair flesh & severed it in two,
10. þat þe bit of þe broun stel bot on þe grounde.
(So) that the blade of the bright steel bit on the ground
11. þe fayre hede fro þe halce hit to þe þere
The fair head from the neck hit to the earth
12. þat fele hit foyned wyth her fete þere hit forth roled.
That many it kicked with their feet where it forth rolled.
13. þe blod brayd fro þe body at blykked on þe grene
The blood spurted from the body that gleamed on the green
14. & nyȝwer faltered ne fel þe freke neuer þe helder
& neither faltered nor fell the man never the more
15. Bot styȝly he start forth vpon styf schonkes
But stoutly he started forth upon sturdy shanks
16. & runyschly he raȝt out, þere as renkkeȝ stoden.
& fiercely he reached out where men stood
17. Laȝt to his lufty hed & lyft hit vp sone
Seized his lovely head & lifted it up at once
18. & syȝen boȝeȝ to his blonk, þe brydel he cachcheȝ,
& then turns to his steed, the bridle he snatches,
19. Steppeȝ into stelbawe & strydeȝ alofte
Steps into (the) stirrup & strides aloft
20. & his hede by þe here in his honde haldeȝ
& his head by the hair in his hands holds

21. & as sadly þe segge hym in his sadel sette
& as steadily the man settled him(self) in his saddle
 22. As non vnhap had hym ayled, þaʒ hedleʒ he were in stedde.
As (if) no mishap had troubled him though he headless were in that place.
-
1. The green knight on (the) ground readily him(self) arranges
 2. A little bend with the head the flesh he uncovers
 3. His long lovely locks he laid over his crown
 4. Let the naked neck in readiness show.
 5. Gawain gripped (to) his axe & gathered it on high
 6. The left foot on the ground he before set
 7. Caused it (to) land swiftly down on the naked (flesh)
 8. (So) that the sharp (blade) of the man sundered the bones
 9. & cut through the fair flesh & severed it in two,
 10. (So) that the blade of the bright steel bit on the ground
 11. The fair head from the neck hit to the earth
 12. That many it kicked with their feet where it forth rolled.
 13. The blood spurted from the body that gleamed on the green
 14. & neither faltered nor fell the man never the more
 15. But stoutly he started forth upon sturdy shanks
 16. & fiercely he reached out where men stood
 17. Seized his lovely head & lifted it up at once
 18. & then turns to his steed, the bridle he snatches,
 19. Steps into (the) stirrup & strides aloft
 20. & his head by the hair in his hands holds
 21. & as steadily the man settled him(self) in his saddle
 22. As (if) no mishap had troubled him though he headless were in that place.

Middle English Grammar

Spelling

<k> for [k]		<sh> for [ʃ]		<ch> for [tʃ]	
Old Engl.	Middle E.	Old Engl.	Middle E.	Old Engl.	Middle E.
cyssan cneow cene	kiss knee keen	scamu scearp	shame sharp	ceap cinn	cheap chinn

OE	ME
hu	how
thu	thou
hus	house
brun	brown
OE	ME
þoht	thought
riht	right
OE	ME
hwæt	what
hwil	while
OE	ME
bot	boot
god	good

Phonology

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Inter-dental	Alveolar	Alveolar-palatal	Velar
Stop	p b			t d		k g
Affricate					tʃ dʒ	
Fricative		f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	h
Nasal	m			n		
Lateral				l		
Retroflex				r		
Glide	w				y	

vine (Fr.)	fine (Fr.)
view (Fr.)	few (Engl.)
vile (Fr.)	file (Engl.)

[hu:zian] > [hu : zia] >	[hu:z]	'to house' V
[hu:s]	[hu:s]	'house' N

knife	knives
bath	bathe
life	live
breath	breathe

Vowels

Long vowels

i:	u:
e:	o:
a:	

Short vowels

i	u
e	ə
o	a

[iu]	trewe	'true'
[ɛu]	fewe	'few'
[au]	clawe	'claw'
[ɔu]	bowe	'bow'
[æi]	dai	'day'
[ɔi]	point	'point'
[ɔi]	chois	'choice'

Nouns

NORTH	Old English		Middle English	
SG	SG	PL	SG	PL
NOM	stan	stan-as	stan	stan-es
GEN	stan-es	stan-a	stan-es	stan-es
DAT	stan-e	stan-um	stan	stan-es
ACC	stan	stan-as	stan	stan-es

South	Old English		Middle English	
SG	SG	PL	SG	PL
NOM	eag-a	eag-an	eye	eye-n
GEN	eag-an	stan-ena	eye-s	eye-n
DAT	eag-an	stan-um	eye	eye-n
ACC	eag-an	stan-an	eye	eye-n

EME	PDE
eyen	‘eyes’
shoon	‘shoes’
hosen	‘hose’
housen	‘houses’
peasen	‘peas’
oxen	
children	
brethren	

Pronouns

Table 1. Demonstratives in Old English

<i>that/the</i>	Masc	Neut	Fem	Plural
NOM	se	þæt	seo	þa
GEN	þæs	þæs	þære	þara
DAT	þæm	þæ:m	þæ:re	þæm
ACC	þone	þæt	þa	þa
INST	þy:	þy:		

Table 2. Demonstratives in Modern English

	SG	PL
proximal	this	these
distal	that	those

Third person pronouns

	3SG M	3SG F	3 SG N	3 PL
Subject	he	heo, sche	hit, it	he, hi, thei
Object	him	hire, her	hit, it, him	hem, them
Possessive	his	hir(e), her(e)	his	here, thair

Second person pronouns

	1. person		2. person	
	SG	PL	SG	PL
Subject	ich, I	we	þu, thou	ye, ye
Object	me	us	þe, thee	you, eu, you
Possessive	mine, mi	ure, our	þin(e), i	yur(e), your

Adjectives

Table 1. Strong adjective declension (til 'good')

	SG		
	MASC	NEUT	FEM
NOM	til	til	til-u
ACC	til-ne	til	til-e
GEN	til-es	til-es	til-re
DAT	til-um	til-um	til-re
	til-e	til-e	

Verbs

	Old English		Middle English	
	Present	Past	Present	Past
Indicative				
1. Sg	sing-e	sang	sing	sang
2. Sg	sing-est	sung-e	sing	sang
3. Sg	sing-eþ	sang	sing-þ	sang
Pl.	sing-aþ	sung-on	sing	sang
Subjunctive				
Sg.	sing-e	sung-e	sing	sang
Pl.	sing-en	sung-en	sing	sang

Word order

- (1) In the contre of Ethyop they slen here childeryn byforn here goddys.
'In the country of Ethiopia they slay their children in front of their gods.'
- (2) Nowe haue ye herde þe vertues & þe significacouns.
Now have you heard the virtues and the meanings.
- (3) Never has Peter talked to him.
- (4) Under no circumstance would she talk to him.
- (5) Only on the weekend does he have time to cook dinner.
- (6) ... þat ðu þis weork naht ne **forlate**.
'... that you this work not (not) neglect.'
- (7) If a man will þe **harme**...
'If a man wants (to) you harm... '
- (8) Woot ye not where ther stant a litel toun ...
know you not where there stand a little town
'Don't you know where the little town is?'
- (9) Why make ye youreself for to be lyk a fool?
Why make you yourself for to be like a fool
'Why do you make a fool of yourself?'

Future

- (1) and swiche **wolle** have the kyngdom of helle, and not of hevene.
'and such will have the kingdom of hell, and not of heaven'

Perfect

- (1) Ic hæbbe [þo-ne fisc gefange-ne]
I have the-ACC fish caught-ACC
'I have the fish caught' (=I have the fish in a state of being caught)
- (2) Ic hæfde [hi-ne gebunden-ne]
I had him-ACC bound-ACC
'I had him bound' (=I had him in a state of being bound)
- (3) Ic hæfde hit gebunden
I had it bound.Ø
'I had it bound' (= I had it in my possession)

- (4) thin geleafa hæfth the gehæled
 your faith has you healed
 'Your faith has healed you.'
- (5) Ac hie hæfdon þa ... hiora mete genotudne
 but they had then ... their food used-up
 'But they had then used up their food.'
- (6) a. Peter has a fish caught. (Peter has a caught fish)
 b. Peter has caught a fish.
- (7) þou hauest don oure kunne wo
 'You have done our family woe.'
- (8) I am com to myne ende.
 'I have come to my end.'

Passive

- (1) [men] that wol nat be governed by hir wyves.
 '[men] that will not be governed by their wives.'

Progressive

- (1) For now **is** gode Gawayn **goande** ryght here.
 For now is good Gawain going right here.
- (2) **I am yn beldyng** of a pore hous.
 'I am in (the process of) building a poor house.'

Modal verbs

- (1) þat y mowe riche be
 'that I may rich be'

Early Modern English: Social history and loan words

Nouns

allusion	occurrence	frequency
vacuum	denunciation	disability
excursion	expectation	emotion

Adjectives

appropriate	agile	conspicuous
dexterous	expensive	external
habitual	jocular	insane

Verbs

adapt	alienate	assassinate
benefit	emancipate	eradicate
erupt	excavate	exert
harass	exist	extinguish

climax
appendix
exterior
delirium

consultare	>	to consult
exoticus	>	exotic
conspicuus	>	conspicuous
externus	>	external
brevitas	>	brevity

Middle English Early Modern English

armor	armature
chamber	camera
choir	chorus
prove	probe
frail	fragile
gender	genus
jealous	zealous
mould	module
spice	species
strait	strict
strange	extraneous
treasure	thesaurus

Greek borrowings through Latin

anachronism
atmosphere
autograph
chaos
crisis
emphasis
enthusiasm
parenthesis
pneumonia
scheme
skeleton
system
tactics

direct borrowings from Greek

anonymous
catastrophe
criterion
lexicon
polemic
tantalize
thermometer

Borrowings from French

bizarre
comrade
duel
essay
mustache
progress
ticket
admire
density
identity

chocolate
detail
entrance
explore
probability
surpass
volunteer
compute
hospitality
ramify

Borrowings from Italian

algebra
balcony
volcano

design
violin

Borrowings from Spanish and Portuguese

alligator
barricade
embargo
mango
hurricane
potato
chili
tomato

apricot
cocoa
hammock
avocado
mosquito
tobacco
maize
papaya

Coinages from native sources

New word coinages

blatant	chirrup
delve	belt
glance	endear
enshrine	gloomy
wary	

Clippings

van	(<vanguard)
rear	(<arrear)
fortnight	(<fourteen-night)

Backformations

difficult	(<difficulty)
unit	(<unity)

Blendings

dumbfound	(<dumb + confound)
apathetic	(< apathy + pathetic)
splutter	(< splash + sputter)

Inkhorn terms

Latin

lunatic
crucified
parable
muscles
triangle
conclusion
definition
irony

English word coinage

moonied	[Sir John Cheke]
crossed	[Sir John Cheke]
biword	[Sir John Cheke]
fleshstrings	[Arthur Golding]
threlike	[Robert Recorde]
endsay	[Robert Recorde]
saywhat	[Robert Recorde]
dry mock	[Robert Recorde]

New word coinages

blatant	chirrup
delve	belt
glance	endear
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Clippings

van	(<vanguard)
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Backformations

difficult	(<difficulty)
unit	(<unity)

William Shakespeare 1564-16616

BRUTUS: Lucius, who's that knocks?

Re-enter LUCIUS with LIGARIUS

Wer klopft denn, Lucius?
Lucius kommt mit Ligarius zurück.

LUCIUS: He is a sick man that would speak with you.

Hier ist ein Kranker, der Euch sprechen will.

BRUTUS: Caius Ligarius, that Metellus spake of.
Boy, stand aside. Caius Ligarius! how?

Ligarius ists, von dem Metellus sprach.
Du, tritt beiseit. - Caius Ligarius, wie?

LIGARIUS: Vouchsafe good morrow from a feeble tongue.

Nehmt einen Morgengruß von matter Zunge.

BRUTUS: O, what a time have you chose out, brave Caius,
To wear a kerchief! Would you were not sick!

O welche Zeit erwählt Ihr, wackrer Cajus,
Ein Tuch zu tragen! Wärt Ihr doch nicht krank!

LIGARIUS: I am not sick, if Brutus have in hand
Any exploit worthy the name of honour.

Ich bin nicht krank, hat irgendeine Tat.
Des Namens Ehre würdig, Brutus vor.

BRUTUS Such an exploit have I in hand, Ligarius,
Had you a healthful ear to hear of it.

Solch eine Tat, Ligarius, hab ich vor;
Wär Euer Ohr gesund, davon zu hören.

LIGARIUS By all the gods that Romans bow before,
I here discard my sickness! Soul of Rome!
Brave son, derived from honourable loins!
Thou, like an exorcist, hast conjured up
My mortified spirit. Now bid me run,
And I will strive with things impossible;
Yea, get the better of them. What's to do?

Bei jedem Gott, vor dem sich Römer beugen,
Hier sag ich ab der Krankheit. Seele Roms!
Du wackrer Sohn, aus edlem Blut entsprossen!
Wie ein Beschwörer riefst du auf in mir
Den abgestorbenen Geist. Nun heiß mich laufen,
So will ich an Unmögliches mich wagen,
Ja, Herr darüber werden. Was zu tun?

BRUTUS: A piece of work that will make sick men whole.

Ein Wagestück, das Kranke heilen wird.

LIGARIUS: But are not some whole that we must make sick?

Doch gibts nicht auch Gesunde krank zu machen?

BRUTUS: That must we also. What it is, my Caius,
I shall unfold to thee, as we are going
To whom it must be done.

Das gibt es freilich. Was es ist, mein Cajus,
Eröffn ich dir auf unserm Weg zu ihm,
An dem es muß geschehn.

LIGARIUS: Set on your foot,
And with a heart new-fired I follow you,
To do I know not what: but it sufficeth
That Brutus leads me on.

Macht Euch nur auf;
Mit neu entflammtem Herzen folg ich Euch,
Zu tun, was ich nicht weiß. Doch es genügt,
Daß Brutus mir vorangeht.

BRUTUS: Follow me, then.

Exeunt

Folgt mir denn!
Beide ab.

Early Modern English: Structure

Negative sentences

- (1) I haven't eaten yet.
- (2) She isn't coming.
- (3) I cannot come.
- (4) You must not do that.
- (5) He does not speak to me.

Questions

- (1) Have you eaten lunch?
- (2) Is she coming?
- (3) Can I come in?
- (4) May I speak to her?
- (5) Does she speak English?

The development of analytical verb forms and a rigid word order

you — thou

	SG	PL
Old English	þū	yē
Middle English	thou (familiar) ye (polite)	ye
Early Modern English	ye (you = OBJ)	ye (you = OBJ)

Possessive marker

- (1) Peter'(is) = Peter his
 - (2) John Browne *his* meadow
 - (3) Ann Harris *her* lot
-
- (1) The queen's crown
 - (2) The Queen of England's crown
 - (3) Peter's car
 - (4) Peter and Mary's car

Relative pronouns

- (1) a. the book **that** fell from the table.
b. the book I read
c. the book I gave him
d. the book I talked about
- (2) a. Who's that knocks. (Shakespeare)
b. I have a brother is condemn'd to die. (Shakespeare)
- (3) a. There was a farmer had a dog.
b. There was a ball of fire shot up through the seats in front of me.
c. There's something keeps upsetting him.
d. There's a lot of people don't know that.

Comparative forms of the adjective

1. happy – happier –happiest
2. difficult – more difficult –most difficult

- (1) in the calmest and most stillest night. (Shakespeare)
(2) against the envy of less happier lands. (Shakespeare)

The dummy auxiliary

- (1) Say you so.
(2) I know not.
(3) He did them build a castle.
'He caused them to build a castle.'
(4) I doubt it not. (Shakespeare)
(5) I do not doubt you. (Shakespeare)
(6) Why do you look on me? (Shakespeare)
(7) Why look you so upon me? (Shakespeare)

Lexical diffusion

SUBJ	VERB	not	→	SUBJ	do	not	VERB
	V1				V1		
	V2				V2		
	V3				V3		
	V4				V4		
		

Phonology

- (1) [sɪçt] > [sit] 'sight'
- (2) half, palm, folk, talk
- (3) castle, hasten, wrestle, handsome, landscape
- (4) know, knife, knee, knight, gnaw, gnome
- (5) [w] was lost before [r]:
- (6) wrong, wrinkle, wrist
- (7)

British English	American English (central/western dialects)	
[ka]	[kar]	'car'
[biə]	[biər]	'beer'

The Great English Vowel Shift

Middle English

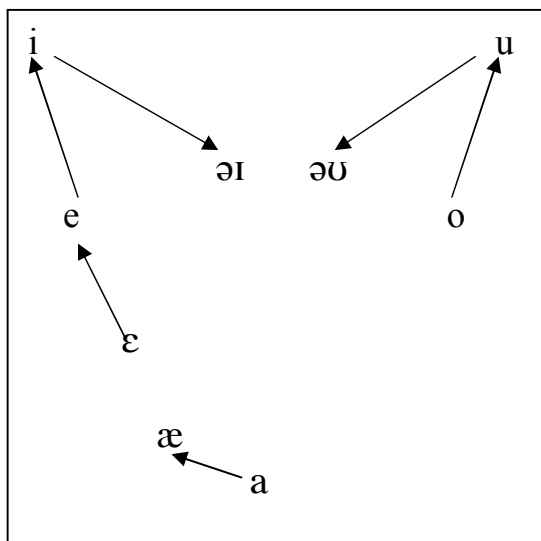
A: is θat θi tʃild
B: ye hɪr namə is an
A: ə god and hɔli namə
B: sonə ʃe wɪl be θre yerɪz əv ʌdʒə
A: wɪl ʃe spɛke to me
B: ye ʃe spɛkθ wʊndər lʊdə

1450-1550

A: ɪz ðæt ðɪ tʃɪld
B: ye hɜr næm ɪz æn
A: ə gud and hɔli nam
B: sʊn ʃi wɪl bi θri yirz əv ædʒ
A: wɪl ʃi spɛk tu mi
B: ye ʃi spɛks wəndər ləʊd

MW	1500	Gloss	
[θat]	[ðæt]	‘that’	[a] > [æ]
[θi]	[ðəɪ]	‘their’	[i] > [əɪ]
[tʃɪld]	[tʃəɪld]	‘child’	[i] > [əɪ]
[namə]	[næm]	‘name’	[a] > [æ]
[an]	[æn]	‘Ann’	[a] > [æ]
[god]	[ɡud]	‘good’	[o] > [u]
[sonə]	[sʊn]	‘soon’	[o] > [u]
[ʃe]	[ʃi]	‘she’	[e] > [i]
[be]	[bi]	‘be’	[e] > [i]
[θre]	[θri]	‘there’	[e] > [i]
[yerɪz]	[yirz]	‘years’	[e] > [i]
[ədʒə]	[ædʒ]	‘age’	[a] > [æ]
[to]	[tu]	‘to’	[o] > [u]
[me]	[mi]	‘me’	[e] > [i]
[speke]	[spek]	‘speak’	[ɛ] > [e]
[ludə]	[ləʊd]	‘loud’	[u] > [əʊ]

Dialect differences	Advanced	conservative
	[næm]	[nam]
	[speks]	[spek]



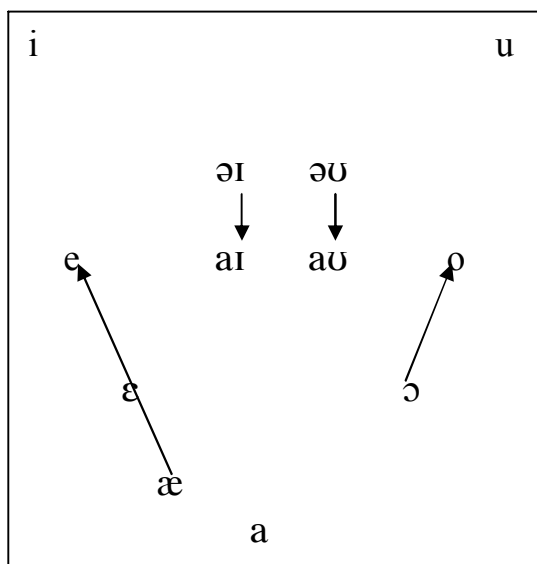
1550-1650

A: ɪz ðæt ðəɪ tʃəɪld
 B: ye hær næm ɪz æn
 A: ə gud ænd hɔɪ næm
 B: sun ʃi wɪl bi θri yɪrz əv ædʒ
 A: wɪl ʃi spɪk tu mi
 B: ye ʃi speks wəndər ləʊd

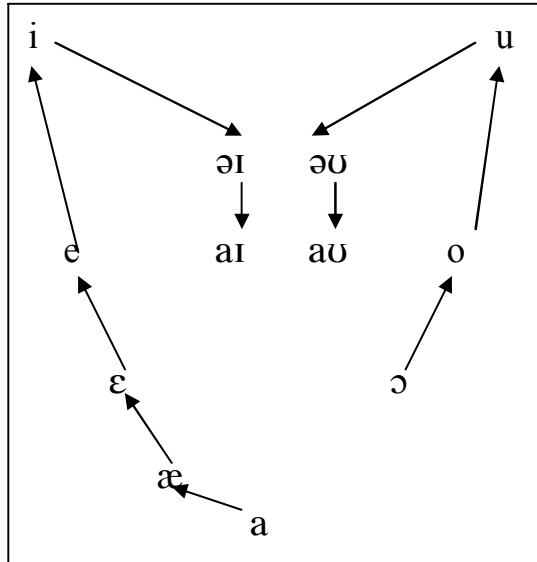
1650-1750

A: ɪz ðæt ðəɪ tʃaɪld
 B: ye hær nem ɪz æn
 A: ə gud ænd hoɪ nem
 B: sun ʃi wɪl bi θri yɪrz əv edʒ
 A: wɪl ʃi spɪk tu mi
 B: ye ʃi spɪks wəndərfoʊlɪ laʊd

[tʃəɪld]	[tʃaɪld]	‘child’	[əɪ] > [aɪ]
[næm]	[nem]	‘name’	[æ] > [e]
[hɔɪ]	[hoɪ]	‘holy’	[ɔ] > [o]
[ædʒə]	[edʒ]	‘age’	[æ] > [e]
[ludə]	[laʊd]	‘loud’	[əʊ] > [aʊ]



Summary representation



Old English

Modern English

[bru : n]	‘brown’	u : > aʊ
[de : man]	‘deem’	e : > i
[do : m]	‘doom’	o : > u
[du : n]	‘down’	u : > aʊ
[æ : l]	‘eel’	æ : > i
[æ : fen]	‘even(ing)’	æ : > i
[la : tə]	‘late’	a : > e
[fi : f]	‘five’	i : > aɪ
[he :]	‘he’	e : > i
[ra : d]	‘rode’	a : > o
[hæ : θ]	‘heath’	æ : > i
[na : mə]	‘name’	a : > e
[hu : s]	‘house’	u : > aɪ
[i : s]	‘ice’	i : > aɪ
[læ : ce]	‘leech’	æ : > i
[mu : θ]	‘mouth’	u : > aʊ
[mi : n]	‘my’	i : > aɪ
[a : c]	‘oak’	a : > o
[ro : st]	‘roost’	o : > u

[madə]	‘make’	a: > e
[ha:m]	‘home’	a: > ɔ
[ro:t]	‘root’	u: > aʊ
[so:θ]	‘sooth’	o: > u
[sta:n]	‘stone’	a: > ɔ
[te:θ]	‘teeth’	e: > i
[ti:d]	‘time’ / ‘tide’	i: > aɪ
[to:θ]	‘tooth’	o: > u
[hwi:t]	‘white’	i: > aɪ

i: > aɪ	
e: > i	
æ: > i	(via e)
a: > e	(via æ)
u: > aʊ	
o: > u	
ɔ: > o	([hɔ:l] > [hol])
a: > o	(from Old to Middle English)

Middle English	Chaucer	Shakespeare	Modern spelling
i:	[fi:f]	[faɪv]	five
e:	[me:de]	[mi:d]	mid
ɛ:	[kle:ne]	[kle:n]	clean
a:	[na:ma]	[ne:m]	name
u:	[du:n]	[daʊn]	down
o:	[ro:tə]	[ru:t]	root
ɔ:	[gɔ:tə]	[go:t]	goat

Modern English: Social history and loan words

automobile	traffic light
car	windshield
train	freeway
truck clutch	
plane gearshift	
railroad	to park
airport	to tune up
cinema	videotape
movie	VCR
film	DVD
broadcast	stereo
television	radio
cable TV	soap opera
telephone	antenna
cell phone	microphone
computer	PC
software	modem
hardware	RAM
mouse	byte
cursor	internet
download	email
to surf the internet	hacker
virus	firewall
spam mail	CD-ROM
AIDS	proteins
Antibiotics	cholesterol
vaccine	carbohydrate
clinic	EKG
injection	DNA
hormones	x-rays
aspirin	schizophrenic
insulin	immune system
enchilada	tofu
taco	muesli
nachos	pizza
junk food	coca cola
French fries	pepsi
potato chips	gyros
hamburger	muffin

French

chef
menu
beige
gourmet
restaurant
au pair

chauffeur
coupon
elite
garage
genre
semantics

Spanish

gringo
mustang
ranch
bronco

nachos
enchilada
chili
taco

Italian

lasagna
pasta
salami

mafia
fiasco
inferno

Japanese

judo
tycoon
karaoke
kamikaze

bonsai
karate
geisha
hara-kiri

Yiddish

to schlep
to schwitz

kosher
bagel

German

kindergarten
zeitgeist
gestalt
pretzel
schnaps
strudel

leitmotif
angst
festschrift
weltanschauung
poodle
to yodel

Compounding

fire extinguisher
lipstick
railroad
jet lag
junk food
lifestyle
roller blades

streamline
skyline
airplane
airport
space shuttle
to skydive
to outsource

Affixation

transoceanic	postmodernism
transcontinental	postcolonialism
trans-Siberian	postgraduate study
transliterate	post doc
prenatal	decode
preschool	defrost
preregistration	deflate
prehistoric	debunk

Blends

brunch	Frisco
motel	Amtrack
chunnel	trafficator (traffic+indicator)
smog	fantabulous (fantastic+fabulous)
snark (snake+shark)	chortle (snort+chuckle)

Brand names

sandwich	shrapnel (British general)
kodak	boycott (Irish captain)
cola	limousine (French province)
Camembert (French village)	tabasco (river in Mexico)

Acronyms

Radar (radio detecting and ranging)
AIDS
OPEC Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries)
NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)

Metaphor and other semantic reinterpretations

hardware	garbage can
mouse	desktop
memory	file
language	window
program	email
virus	firewall
antivirus	spyware

Strong – weak verbs

	<i>Old strong form</i>	<i>New weak form</i>
abide	abode	abided
mow	mew	mowed
saw	sew	sawed
strive	strove	strived
swell	swoll	swelled
thrive	throve	thrived

Relative Pronouns

- (1) *Peter talked to the man ___ bought our company.
- (2) Peter talked to the man Jack met ___ on the street.

Prepositions and conjunctions

- (1) granted, pending
- (2) in front of, on the basis of
- (3) assuming that, given that
- (4) on grounds that, in view of the fact that

Standard use
convince of
married to
take charge of
in search of

New common use
convince about
married with
take charge over
in search for

Passive progressive

- (1) My car is being broken.
- (2) My house is being painted.
- (3) This problem is being discussed at today's meeting.
- (1') My car is repairing.
- (2') My house is painting.
- (3') This problem is discussing today's meeting.

New modals and auxiliaries

- (1) The walls were painted.
- (2) The walls got painted.
- (3) I am going to marry Bill. [i.e. I am leaving **in order to** marry Bill]

I [am going [to marry [Bill]]]. >>> I [[[am [going to]] marry] [Bill]]

Grammaticalization

<i>go</i> [motion verb]	>	<i>gonna</i> [auxiliary]
<i>will</i> [verb of intention]	>	<i>will</i> [auxiliary]
<i>have</i> [verb of possession]	>	<i>have</i> [auxiliary]
<i>by cause</i> preposition+noun	>	<i>because</i> [conjunction]
<i>DEM hwile SUB</i> (<i>hwile</i> = ‘time’)	>	<i>while</i> [conjunction]
<i>given</i> [past participle of ‘go’]	>	<i>given</i> [conditional marker]
<i>during</i> [verb in continuous form]	>	<i>during</i> [preposition]
<i>behind</i> [???	>	<i>behind</i> [preposition]
<i>in front of</i> [PP]	>	<i>in front of</i> [preposition]
<i>a-gone</i> [PREFIX-verb]	>	<i>ago</i>
<i>some body</i> [NP]	>	<i>somebody</i> [indefinite pronoun]
<i>one</i> [numeral]	>	<i>a</i> [indefinite article]
<i>one</i> [numeral]	>	<i>the one</i> [indefinite pronoun]
<i>(do you) you know</i> [question]	>	<i>y’know</i> [discourse marker]
<i>(do you) remember</i> [question]	>	<i>remember</i> [marker of illocutionary force]
<i>I think</i> [matrix clause]	>	<i>(I) think</i> [epistemic marker]
<i>guess</i> [imperative matrix clause]	>	<i>guess</i> [marker of illocutionary force]

noun (‘with an x-appearance’)	>	<i>x-ly</i> [derivational morpheme]
noun (‘sex’, ‘quality’)	>	<i>x-hood</i> [derivational morpheme]
auxiliary <i>do</i>	>	<i>x-ed</i> [inflectional morpheme]

English Varieties

	<i>Standard</i>	<i>North</i>
‘foot’	[fʊt]	[fɒt]
‘meat’	[mit]	[met]
‘sun’	[sʌn]	[sʊn]
‘dance’	[dans]	[dæns]

The dialect of East Anglia

- (1) He go / she come / that say
- (2)

SG	PL
house	housen
mouse	meece
- (3)

four foot
three mile
- (4) I’ll give he what for some day, that I will.
- (5)

He begun + He has begun
He broke + He has broke
He drunk + He has drunk
He done + He has done
He blew + He has blew
He come + He has come
He chose + He has chose
- (6) You done it, did you?
- (7)

I	wuz	weren’t
you	wuz	weren’t
he	wuz	weren’t
we	wuz	weren’t
you	wuz	weren’t
they	wuz	weren’t
- (8) I in’t a-comen. ‘I’m not coming.’
I in’t done it yet. ‘I haven’t done it yet.’
- (9) I couldn’t find hardly none on’em.

- (10) Go you on!
Shut you up!
- (11) He's the one what done it.
A book what I read.
- (12) Go you and have a good wash time I git tea ready.
- (13) There weren't no laburnum, yet no lilac.
- (14) The fruit and vegetables weren't as big as last year, more weren't the
taters and onions.
- (15) As in many other dialects, the progressive ends in –en (rather than –
ing) and is preceded by the prefix a- [ə].
- (16) I'm a-runnen
you're a-runnen
he's a-runnen
we're a-runnen
you're a-runnen
they're a-runnen
- (17) He wus a-hitten on it. 'He was hitting it.'
I'm a-taken on em. 'I'm taking them.'

South-Eastern American English

- (1) That's how it bees.
(2) It bes like that.
- (1) She nice.
(2) They acting silly.
- (1) You're been there.
(2) I'm forgot the food yesterday.
- (3) I know I'm been here.
(4) *I know I am been here.
- (1) They came a-lookin' for the possum.
(2) She was a-huntin' and a-fishin'.
(3) Rex was at/on fishin'.

- (1) I went - I had went
 (2) He done the work - He have done the work
 (3) They dranked the beer - They have dranked the beer
- (1) They barks
 (2) The dogs barks
 (3) People goes
 (4) Me and my dog likes to run
 (5) The dogs in the truck barks
- (1) He might could come.
 (2) He useto couldn't count.
- (1) She ain't there.
 (2) She ain't never done no work.
- (1) I was I weren't
 You was you weren't
 He/she/it was he/she/it weren't
 We was we weren't
 You was You weren't
 They was They weren't
- (1) you SG y'all PL
 (2) He saw hisself in the mirror.
- (1) (most) beautifulest
 (2) (most) awfulest
 (3) (more) older
- (1) I was exceptional scared.
 (2) I'm frightful bad at that.
- (1) I caught 200 pound of flounder.
 (2) It's four mile from here.

British and American English

<i>British</i>	<i>American</i>	<i>Gloss</i>
[ʃɛdyʊl]	[skɛðʊl]	schedule
[ˈgærɪð]	[gəˈraːʒ]	garage
[leɪˈtenənt]	[luːˈtenənt]	lieutenant
[et]	[et]	ate
[naɪðər]	[niðər]	neither
[ləʒər]	[liʒər]	leisure
[təmato]	[təmeto]	tomato
[mɪsaɪl]	[mɪsl]	missile
[fɛrtail]	[fɛrtl]	fertile
[fræðail]	[fræðɪl]	fragile

Morphosyntax

British

The hotel make a point of insulting their guests.
The government are busy.

American

The hotel makes a point of insulting their guests.
The government is busy.

British

be in hospital
go to university
be in the class

American

be in the hospital
go to the university
be in class

British

River Thames

American

Thames river

British

I have got a pen.

American

I have got a pen. ‘possess’
I have gotten a pen. ‘obtain’

British

I shall be there.

American

I will be there.

British

Have you a room of your own?

American

Do you have a room of your own?

British

The judge ordered that he should be held.

American

The judged ordered that he be held.

British

Have you read the paper yet? No, but I shall do.

American

Have you read the paper yet? No, but I will.

British *American*

Give me it. Give me it.

Give it me. *Give it me.

British

I'll come immediately my class is over.

American

I'll come as soon as my class is over.

Lexicon

British

biscuit

chips

crisps

to grill

marrow

monkey nuts

porridge

American

cookie

french fries

potato chips

to broil

squash

peanuts

oat meal

scone
sultanas

jumper
knickers
nappy
pants
vest
waistcoat

bonnet
boot
caravan
diversion
high street
lollipop man
lorry
motorway
return ticket
roundabout
season-ticket holder
no tipping
verge
wing
zebra

cot
cupboard
dummy
dustbin
garden
off-license store
redundancies
slot machine
sticking plaster
sick (nauseated)

muffin
raisins

sweater
(woman's) underpants
diaper
underwear
undershirt
vest

hood
trunk (of car)
trailer
detour
main street
school crossing guard
truck
turnpike
round-trip ticket
traffic circle
commuter
no dumping
should of road
fender
pedestrian crossing

crib
closet
pacifier
trash can
yard
liquor store
layoffs
vending machine
bandaid
ill (generally unwell)

English-based creoles and pidgins

Butler English – An example of English-based pidgin

- (1) Because ball going nearly 200 yards. (no article)
- (2) Member hitting ball (no auxiliary)

- (1) two spoon coffee
- (2) Master like it.

- (1) Me not drinking madam

- (1) and putting masala into pan (cook recipe)

- (1) That the garden.

- (1) Then I not worry.
- (2) No water add.

- (1) English-speaking sabih is all gone, no?
- (2) He nice, eh?

Tok Pisin – An example of an English-based creole

spak ('spark')	=	drunk
nogut ('no good')	=	bad
baimbai ('by and by')	=	soon
sekan ('shake hands')	=	to make peace
kilim ('kill him')	=	to kill/hit/beat
pisin ('pigeon')	=	bird
gras ('grass')	=	gras/hair/fur
gras	=	gras/hair/fur
mausgras	=	moustache
gras bilong hed	'grass belong head'	= hair
gras belong fes	'grass belong face'	= beard
gras belong pisin	'grass belong bird'	= feathers
gras belong solwara	'grass belong saltwater'	= seaweed
gras antap long ai	'grass on top of long eye'	= eyebrow

Tolai	lapun kumul palai	old bird of paradise lizard
Malay	binatang lombo	insect chilli
German	sayor gumi beten raus bros	vegetable leaf rubber pray get out chest

- (1) wanpela wanpela ailan
one one island
'each island'

- (2) diwai ia i gat ol nil nil
tree FOC PRED have PL needle needle
'The tree has spines.'

Morphosyntax

- (1) Yu mekim sam wara i boil. > Yu boil-im wara.
'You make some water boil'

- (2) SG PL
yu yupela
bik haus bikpela haus
man ol man

- (§) mi kukim rais.
I cook rice
'I cooked the rice.'

- (1) The man, he talked to the woman.

- (2) a. mi kam 'I come'
b. yu kam 'You come'
c. em I kam 'He/she comes'

- (1) Mi no save. Ol I wokim dispela haus.
> Mi no save olsem ol I wokim dispela haus.
'I didn't know that they built this house.'

- (1) stereo ia mitla putim lo kout ia, em no lukim
 stereo REL we put in coat REL he not see
 'The stereo which we put in the coat he didn't see.'

wanem 'what name'	=	'what/which' (Tok Pisin)
husat 'who's that'	=	'who' (Tok Pisin)
wisaia 'which side'	=	'where' (Guyanese Creole)
wa mek 'what makes'	=	'why' (Guyanese Creole)
wetin 'what thing'	=	'what' (Cameroon Creole)

Verb phrase

Future: bai ('by and by')

- (1) em bai kam
 He/she wil come
 'He/she will come'

Past: bin ('been') (optional)

- (2) Em bin tok
 He/she PAST say
 'He/she said ...'

Immediate future: laik ('like')

- (3) em i laik go long gaden
 He/she PRED is about to/likes to go to the garden
 'He/she is about to go to the garden.'

Perfect: pinis ('finish') (follows the verb)

- (4) mi kukim pinis
 I cook COMPLETE
 'I have cooked it.'

Habitual: save/sa ('save') ('save' > 'know' > HAB)

- (5) miplea sa harim ol gan i pairap.
 We HAB hear PL gun PRED fire
 'We heard the guns firing.'

Continuous: (i) stap (???)

- (6) ol i wokabout i stap.
 They PRED walk CONT
 'They were walking.'

Exercise

Analyze the VP in Krio. What is the function/meaning of *bin*, *de*, and *don*?

a bin rait	'I wrote'
a de rait	'I am writing'
a bin de rait	'I was writing'
a don rait	'I have written'
a bin don rait	'I had written'
a bin don de rait	'I had been writing'

African American English

LSA resolution on the Oakland ebonics issue

- a. The variety known as "Ebonics," "African American Vernacular English" (AAVE), and "Vernacular Black English" and by other names is systematic and rule-governed like all natural speech varieties. In fact, all human linguistic systems--spoken, signed, and written -- are fundamentally regular. The systematic and expressive nature of the grammar and pronunciation patterns of the African American vernacular has been established by numerous scientific studies over the past thirty years. Characterizations of Ebonics as "slang," "mutant," "lazy," "defective," "ungrammatical," or "broken English" are incorrect and demeaning.
- b. As affirmed in the LSA Statement of Language Rights (June 1996), there are individual and group benefits to maintaining vernacular speech varieties and there are scientific and human advantages to linguistic diversity. For those living in the United States there are also benefits in acquiring Standard English and resources should be made available to all who aspire to mastery of Standard English. The Oakland School Board's commitment to helping students master Standard English is commendable.

Phonology

(1)	[wes said] [kol kəts]	‘west side’ ‘cold cuts’
(2)	[brn maɪ hæŋ] [mɛs ʌp] [hetəd] [ʃaʊtəd]	‘burned my hand’ ‘messed up’ ‘hated’ ‘shouted’
(3)	[de] [də] [dæt]	‘they’ ‘the’ ‘that’
(4)	[nʌfŋ] [ɔfər] [rʊf] [saʊf]	‘nothing’ ‘author’ ‘Ruth’ ‘south’

(5)	[hɛp]	‘help’
	[rɒ]	‘roll’
	[skuw]	‘school’
	[fʊbɔw]	‘football’
(6)	[æks]	‘ask’
	[græps]	‘grasp’

Morphosyntax

- (1) He need to get a book from the shelf.
She want us to pass the papers to the front.
- (2) The dog tail was wagging.
The man hat was old.
- (3) That my bike.
The coffee cold.
He all right.
- (4) Do they be playing all day?
Yeah, the boys do be messin’ around a lot.
I see her when I bee on my way to school.
The coffee be cold.
- (5) She done did it.
They done used all the good ones.
They done go.
- (6) I ain’t go yesterday.
I didn’t have no lunch.
He don’t never go nowhere.