

## THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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**Abstract:** *Through this article you will conversant history of the English language used by millions of people today and also you can see the evolution of the English language.*

**Key words:** *Old english, middle english, modern english, new english (NE), present-day English (PDE).*

English is a West Germanic language that originated in England. It is the third most spoken language in the world after Mandarin Chinese and Spanish. English has been influenced by a number of other languages over the centuries, including Old Norse, Latin, French, and Dutch. History of English is divided into 3 types. These are Old English, Middle English and Modern English.

***Old english: From 5th century to 1066 years.***

Old English, also known as Anglo-Saxon, arose after Germanic tribes (Angles, Saxons, and Jutes) migrated to Britain in the 5th century. These tribes brought their Germanic dialects, which formed the basis of Old English.

The earliest history of Old English lexicography dates back to the Anglo-Saxon period, when English-speaking scholars produced English glosses on Latin texts. At first these were often marginal or interlinear glosses, but were soon collected into word lists such as the Épinal-Erfurt, Leiden and Corpus dictionaries. Over time, these word lists were combined and alphabetized to create comprehensive Latin-Old English dictionaries that share some of the character of dictionaries such as Cleopatra's Dictionary and Harley's Dictionary.

***Middle english: from 1066 to 1500 years.***

The Norman Conquest of 1066 marked the beginning of Middle English. The Normans brought Norman French, that had a significant influence on the vocabulary and culture of the English language. Over time, Old English became Middle English.

Thousands of French words entered English, especially in areas such as law, government, art and cuisine, court, royalty and beef.

The Great Vowel Shift occurred in this period. The Great Vowel Shift is responsible for many of the strange English spellings. Here you can see examples!

| Original in Middle English                                    | Translation into Modern English                    |
|---|--|
| 1)Whan that Aprill,<br>with his shoures soote                 | 1) When April with its sweet<br>showers            |
| 2) The droȝte of March<br>drought<br>hath perced to the roote | 2)has drenched March's<br>drought<br>to the roots. |

***Modern english: 1500 to 1800 and 1800 to the present.***

Modern English is the language we speak today. It is divided into two periods. Early Modern English and Modern English.

Modern English is sometimes called New English (NE) or Current English (PDE). With some differences in vocabulary, texts from the early 17th century, such as William Shakespeare and the King James Bible, are considered modern English texts, or rather, they are called early modern texts. After 1800s, English became what it is today. In fact, words that exist now had a different meaning in the past. For instance

1)Speed : Speed originally meant success or prosperity, but now it means speed of movement.

2)Meat : Meat was used to describe any solid food. Now this is especially used for meat of animal.

**Conclusion.**



The history of English reflects the history of its speakers—a journey of invasions, cultural exchange, and globalization. From the Germanic roots of Old English to the richly diverse Modern English spoken by millions today, the language continues to evolve, incorporating new influences and adapting to changing times.

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