***Attribution Chronologies: 16 to 17th Century British Literature***

**William Byrd’s Linguistic Group**

1539-43? William Byrd born.

1539-58 Thomas Byrd (assumed to be William Byrd’s father) employed (rising to the rank of minister) at the Chapel Royal.

1540s Robert Wilson born.

1543 Edward Dyer born.

1548 Giles Fletcher, Elder, born.

1550 Philip Henslowe born.

1552/4 Sir Walter Raleigh born.

1553/4 John Lyly born.

1553? Nicholas Breton born.

1554 Philip Sidney born.

1556-8 “Mr Birde” byline appears on a music setting created at the Chapel Royal for the psalm “In Exitu Israel”.

1557-8? Thomas Morley born.

1558 Thomas Lodge born.

1558? Robert Greene born.

1559 George Chapman born.

1560 Henry Chettle born.

1560? Anthony Munday (Monday/Mundy) born.

1563 Byrd appointed as an organist of the Lincoln chapel.

1563 Michael Drayton born.

1564 Christopher Marlowe born.

1564 William Shakespeare born.

1565 Robert Devereux born.

1568 Robert Armin born.

1569 Byrd appointed as organist for the Chapel Royal.

1570-80s? Henry Porter born.

1571 Philip Sidney finished studying at Oxford.

1571? Wentworth Smith born.

1572 Benjamin Jonson born.

1572 Thomas Dekker born.

1574 John Day born.

1575 Byrd publishes his first patented music text *Cantiones Quae ab Argumento Sacrae Vocantur*.

1575 Lyly receives an M.A. from Oxford, is denied a fellowship to continue at Oxford, and becomes the private secretary of Lord Burghley’s son-in-law Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford.

1575 William Byrd and Thomas Tallis granted a monopoly “license to print and sell music, English or foreign, and to rule, print, and sell music-paper” for 21 years by Elizabeth I.

1575? Henry Wollobie born.

1576 \*Raleigh’s poems published in George Gascoigne’s *The Steel Glass, A Satire*. First tested text that matches this linguistic group.

1576 John Marston born.

1576 Philip Sidney appointed cupbearer to Elizabeth.

1576 Verstegan’s *The Post of the World* first published*.*

1577 Harvey’s *Ciceronianus* first published.

1577 Philip Sidney sent to Germany as an ambassador.

1578 Lyly’s *Euphues* first published.

1579 John Fletcher born.

1579 Lyly began petitioning Elizabeth for the title of master of the Revels, but she gave the job to Tilney.

1579-80 Lodge’s *Defence of Poetry, Music and Stage Plays* first circulates privately.

1580 Lyly given control of the Blackfriars Theatre, where his plays were acted by the Children of Paul’s before the Queen.

1580 Lyly served in parliament as a member for Hindon in Wiltshire.

1580? John Webster born.

1580? Thomas Middleton born.

1580-92 Poems attributed to Greene first published.

1580s Raleigh married Elizabeth Throckmorton.

1581 Lodge receives MA from Oxford.

1581/4-5 Philip Sidney served in Parliament for Kent.

1583 Morley named master of choristers at the St Paul’s Cathedral.

1583 Philip Sidney knighted to stand in for Prince Casimir’s admittance to the Order of the Garter. Sidney married Frances, daughter of Queen Elizabeth’s Secretary of State, Sir Francis Walsingham.

1584 Lyly’s *Campaspe* first published.

1585 Francis Beaumont born.

1585 Philip Sidney appointed as the joint master of the ordnance.

1585 Raleigh knighted.

1585? William Rowley born.

1586 John Ford born.

1586 Munday appointed messenger of her majesty’s chamber.

1586 Philip Sidney died while fighting to block Spaniards from delivering supplies to Zutphen during a war.

1587 Queen Elizabeth approved establishment of the first English colony in North America on Roanoke Island (NC).

1588 Dyer’s poems first published.

1588 Morley received a B.A. from Oxford.

1588 William Byrd’s *Psalms, Sonnets, and Songs of Sadness and Piety, Made into Music of Five Parts* first published.

1589 Greene’s poems first published.

1589-90? Lyly’s *Love’s Metamorphosis* first played.

1590 Drayton’s *The Harmony of the Church* first published.

1590 Lodge’s prose narrative *Rosalynde, Euphues Golden Legacie* first printed (plotline repeats in “Shakespeare’s” *As You Like It*).

1590 Philip Sidney’s *Arcadia* (Books I-III) first published.

1591 Giles Fletcher’s *Russe* first published.

1591 Lyly’s company, Children of Paul’s, seized operations.

1591 Lyly’s *Endymion* first published.

1591 Philip Sidney’s *Astrophel and Stella* and a pirated version first published.

1592 Elizabeth imprisons Raleigh.

1592 Greene died.

1592 Greene made the first reference to Shakespeare in *Groats-worth* posthumously quoting lines from *3 Henry VI*.

1592 Lyly’s *Gallathea* first published.

1592 Lyly’s *Midas* first published.

1592 Marlowe faces Lord Burghley’s judgement on suspicion of coining, but avoids prosecution.

1593 Days after the Privy Council issued an order for Marlowe’s arrest over blasphemy and atheism charges, Marlowe is killed over the bill at a lodging house by Ingram Frizer, a property reseller who was working for landowner Thomas Walsingham, a relative of Sir Francis Walsingham, Elizabeth’s Secretary of State.

1593 Drayton’s *Idea, The Shepheards Garland* first published.

1593 Giles Fletcher’s *Licia* first published.

1593 Lodge’s *Philis* first published.

1593 Lyly served in parliament for Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire.

1593 Philip Sidney’s *Arcadia* (Books IV-VI) first published.

1594 Drayton’s *Ideas Mirrour* first published.

1594 Greene’s *Orlando Furioso* first published.

1594 Henry Wollobie’s *Avisa* first published.

1594 Lyly’s *Mother Bombie* first published.

1594 Marlowe’s *Edward II* and Marlowe and Nashe’s *Dido Queen of Carthage* first published.

1594 *The Taming of a Shrew* first published.

1595 Drayton’s *Endimion and Phobe: Ideas Latmus* first published.

1595 Philip Sidney’s *Defence of Poesie* first published.

1595 Thomas Morley’s *Cantus of Thomas Morley: The First Book of Ballets to Five Voices* first published.

1596? Willobie died.

1597 Anonymous *Romeo and Juliet* first published.

1597 Lyly served in parliament for Appleby in Westmorland.

1597 Munday and Drayton’s *Modern Redcap* first performed and published.

1597 Raleigh re-appointed to captain of Queen’s Guard and named governor of the Isle of Jersey.

1597-8 Munday’s *The Downfall of Robert, Earl of Huntingdon* first performed.

1598 Day’s attributed and lost play, *The Conquest of Brute*, first published.

1598 First reference to Shakespeare’s sonnets made by Francis Meres in *Palladis Tamia.*

1598 Greene’s *James IV* (*The Scottish History of James the Fourth*) first published.

1598 Marlowe and Chettle’s *Hero and Leander* first published.

1598 Munday and Drayton’s *The Funeral of Richard Cordelion* first performed.

1598-01 J. D.’s “Parnassus plays”, *The Pilgrimage to Parnassus, The Return from Parnassus, The Return from Parnassus: Or the Scourge of Simony* first published: include a reference to “Shakespeare’s” *Venus and Adonis* and *Romeo and Juliet* in a parody*.*

1598-02 Morley holds the music printing monopoly license.

1599 John Daye, yeoman, killed dramatist, Henry Porter, in Southwark.

1599 Jonson’s *Every Man Out of His Humour* performed by Lord Chamberlain’s Men at the Globe Theatre.

1599 Porter stabbed to death by fellow playwright for Henslowe, John Day.

1599 Porter’s *Two Angry Women of Abington* first published.

1599 Shakespeare’s *Passionate Pilgrim* first published with Shakespeare’s sonnets 138 and 144.

1600 John Day and Henry Chettle’s *The Blind Beggar of Bednal-Green* first performed.

1600 Jonson’s *Every Man Out of His Humour* first published.

1600 *Sonnets* entered by Eleazar Edgar as by “W.S.” into the Stationers’ Register.

1600 Wilson died.

1600/08 Chapman put in debtor’s prison and sued after overspending to gain acceptance in the royal court.

1600/19 Anonymous *Sir John Oldcastle* (Third Folio Apocrypha) first published: likely to have been back-dated to 1600 during a 1619 first printing.

1600-1? Marston’s *Antonio and Mellida*, sequel to *Antonio’s Revenge*, first performed.

1601 Devereux died.

1601 Lyly served in parliament for Aylesbury.

1601 Lyly’s *Love’s Metamorphosis* first published.

1601 Munday’s *The Downfall of Robert, Earl of Huntingdon* first published.

1602 Ford admitted into Middle Temple, become a lawyer.

1602 Marston’s *Antonio’s Revenge* first published.

1602 Morley died.

1602 Shakespeare’s *Merry Wives of Windsor* first published.

1602 W. S.’ *Thomas Lord Cromwell* (Third Folio Apocrypha) first published.

1602? Chettle’s *Tragedy of Hoffman or A Revenge for a Father* written and paid for by Henslowe.

1602-14 William Barley (bookseller and publisher) holds music printing monopoly license.

1603 Breton’s *A Dialogue of Pith and Pleasure* first published*.*

1603 Breton’s *A Post with a Packet of Mad Letters* first published.

1603 Raleigh imprisoned for treason by James I for thirteen years.

1603-4 Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first performed.

1604 Anonymous *Poenix* (*Phoenix*) first performed.

1604 Breton’s *Fantastics* first published*.*

1604 Heywood’s *Wise Woman of Hogsdon* first published.

1604 John Dowland’s *Third Book of Songs and Airs* published with poems attributed to Devereux.

1604 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* first mentioned in *Black Booke*.

1604 Richard Hathwaye (Hathway) died.

1604 *The Honest Whore* published, attributed to Middleton and Thomas Dekker.

1605 Anonymous *London Prodigal* (Third Folio Apocrypha) first published.

1605 Breton’s *An Old Man’s Lesson* first published.

1605 Walter Calverley’s scandalous murder of two of his children and attempted murder of his wife.

1605 William Haughton died.

1605-16 Munday served as the chief pageant-writer for London and later “poet to the city”.

1606 Anonymous *Nobody and Somebody* first published.

1606 Lyly died in poverty.

1606-8 Ford is temporarily suspended from lawyering.

1607 Anonymous *Poenix* first published.

1607 Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first published.

1607 Chettle died.

1607 Dyer died.

1607 Edward Grimeston’s *A General Inventory of the History of France* first published: source for Chapman’s *Revenge.*

1607 George Wilkins’ *The Miseries of Enforced Marriage* first published: about the Calverley scandal.

1607 *Puritan* (*Pvritaine Widdow*) “by W. S.” first published.

1607 W.S.’ *The Puritan; or, the Widow of Watling Street* (*Pvritaine Widdow*) first published, later reprinted in the Third Folio Apocrypha (1663-64), and believed to be utilizing biographical details on Peele from *Merrie conceited Jests of George Peele* (1607).

1608 “W. Shakspeare’s” *Yorkshire Tragedy* (Third Folio Apocrypha) first published: about the Calverley scandal.

1608 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* first published; attributed to “Shakespeare” in 1631 quartos together with *Fair Em.*

1609 Armin’s *Two Maids of More-Clacke* first published (played by the Children of King’s Majesties Revels).

1609 Shakespeare’s *Sonnets* first published.

1610 \*Dowland’s *Musical Banquet* published with poems attributed to Devereux. The last tested text that matches this linguistic group.

1611 Giles Fletcher, Elder, died.

1611-3 Middleton’s *Chaste Maid in Cheapside* first performed.

1612 Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher’s *Cupid’s Revenge* performed at Court.

1612 *Venus and Adonis* first attributed to “W. Shakespeare” in 2nd and 3rd editions.

1612? Breton’s *Wit’s Private Wealth* first published.

1613 Chapman’s *The Revenge of Bussy D’Ambois* first published.

1614 Smith died.

1615 Armin died.

1615 Breton’s *Characters upon Essays* first published.

1616 Beaumont and Fletcher’s *Cupid’s Revenge* first published (attributed to Fletcher alone in 1616, then to both in 1630 edition).

1616 Beaumont died.

1616 Henslowe died.

1616 Shakespeare died and Jonson wrote two elegiac poems in his honor.

1617 Breton’s *A Dialogue betwixt a Courtier and a Countryman* first published.

1618 George Wilkins (innkeeper in the prostitution district) died.

1618 Raleigh executed by James I for unapproved piracy against Spain.

1618 William Rowley and Philip Massinger’s *The Old Law* published.

1619 Collection of signed Drayton works published in *Idea: In Sixtie Three Sonnets.*

1620 Middleton appointed as London’s chronologer.

1621 Dekker, Ford and Rowley’s *The Witch of Edmonton* first published and performed (inspired by “Mother Bumbey” folktale).

1622 Rowley and Shakespeare’s *Birth of Merlin, or, The Child Hath Found his Father*: first performed.

1623 Byrd died.

1623 *Romeo and Juliet* and several other First Folio plays first attributed to “Shakespeare”.

1625 Fletcher died.

1625 Lodge died.

1625? Breton died.

1626 Rowley died.

1627 Middleton died.

1630 Middleton’s *Chaste Maid in Cheapside* first published.

1631 Chettle’s *Tragedy of Hoffman* first published.

1631 Drayton died.

1632 Dekker died.

1633 Marlowe’s *Jew of Malta* first published.

1633 Munday died.

1634 Chapman died.

1634 Marston died.

1634? Webster died.

1637 Jonson died.

1638 Ford’s *The Lady’s Trial,* a solo play, first published.

1639? Ford died.

1640? Day died.

1653 *Merry Devil* registered as by “Shakespeare” in the Stationer’s Register by Humphrey Moseley.

1659 Day and Chettle’s *The Blind Beggar* first published.

1662 Rowley and Shakespeare’s *Birth of Merlin* first published (one of two plays attributed in the 17th century as co-written by Shakespeare and another writer; passages and lines from this work also appeared in *Cupid’s Revenge*).

**Benjamin Jonson’s Linguistic Group**

1540 Richard Fletcher (John’s grandfather) enrolled in Cambridge and began an M.A.

1540s Robert Wilson born.

1543 Edward Dyer born.

1548 Giles Fletcher the Elder born.

1548-86 Richard Fletcher (grandfather) served as Vicar of Stortford, Vicar of Cranbrook, and Rector of Smarden.

1550 Philip Henslowe born.

1552/4 Sir Walter Raleigh born.

1553/4 John Lyly born.

1553? Nicholas Breton born.

1554 Philip Sidney born.

1558? Robert Greene born.

1559 George Chapman born.

1560 Henry Chettle born.

1560? Anthony Munday (Mundy) born.

1562-6 Richard Fletcher (father) completes B.A. at Cambridge.

1563 Michael Drayton born.

1564 Christopher Marlowe born.

1564 William Shakespeare born.

1565 Robert Devereux born.

1568 Robert Armin born.

1570 Giles Fletcher, Elder, receives B.A. from Cambridge.

1570-5 Thomas Heywood born.

1570-90? Henry Porter born.

1571 Philip Sidney finished studying at Oxford.

1571? Wentworth Smith born.

1572 John Donne born.

1572 Benjamin Jonson born.

1572 Thomas Dekker born.

1572-81 Giles Fletcher, Elder, rises from lecturer to dean at Cambridge.

1572-94 Richard Fletcher (father) served as chaplain to the Queen, Vicar of Rye, Dean of Peterborough, Bishop of Bristol, and Administrator at Gray’s Inn.

1574 John Day born.

1575 Lyly received an M.A. from Oxford; denied a fellowship at Oxford; became the private secretary of Lord Burghley’s son-in-law Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford, who patronaged Lyly and his associates across the rest of Lyly’s career.

1575? Henry Willobie born.

1576 John Marston born.

1576 Philip Sidney appointed cupbearer to the queen, following his father.

1576 Some of the poems attributed to Raleigh published in George Gascoigne’s *The Steele Glass*.

1577 Philip Sidney sent to Germany as an ambassador.

1578 Lyly’s *Euphues* first published.

1579 John Fletcher born.

1579 Lyly began petitioning Elizabeth for the title of master of the Revels, but she gave the job to Tilney.

1580 Lyly given control of the Blackfriars Theatre, where his plays were acted by the Children of Paul’s before the Queen.

1580 Lyly served in parliament as a member for Hindon in Wiltshire.

1580 Richard Fletcher (father) completes a D.D. at Cambridge: served as a fellow of Corpus Christi between 1569-73.

1580? John Webster born.

1580? Thomas Middleton born.

1580-92 poems attributed to Greene published.

1580s Raleigh married Elizabeth Throckmorton.

1581, 4-5 Philip Sidney served in Parliament for Kent.

1581 Giles the Elder and Joan Sheafe marry and Giles is named Chancellor of diocese of Chichester (Sussex).

1582 Phineas Fletcher born.

1583 Donne begins studying at Oxford at only twelve.

1583 Philip Sidney knighted to stand in for Prince Casimir’s admittance to the Order of the Garter.

1583 Philip Sidney married Frances, daughter of Queen Elizabeth’s Secretary of State, Sir Francis Walsingham.

1584 Francis Beaumont born.

1584 Giles, Elder, elected to Parliament.

1584 Lyly’s *Campaspe* first published.

1585 Francis Beaumont born.

1585 Philip Sidney appointed as the joint master of the ordnance.

1585 Raleigh knighted.

1585 William Rowley born.

1586/7 Richard Fletcher (father) attended Mary, Queen of Scot’s execution.

1586 John Ford born.

1586 Munday appointed messenger of her majesty’s chamber.

1586 Philip Sidney died while fighting to block Spaniards from delivering supplies to Zutphen during a war.

1586-05 Giles the Elder nominated as Remembrancer of the City.

1586-9 Donne transfers to Cambridge, but leaves without a degree.

1587 Queen Elizabeth approved establishment of the first English colony in North America on Roanoke Island (NC).

1588-9 Giles the Elder served as an ambassador to Russia and named Master of Requests.

1589-90? Lyly’s *Love’s Metamorphosis* first played.

1589-93? Anonymous *Fair Em’s* first published.

1590 \*Shakespeare’s *Two Gentlemen of Verona* first performed. The first tested text to be performed from this linguistic group.

1590 Drayton’s *The Harmony of the Church* first published.

1590 Philip Sidney’s *Arcadia* (Books I-III) first published.

1590? Richard Brome born.

1590? Davenport born.

1590-11 Nathaniel Fletcher (John’s brother) enrolled at Queens’ at Cambridge and received a B.A. (92/3), M.A. (97), B.D. (1606), folding a fellowship between 1594 and 1611.

1591 Giles the Elder first publishes *On Russe Commonwealth*.

1591 John Fletcher admitted to Corpus Christi, Cambridge.

1591 Lyly’s company, Children of Paul’s, seizes operations.

1591 Lyly’s *Endymion* first published.

1591 Pirated and registered versions of Philip Sidney’s *Astrophel and Stella* first published.

1592 Donne admitted into Lincoln’s Inn.

1592 Anonymous *Arden of Faversham* first published.

1592 Greene died.

1592 Greene made the first reference to Shakespeare in *Groats-worth* posthumously quoting lines from *3 Henry VI*.

1592 Lyly’s *Gallathea* first published.

1592 Lyly’s *Midas* first published.

1592 Marlowe faces Lord Burghley’s judgement on suspicion of coining without prosecution.

1592 Queen Elizabeth imprisons Raleigh.

1593 “William Shakespeare” name appears on *Venus and Adonis.*

1593 Days after the Privy Council issued an order for Marlowe’s arrest over blasphemy and atheism charges, Marlowe is killed over the bill at a lodging house by Ingram Frizer, a property reseller who was working for landowner Thomas Walsingham, a relative of Sir Francis Walsingham, Elizabeth’s Secretary of State.

1593 Drayton’s *Idea, The Shepheards Garland* first published.

1593 Giles the Elder’s *Licia* first published.

1593 Lyly served in parliament for Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire.

1593 Philip Sidney’s *Arcadia* (Books IV-VI) first published.

1594 *Comedy of Errors* first performed.

1594 Drayton’s *Ideas Mirrour* first published.

1594 Greene’s *Orlando Furioso* first published.

1594 Lyly’s *Mother Bombie* first published.

1594 Marlowe’s *Edward II* and Marlowe and Nashe’s *Dido Queen of Carthage* first published.

1594 Anonymous *The Taming of a Shrew* first published.

1594-5 John Fletcher completes a B.A. at Cambridge.

1595 Drayton’s *Endimion and Phobe: Ideas Latmus* first published.

1595 Philip Sidney’s *Defence of Poesie* first published.

1596 *Henslowe’s Diary* lists the first and last writing credit and payment or loans to Heywood as an Admiral’s Men collaborator.

1596 Richard Fletcher (father) died shortly after the Queen suspended him for his second marriage.

1596? Willobie died.

1597 Lyly served in parliament for Appleby in Westmorland.

1597 Munday and Drayton’s *Modern Redcap* first performed and published.

1597 Raleigh re-appointed to captain of Queen’s Guard and named governor of the Isle of Jersey.

1597 Anonymous *Romeo and Juliet* first published.

1597-8 Munday’s *The Downfall of Robert, Earl of Huntingdon* first performed.

1598 Day’s attributed and lost play, *The Conquest of Brute*, first published.

1598 Day’s attributed and lost play, *The Conquest of Brute*, first published.

1598 First reference to Shakespeare’s sonnets made by Francis Meres in *Palladis Tamia.*

1598 Greene’s *James IV* (*The Scottish History of James the Fourth*) first published.

1598 John Fletcher completes an M.A. at Cambridge.

1598 Marlowe and Chettle’s *Hero and Leander* first published.

1598 *Mucedorus* first published.

1598 Munday and Drayton’s *The Funeral of Richard Cordelion* first performed.

1598-01 J. D.’s “Parnassus plays”, *The Pilgrimage to Parnassus, The Return from Parnassus, The Return from Parnassus: Or the Scourge of Simony* first published.

1599 John Daye (Day), yeoman, killed dramatist, Henry Porter, in Southwark.

1599 Jonson’s *Every Man Out of His Humour* performed by Lord Chamberlain’s Men at the Globe Theatre.

1599 Porter stabbed to death by fellow playwright for Henslowe, John Day.

1599 Porter’s *Two Angry Women of Abington* first published.

1600/8 Chapman put in debtor’s prison and sued after overspending to gain acceptance in the royal court.

1600/19 *Sir John Oldcastle* (Third Folio Apocrypha) first published anonymously.

1600 “Shakespeare” sonnets entered by Eleazar Edgar under the “W.S.” byline in the Stationers’ Register.

1600 John Day and Henry Chettle’s *The Blind Beggar of Bednal-Green* first performed.

1600 Jonson’s *Every Man Out of His Humour* first published.

1600 *Merchant of Venice* first published.

1600 *Much Ado About Nothing* first performed.

1600 Wilson died.

1600-1? Marston’s *Antonio and Mellida*, sequel to *Antonio’s Revenge*, first performed.

1600-16 Phineas Fletcher completes B.A. and M.A. and then served as a fellow at Cambridge.

1601 Devereux died.

1601 Lyly served in parliament for Aylesbury.

1601 Lyly’s *Love’s Metamorphosis* first published.

1601 Munday’s *The Downfall of Robert, Earl of Huntingdon* first published.

1601-14 Donne served as an M.P.

1601-9 Reverend Giles Fletcher, Younger, completes B.A. and M.A. at Cambridge (served as a fellow for the last year).

1602 Ford admitted into Middle Temple as a lawyer.

1602 Marston’s *Antonio’s Revenge* first published.

1602 *Merry Wives of Windsor* first published.

1602 W. S.’ *Thomas Lord Cromwell* (Third Folio Apocrypha) first published.

1602? Chettle’s *Tragedy of Hoffman or A Revenge for a Father* cited by Henslowe.

1603 *As You Like It* first performed.

1603 Breton’s *A Dialogue of Pith and Pleasure* first published.

1603 Breton’s *A Post with a Packet of Mad Letters* first published.

1603 Heywood’s *A Woman Killed with Kindness* first performed at the Rose Theatre by Worcester’s Men company.

1603 Raleigh imprisoned for treason by James I for thirteen years.

1603-4 Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first performed.

1604 Breton’s *Fantastics* first published*.*

1604 Heywood’s *Wise Woman of Hogsdon* first published.

1604 John Dowland’s *Third Book of Songs and Airs* published with poems attributed to Devereux.

1604 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* first mentioned in *Black Book.*

1604 *Poenix* (*Phoenix*) first performed.

1604 Richard Hathwaye (Hathway) died.

1604 *The Honest Whore* published, attributed to Middleton and Thomas Dekker.

1605 Breton’s *An Old Man’s Lesson* first published.

1605 *London Prodigal* (Third Folio Apocrypha) first published.

1605 Walter Calverley’s scandalous murder of two of his children and attempted murder of his wife.

1605 William Haughton died.

1605-16 Munday served as the chief pageant-writer for London and later “poet to the city”.

1606 Anonymous *Nobody and Somebody* first published.

1606 Lyly died in poverty.

1606-8 Ford is temporarily suspended from lawyering.

1607 Donne’s earliest attributed work, *Divine Poems*, first published.

1607 Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first published.

1607 Chettle died.

1607 Dyer died.

1607 Edward Grimeston’s *A General Inventory of the History of France* first published: source for Chapman’s *Revenge.*

1607 George Wilkins’ *The Miseries of Enforced Marriage* first published: about the Calverley scandal.

1607 Heywood’s *A Woman Killed with Kindness* first published.

1607 *Poenix* first published.

1607 *Puritan* (*Pvritaine Widdow*) “by W. S.” first published.

1607 Wilkins’ *Miseries of Enforced Marriage* first published: about Calverley scandal.

1608 “W. Shakspeare’s” *Yorkshire Tragedy* (Third Folio Apocrypha) first published.

1608 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* first published.

1609 Armin’s *Two Maids of More-Clacke* first published (played by the Children of King’s Majesties Revels).

1609 Nathanial Fletcher (brother) named Rector of Barking and Darmsden (Suffolk).

1609 Shakespeare’s *Sonnets* first published.

1610 Dowland’s *Musical Banquet* published with poems attributed to Devereux.

1611 Fletcher’s *Woman's Prize* first performed.

1611 Giles Fletcher the Elder died.

1611-3 *Chaste Maid in Cheapside* first performed.

1612 Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher’s *Cupid’s Revenge* performed at Court.

1612 *Venus and Adonis* first attributed to “W. Shakespeare” in 2nd and 3rd editions.

1612? Breton’s *Wit’s Private Wealth* first published.

1613 Chapman’s *The Revenge of Bussy D’Ambois* first published.

1613?-23 Giles the Younger appointed Rector of Helmingham in Suffolk and then of Alderton until his death.

1614 Smith died.

1615 Armin died.

1615 Breton’s *Characters upon Essays* first published.

1615-8 Giles the Younger served as Reader in Greek Grammar and then Language.

1616 Beaumont and Fletcher’s *Cupid’s Revenge* first published (attributed to Fletcher alone in 1616, then to both in 1630 edition).

1616 Beaumont died.

1616 Henslowe died.

1616 Phineas Fletcher served as Chaplain to Sir Henry Willoughby.

1616 Shakespeare died and Jonson publishes two eulogies in his honor.

1617 Breton’s *A Dialogue betwixt a Courtier and a Countryman* first published.

1618 George Wilkins (innkeeper and likely prostitution procurer) died.

1618 Raleigh executed by James I for unapproved piracy against Spain.

1618 *The Old Law* published, attributed to William Rowley and Philip Massinger.

1619 Collection of signed Drayton works published in *Idea. In Sixtie Three Sonnets.*

1620 Middleton appointed as London’s chronologer.

1620-50 Phineas Fletcher serves as Rector of Hilgay in Norfolk.

1621 Dekker, Ford and Rowley’s *The Witch of Edmonton* first published.

1621 Ford, Thomas Dekker and William Rowley’s *The Witch of Edmonton* first performed.

1621-31 Donne serves as the Dean of St Paul’s Cathedral in London.

1622 *Othello* first published.

1622 Rowley and Shakespeare’s *Birth of Merlin, or, The Child Hath Found his Father* first performed.

1623 Shakespeare’s First Folio released, with first published plays including: *All’s Well That Ends Well*, *Antony and Cleopatra, As You Like It, Comedy of Errors, Coriolanus, Julius Caesar,* *Measure for Measure, Much Ado About Nothing, Romeo and Juliet, Twelfth Night, Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *Winter’s Tale*.

1623 Giles the Younger died.

1624 Davenport’s *The City-Night-Cap: A tragi-comedy* first performed.

1624 Fletcher’s *Rule a Wife and Have a Wife* first performed.

1624 The first two plays licensed by Davenport.

1625 Fletcher died.

1625? Breton died.

1626 Rowley died.

1627 Middleton died.

1628 Davenport’s *King John and Matilda* first performed.

1629 Brome’s earliest attributed play *The Norther Lass* first performed.

1630 *Chaste Maid in Cheapside* first published.

1631 Donne died.

1631 Chettle’s *Tragedy of Hoffman* first published.

1631 Drayton died.

1631 *Mucedorus* first attributed to Shakespeare in Charles I’s library.

1632 Brome’s *The Norther Lass* first published.

1632 Dekker died.

1633 “J. D.’s” or John Donne’s songs and sonnets first published in *Poems*.

1633 Marlowe’s *Jew of Malta* first published.

1633 Munday died.

1633 Preface to a new edition of Heywood’s *The English Traveler* claims Heywood wrote over 220 plays.

1634 Chapman died.

1634 Marston died.

1634? Webster died.

1635 Brome’s *Sparagus Garden* earned over £1,000 for a performance at Salisbury Court, so he was offered a three-year contract by Richard Heton (Salisbury’s manager) to write three plays annually, but Brome failed to deliver on this obligation.

1636-7 London theaters closed for the plague.

1637 Jonson died.

1638 \*Brome’s *The Antipodes: A Comedy* first performed. The last text to be performed from this linguistic group.

1638 Ford’s *The Lady’s Trial* first published.

1639? Ford died.

1640 Brome’s *The Antipodes: A Comedy* first published.

1640 Fletcher’s *Rule a Wife* first published.

1640? Day died.

1641 Brome’s latest attributed play *A Jovial Crew, or the Merry Beggars* first performed.

1641 Heywood died.

1647 Beaumont and Fletcher’s *Woman's Prize* and other plays first published in a folio.

1652 Brome died.

1653 *Merry Devil* registered as by “Shakespeare” in the Stationer’s Register by Humphrey Moseley.

1655 Davenport still alive, and time of death unknown.

1659 Day and Chettle’s *The Blind Beggar* first published.

1661 Davenport’s *The City-Night-Cap: A tragi-comedy* first published.

1662 Rowley and Shakespeare’s *Birth of Merlin* first published (one of two plays attributed in the 17th century as co-written by Shakespeare and another writer).

**William Percy’s Linguistic Group**

1553-4? John Lyly born.

1558 Elizabeth I accession to the throne.

1558 Thomas Kyd baptized.

1558? Robert Greene born.

1559 George Chapman born.

1560 Henry Chettle born.

1560? Anthony Munday (Monday) born.

1563 Michael Drayton born.

1564 Christopher Marlowe born.

1564 William Shakespeare born.

1568 Robert Armin born.

1570 William Percy (son of the Earl of Northumberland) born.

1570-5? Thomas Heywood born.

1571? Wentworth Smith born.

1576 Munday began working as a printer’s or stationer’s apprentice.

1577-? Samuel Rowley born.

1579-? Henry Porter born.

1580 Lording Barry born.

1580 Lyly begins managing the Blackfriars Theatre, with several plays released under his byline through Children of Paul’s.

1580 Robert Daborne born.

1580? Thomas Middleton born.

1581 Lyly is accused of corrupt management of Blackfriars by his previous secretarial employer, Edward de Vere.

1583 William Percy and his brothers sent to Paris for schooling before being returned due to accusations of Catholicism.

1584 Marlowe received a B.A. from Cambridge.

1585 Henry Percy, the eighth earl of Northumberland and William Percy’s father, died by claimed suicide with a bullet to the head while imprisoned in the Tower under charges of complicity with the Throckmorton conspiracy against Elizabeth I. William Percy might have attempted to solicit France’s Duc de Guise to attack England over the judgement of death-by-suicide in the falsified inquest.

1585? William Rowley born.

1586-03 Munday served as a messenger of her Majesty’s chamber.

1587 \*Thomas Kyd’s *Spanish Tragedy* first performed. The earliest first performance of a text in the linguistic group.

1587 Henslowe and a partner began building the Rose Theatre.

1587 Marlowe denied an M.A. over suspicions of Catholicism.

1587 Nathan Field (brother Theophilus Field became Bishop of Llandaff and second brother Nathaniel Field was a printer) born.

1587-91 John Lyly’s *Mother Bombie* first performed.

1588-98 William Shakespeare’s *Mucedorus* first performed.

1589 William Percy enrolled in Oxford.

1589-90 John Lyly’s *Love’s Metamorphosis* first performed.

1589-92 Christopher Marlowe and Thomas Heywood’s *Jew of Malta* first performed.

1590 Robert Greene’s *James IV* first performed.

1590 Anonymous *Tamburlaine the Great* first published: later attributed to Marlowe.

1590-? George Wilkins (inn-keeper in Cow-Cross, potential brothel-keeper) born.

1590-1 William Shakespeare’s *2 Henry VI* first performed.

1590-2 William Shakespeare’s *1 Henry VI* first performed.

1590-2 William Shakespeare’s *Titus Andronicus* first performed.

1591 Anonymous *True Tragedy of Richard the Third* first performed.

1591 “M.D.” or Michael Drayton’s first book, *The Harmony of the Church: Containing, the Spiritual Songs and Holy Hymns, of godly men, patriarchs and prophets*, first published.

1591-3 William Shakespeare’s *Richard III* first performed.

1592 Thomas Kyd’s *Spanish Tragedy* first published.

1592 William Shakespeare’s *3 Henry VI* first performed.

1592 Greene died.

1592 Greene made the first reference to Shakespeare in *Groats-worth* posthumously quoting lines from *Henry VI, Part 3*.

1592-4 Theatres closed for the plague.

1593 Christopher Marlowe’s *Massacre at Paris* first performed.

1593 Barnabe Barnes’ *Parthenophil and Parthenope* dedicated to William Percy after Barnes and Percy attended Oxford together.

1593 Kyd and Marlowe arrested and tortured by the Privy Council over libelous writings that Kyd claimed were Marlowe’s.

1593 Marlowe died.

1593 Percy and his brother Henry borrow over £2,000 from Arthur Medleycote (merchant tailor in London) for an unknown reason.

1594 Anonymous *True Tragedy of Richard the Third* first published.

1594 John Lyly’s *Mother Bombie* first published.

1594 William Percy’s *Sonnets to the Fairest Coelia* first published.

1594 Admiral’s Men and Lord Chamberlain’s Men work together during the plague.

1594 Chamberlain’s Men forms as an organization as part of Henry Carey Lord Chamberlain’s revels duties, and initially exclusively produce William Shakespeare’s plays.

1594 Heywood’s first self-attributed play, *The Four Prentices of London*, is initially performed by Admiral’s Men.

1594 Kyd died (perhaps as a result of his imprisonment and torture, after his release).

1594 Three books published for the first time attributed on their title-pages to Marlowe: *Edward II*, *Massacre at Paris* and *Tragedy of Dido* (the latter co-attributed to Nashe).

1594/33 Christopher Marlowe and Thomas Heywood’s *Jew of Malta* first published.

1594? Christopher Marlowe’s *Massacre at Paris* first published.

1594-6 William Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet* first performed.

1595 William Shakespeare’s *Love’s Labour’s Lost* first performed.

1595 William Shakespeare’s *Richard II* first performed.

1595-6 William Shakespeare’s *Midsummer Night’s Dream* first performed.

1596 George Chapman’s *Blind Beggar of Alexandria* first performed.

1596 William Shakespeare’s *King John* first performed.

1596 Chamberlain’s Men temporarily change patronage as Hunsdon’s Men.

1596 Henry Carey dies, and the Chamberlain’s Men fall under the protection of George Carey.

1596 Heywood first mentioned in a payment for a play in *Henslowe’s Diary*, no later loans or payments are specified while Heywood is named in association with several Henslowe plays.

1596-7 William Shakespeare’s *1 Henry IV* first performed.

1596-7 George Carey regains control of Chamberlain’s Men after petitioning to bar Hunsdon’s Men from performing at the Blackfriars Theater.

1597 Samuel Rowley first becomes active in the theater.

1597? Munday appointed “poet to the city”.

1598 George Chapman’s *Blind Beggar of Alexandria* first published.

1598 Henry Porter’s *Two Angry Women* first performed.

1598 Robert Greene’s *James IV* first published.

1598 William Shakespeare’s *Mucedorus* first published.

1598 Chamberlain’s Men actors are attributed as shareholders in the investment that allowed them to rebuild the Globe theater in a new location.

1598 Chamberlain’s Men begin producing plays attributed to other playwriters, including Jonson.

1598 William Percy might have been imprisoned over the debt to Medleycote.

1598-9 William Shakespeare’s *Henry V* first performed.

1599 Henry Porter’s *Two Angry Women* first published.

1599 Michael Drayton, Anthony Munday, Richard Hathwaye and Robert Wilson’s (according to Henslowe’s Diary) *Sir John Oldcastle* first performed.

1599 Thomas Heywood’s *1/2 Edward IV* first performed.

1599 Chamberlain’s Men open the Globe Theatre constructed by Richard and Cuthbert Burbage.

1599 Globe’s construction is completed and it serves as a summer open theater.

1599 Porter stabbed to death by another playwriter, John Day, after taking a loan from Henslowe a month earlier in May (first Henslowe entry for Porter is from 1598); Day was granted a Royal Pardon on the grounds of self-defense.

1599-02 Anonymous *Thomas Lord Cromwell* first performed.

1600 Thomas Heywood’s *1/2 Edward IV* first published.

1600 William Shakespeare’s *2 Henry IV* first published.

1600 Field begins acting for Children of the Queen’s Revels.

1600 Henslowe built the Fortune theatre for his company, the Admiral’s Men, which became Prince Henry’s Men after Elizabeth’s death.

1600 William and Henry Percy finish repaying their debt to Medleycote by June.

1600/19 Michael Drayton, Anthony Munday, Richard Hathwaye and Robert Wilson’s (according to Henslowe’s Diary) *Sir John Oldcastle* first published.

1600/8 Chapman put in debtor’s prison and sued after overspending to gain acceptance in the royal court.

1600-1 William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* first performed.

1601 George Chapman’s *All Fools* first performed.

1601 John Lyly’s *Love’s Metamorphosis* first published.

1601 Percy puffed as a poet in Charles Fitzgeoffrey’s *Caroli Fitzgeoaffridi Affaniae*.

1601? William Percy’s manuscript for *Cuckqueanes and Cuckolds Errants* completed.

1601? William Percy’s manuscript for *Cupid’s Sacrifice or A Country’s Tragedy I Vacunium* completed.

1601? William Percy’s manuscript for *The Aphrodysial, or, Sea Feast: A Marinall* completed.

1602 Anonymous *Thomas Lord Cromwell* first published.

1602 Henry Chettle’s *Tragedy of Hoffman* first performed.

1602-3 George Chapman’s *Gentleman Usher* first performed.

1602-3 William Shakespeare’s *Troilus and Cressida* first performed.

1603 Thomas Heywood’s *Woman Killed with Kindness* first performed.

1603 William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* first published.

1603 Lord Chamberlain’s Men are renamed King’s Men when James I takes on their patronage.

1603? William Percy’s manuscript for *The Faery Pastoral, or, Forest of Elves* probably written for James I’s visit to Syon House.

1603-5 Anonymous *London Prodigal* first performed.

1604 Anonymous *Merry Devil of Edmonton* first performed.

1604 George Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first performed.

1604 Samuel Rowley’s *When You See Me: Henry VIII* first performed.

1605 Anonymous *London Prodigal* first published.

1605 Anonymous *Nobody and Somebody* first performed.

1605 Anonymous *True Chronicle History of King Leir* first published.

1605 George Chapman, Ben Jonson and John Marston’s *Eastward Hoe!* first performed published.

1605 George Chapman’s *All Fools* first published.

1605 Samuel Rowley’s *When You See Me: Henry VIII* first published.

1605-16 Munday served as the chief pageant-writer for London.

1605-6 George Wilkins’ *Miseries of Enforced Marriage* first performed.

1605-6 William Shakespeare’s *King Lear* first performed.

1605-6 William Shakespeare’s *Timon of Athens* first performed.

1605-8 Thomas Middleton’s *Yorkshire Tragedy* first performed.

1606 Anonymous *Nobody and Somebody* first published.

1606 George Chapman’s *Gentleman Usher* first published.

1606 Thomas Middleton’s *Pvritaine Widdow* (*Puritan*) first performed.

1606 William Shakespeare’s *Macbeth* first performed.

1606 Drayton was one of the investors in Children of the King’s Revels.

1606 Lyly died.

1606-8 William Shakespeare’s *Pericles* first performed.

1607 George Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first published.

1607 George Wilkins’ last self-attributed work, *Miseries of Enforced Marriage*, first published.

1607 Thomas Heywood’s *Rape of Lucrece: A True Roman Tragedy* first performed.

1607 Thomas Heywood’s *Woman Killed with Kindness* first published.

1607 Thomas Middleton’s *Pvritaine Widdow* (*Puritan*) first published.

1607 Barry invested his entire £10 inheritance in Children of the King’s Revels, leading to later debt and time in debtor’s prison.

1607 Chettle died.

1607 George Wilkins’ first self-attributed pamphlet, *Three Miseries of Barbary: Plague, Famine, Civil War*, published.

1608 Anonymous *Merry Devil of Edmonton* first published.

1608 George Chapman’s *Charles Duke of Byron* first performed and published.

1608 Lording Barry’s *Ram-Alley* first performed.

1608 Thomas Heywood’s *Rape of Lucrece: A True Roman Tragedy* first published.

1608 Thomas Middleton’s *Yorkshire Tragedy* first published.

1608 William Shakespeare’s *King Lear* first published.

1608 Chamberlain/ King’s Men completed construction on the enclosed winter-season Blackfriars Theater.

1608 Drayton served as a lessee to the Whitefriars Theater.

1609 Nathan Field’s *Woman Is a Weather-cock* first performed.

1609 Robert Armin’s *Two Maids of More-Clacke* first performed and published.

1609 William Shakespeare’s *Pericles* first published.

1609 William Shakespeare’s *Troilus and Cressida* first published.

1610 Robert Daborne’s *Christian Turned Turk* first performed.

1610 Barry tried and acquitted of piracy in Ireland.

1611 Lording Barry’s *Ram-Alley* first published.

1611 William Rowley’s *New Wonder, a Woman Never Vexed* first performed.

1611 William Shakespeare’s *Tempest* first performed.

1612 Nathan Field’s *Woman Is a Weather-cock* first published.

1612 Robert Daborne’s *Christian Turned Turk* first published.

1612 Thomas Heywood’s *1/2 Iron Age* first performed.

1612 Thomas Heywood suggests that “Kid” wrote *The Spanish Tragedy* in his *Apology for Actors.*

1612 Wilkins and Shakespeare act as witnesses in the case of Bellott versus Mountjoy.

1613 Wentworth Smith’s *Hector of Germany* first performed.

1613 Globe burns from the canon in a performance of *Henry VIII.*

1613 Henslowe built the Hope theatre.

1613-4 William Shakespeare’s *Two Noble Kinsmen* first performed.

1614 Chamberlain/ King’s Men invest in the rebuild of the Globe.

1614 Wentworth Smith died.

1615 Wentworth Smith’s *Hector of Germany* first published.

1615 Armin died.

1616 Field begins acting for King’s Men.

1616 Shakespeare died.

1618 Wilkins died.

1619 William Rowley’s *All’s Lost by Lust* first performed.

1619 William Shakespeare’s *2 Henry IV* first performed.

1619 Percy puffed as a poet in Thomas Campion’s *Epigrammatum libri. II.*

1619-20? Field died.

1622 Samuel Rowley’s *Noble Soldier* first performed.

1622 William Rowley and William Shakespeare’s *Birth of Merlin* first performed.

1623 William Shakespeare’s First Folio published with several plays attributed to Shakespeare for the first time including: *1 Henry IV, 1/2/3 Henry VI, Henry V, King John, Love’s Labour’s Lost, Macbeth, Midsummer Night’s Dream, Richard II, Richard III, Romeo and Juliet, Tempest, Timon of Athens,* and *Titus Andronicus*. Two King/Chamberlain’s Men’s players, Henry Condell and John Heminges, are attributed with delivering the First Folio to the publisher.

1626 William Rowley died.

1627 Middleton died.

1628 Daborne died.

1629 Barry died.

1630 Drayton’s last book, *The Muses Elizium*, first published.

1631 Henry Chettle’s *Tragedy of Hoffman* first published.

1631 Drayton died.

1632 Thomas Heywood’s *1/2 Iron Age* first published.

1632 William Rowley’s *New Wonder, a Woman Never Vexed* first published.

1632 William Percy’s *Necromantes or The Two Supposed Heads* (handwritten manuscript includes many epigrams) first published.

1633 William Rowley’s *All’s Lost by Lust* first published.

1633 Heywood confesses that he had a part in at least 220 plays in *The English Traveler.*

1633 Munday died.

1633? Samuel Rowley died.

1634 Samuel Rowley’s *Noble Soldier* first published.

1634 William Shakespeare’s *Two Noble Kinsmen* first published.

1634 Chapman died.

1635 Thomas Heywood’s *Challenge for Beauty* first performed.

1636 Thomas Heywood’s *Challenge for Beauty* first published.

1641 Heywood died.

1642-60 Theatres close and go out of business during the English Civil Wars.

1647 \*William Percy’s folio of play and poetry manuscripts privately issued. The last text to be published in the linguistic group.

1648 Percy died.

1662 William Rowley and William Shakespeare’s *Birth of Merlin* first published.

**Richard Verstegan’s Linguistic Group**

1486 Heinrich Kramer’s *Malleus Maleficarum* first published.

1520 George Puttenham born.

1530 Archbishop of Canterbury, John Whitgift born (censor targeted by Martinist satires).

1532 Robert Dudley born.

1533 Anne Lok (Locke) born.

1533 Elizabeth I, Queen born.

1543 Edward Dyer born.

1544 George Whetstone born.

1544 Richard Bancroft born.

1546 Puttenham studied at Cambridge without finishing a degree.

1547? John Norden born.

1550 Edward de Vere, the 17th earl of Oxford, born (Lyly served as his private secretary).

1550 Elizabeth’s formal education with tutors ends.

1550 Richard Verstegan born (birthname: Richard Rowlands).

1550? Gabriel Harvey born.

1552/4 Sir Walter Raleigh born.

1553 Edward Forset (son of barrister and M.P.) born.

1553? Nicholas Breton born.

1553-4? John Lyly born.

1554 Philip Sidney born.

1556 Puttenham admitted to the Inner Temple.

1557-8 Elizabeth was imprisoned on suspicion of supporting Protestant rebels.

1557-8 Lok was in exile in Geneva until Elizabeth ascension.

1557-8? Thomas Morley born.

1558 Elizabeth names Dudley Master of the Horse.

1558 Thomas Lodge born.

1558? Robert Greene born.

1559 Elizabeth becomes the Supreme Governor of the Church of England; the Act of Supremacy requires all public officials to swear an oath of loyalty to her.

1559 Elizabeth I coronated and relies on advisers led by William Cecil, 1st Baron Burghley, Elizabeth’s Lord Privy Seal (Robert Cecil’s father).

1559 George Chapman born.

1559-70 Robert Dudley (Dyer’s patron) attempts Elizabeth’s first major courtship after their childhood friendship.

1559-85 Queen Elizabeth I speeches first given.

1560 Dudley’s wife, Amy, dies of a suspicious fall down stairs.

1560 Puttenham married Lady Elizabeth Windsor.

1560/9? \*Anne Lok’s *Meditation of a Penitent Sinner* first published. Linguistics indicate that the 1560 publication date was affixed during a later printing, perhaps in the second 1569 or third 1574 edition by which Verstegan was old enough for its authorship. This is likely to be the first tested text matching this linguistic group.

1560? Anthony Munday born.

1561 Sir Francis Bacon born.

1561? Thomas Playfere born.

1562 Elizabeth named Dudley Privy Councillor.

1562 Samuel Daniel born.

1563 Dudley becomes one of England’s biggest landowners through royal grants from Elizabeth.

1563 John Penry born.

1563 Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury born.

1564 Elizabeth named Dudley Earl of Leicester.

1565 Samuel Rowlands born.

1565-6? Francis Meres born.

1566 James I/VI born.

1566 Lady Windsor separated from Puttenham and sued him for divorce (accused of being a compulsive adulterer, a child out-of-wedlock, serial rapist, kidnapping, wife beating).

1567 James I/VI becomes King of Scotland.

1567 Thomas Nashe born.

1567 William Alexander, 1st Earl of Stirling, born.

1569 Puttenham appointed as Justice of the Peace.

1569 Puttenham imprisoned for conspiring to murder the Calvinist bishop of London.

1570 Dyer named steward of Woodstock.

1570 Harvey received a B.A. from Cambridge and became a fellow at Pembroke Hall, meeting Spenser.

1570 Puttenham implicated in a plot against Lord Burghley.

1570 Puttenham imprisoned for criticized the queen’s counselors too freely.

1570 The Pope declared Elizabeth illegitimate, inspiring several assassination attempts.

1571 Barnabe Barnes born.

1571 Philip Sidney finished studying at Oxford.

1571-2 Sir Robert Cecil succeeded William Cecil as Elizabeth’s Lord Privy Seal.

1572 Forset received a B.A. from Cambridge.

1572 John Donne born.

1572 Thomas Dekker born.

1572-04 \*Edward de Vere the 17th earl of Oxford’s personal letters first written. Might be the earliest written tested text in this linguistic group.

1572-80 \*Elizabeth tested letters written. Might be the earliest written tested text in this linguistic group.

1573 Henry Wriothesley born.

1573 Norden (cartographer) received an MA from Oxford.

1573-4 Bacon studied at Cambridge.

1574 Joseph Hall born.

1574-81 Forset served as a fellow at Cambridge.

1575? Anthonie (Nathaniel) Fletcher born.

1576 Munday temporarily bound as an apprentice to stationer John Allde.

1576 Philip Sidney appointed cupbearer to the queen, following his father.

1576 Playfere started studying at Cambridge as a pensioner.

1576 \*Verstegan publishes a Western European guidebook, *The Post of the World.* The first tested text with a verified publication date from this linguistic group.

1576? George Wilkins born.

1576-9 Bacon served as a member of the English ambassador’s suite in France.

1577 Philip Sidney sent to Germany as an ambassador.

1578 Dudley remarried and was named Lord Steward of the Royal Household.

1578 Harvey became a fellow of Trinity Hall and began studying civil law.

1578 Henry Peacham born.

1578 Puttenham implicated in a plot against Lord Burghley.

1578-83 James I/VI gains control of the Scottish government upon coming of age.

1579 Anthony Munday’s *Mirror of Mutability* first published.

1579 Bacon studied law as an “ancient” of Gray’s Inn.

1579 First publication of Spenser’s *The Shepheardes Calendar*, a celebration of Spenser’s friendship with Harvey.

1579 Francis Rous born.

1579 Puttenham’s *Partheniades* presented to Elizabeth.

1580 Lyly begins managing the Blackfriars Theatre, with several plays released under his byline through Children of Paul’s.

1581 Anthony Munday’s *Courtly Controversy* first published.

1581 Forset satirized Harvey in *Pedantius*.

1581 Lodge receives MA from Oxford.

1581 Lyly is accused of corrupt management of Blackfriars by his previous secretarial employer, Edward de Vere.

1581 Verstegan secretly printed a book about the execution of Edmund Campion, and was forced into exile from England upon discovery; in exile he was given a brief pension from the Pope.

1581, 4-5 Philip Sidney served in Parliament for Kent.

1581-93 Trier witch trials in Germany lead to the death of 368 people (one of the biggest witch trials in Europe’s history).

1582 Anthony Munday’s *English Roman Life* first published.

1582 Bacon became a barrister and began teaching and practicing law.

1582 Whetstone’s *An Heptameron of Civil Discourses* first published.

1583 Donne begins studying at Oxford at only twelve.

1583 Morley named master of choristers at the St Paul’s Cathedral.

1583 Philip Sidney knighted to stand in for Prince Casimir’s admittance to the Order of the Garter.

1583 Philip Sidney married Frances, daughter of Queen Elizabeth’s Secretary of State, Sir Francis Walsingham.

1584 Bacon started serving as a member of Parliament for Melcombe Regis in Dorset, Taunton, Liverpool, the County of Middlesex, Southampton, Ipswich, and the University of Cambridge.

1584 Elizabeth sent Dyer on a mission to the Low Countries.

1584 Norden’s *A Pensive Mans Practice* first published, reaching over forty editions in his lifespan.

1584 Playfere admitted as a Fellow after completing his M.A. at Cambridge.

1584 Reginald Scot’s *The Discovery of Witchcraft* (against the existence of witchcraft) first published and suppressed by James.

1585 Dyer’s or “E. D.’s” *Praise of Nothing* (“E. D.” can also be referring to Edward Daunce) first published.

1585 Harvey rejected from doctoral program at Trinity, commencing studies at Oxford instead.

1585 Philip Sidney appointed as the joint master of the ordnance.

1585 Sir Edward Dyer’s *Praise of Nothing* first published.

1585-6 Verstegan set up a publishing and engraving business in Belgium.

1586 Barnes enrolled but did not complete a degree at Oxford.

1586 Edict gave the John Whitgift, the Archbishop of Canterbury, power to license and control all printing with Church-based censorship of licensed publications.

1586 Nashe completed a B.A. at Cambridge University.

1586 Penry completed an M.A. at Oxford, and became a University Preacher.

1586 Philip Sidney died while fighting to block Spaniards from delivering supplies to Zutphen during a war.

1586-9 Donne transfers to Cambridge, but leaves without a degree.

1587 Barnes’ father died and left him an inheritance that sustained him for the rest of his life.

1587 Elizabeth ordered the execution of Mary, Queen of Scotland.

1587 Lady Mary Wroth (Mary Sidney’s niece) born.

1587 Meres completed a B.A. at Cambridge.

1587 Whetstone died, probably in a duel.

1587-8 Puttenham’s *A Justificacion of Queen Elizabeth in Relacion to the Affair of Mary Queen of Scottes* first published.

1587-91 John Lyly’s *Mother Bombie* first performed.

1588 Anthony Munday’s *Banquet of Dainty Conceits* first published.

1588 Covell completed MA at Cambridge.

1588 Dudley died.

1588 Elizabeth granted Dyer forfeited lands in Somerset.

1588 England defeated the Spanish Armada.

1588 Morley received a B.A. from Oxford.

1588 Nashe left Cambridge before finishing an M.A.

1588 Richard Bancroft’s *Sermon Preached at Paul’s Cross* first preached and published.

1588-9 Marin Marprelate tracts published as part of the Marprelate controversy: anonymous author(s), possibly including Nashe, illegally circulated seven satirical tracts attacking the episcopacy of the Anglican Church.

1589 Bacon writes “Letter of Advice” to Elizabeth and *An Advertisement Touching the Controversies of the Church of England.*

1589 During first meeting in Scotland with his future wife Anne, James I develops anti-witch hysteria.

1589 Dyer served as a Member of Parliament for Somerset.

1589 Elizabeth sent Dyer on a mission to Denmark.

1589 George Puttenham’s *Art of English Poetry* first published.

1589 John Lyly’s *Pappe with an Hatchet* first published.

1589 Martin Elder Brother’s *Just Censure* first published.

1589 Martin the Elder Brother’s *The Just Censure and Reproof of Martin Junior* first published.

1589 Nashe wrote and published a preface reviewing contemporary literature for Greene’s *Menaphon.*

1589 Nashe’s *The Anatomie of Absurdities* first published.

1589 Puttenham’s *Art of English Poetry* first published, with puffery of Dyer.

1590 Dyer arrested in Prague on a mission in search of the philosopher’s stone.

1590 Edward Daunce’s *A Brief Discourse of the Spanish State* first published.

1590 Lok died.

1590 North Berwick witch trials in Scotland: James I set up a royal commission to hunt down witches.

1590 Philip Sidney’s *Countesses of Pembroke’s Arcadia* (Books I-III) first published.

1590 Puttenham died.

1590 Thomas Lodge’s *Rosalynde* first published.

1590 Thomas Nashe’s *An Almond for a Parrot* first published: claimed to be the work of writers contracted by Archbishop Whitgift, including associates of Edward de Vere, “superintendent of the press”: Nashe (penname: Cutbert Curryknave), Munday, Greene (pennames: Pasquil, Cavaliero of England, and Marforius) and Lyly (Vere’s private secretary).

1590-8 Robert Cecil served as Lord Privy Seal.

1590s Harvey, Nicholas Brenton and Mary Sidney versus Nashe literary battle.

1591 Meres completed an M.A. at Cambridge.

1591 Pirated and registered versions of Philip Sidney’s *Astrophel and Stella* first published.

1592 Bassano became pregnant with Carey’s child and married her cousin and Elizabeth’s musician, Alfonso Lanier.

1592 Donne admitted into Lincoln’s Inn.

1592 Greene died.

1592 *Greene’s Groats-worth of Wit* first published.

1592 Harvey’s *Foure Letters and Certaine Sonnets* first published in response to Greene satirizing Harvey’s brother Richard, an Anglican minister.

1592 Richard Verstegan’s *Declaration of the True Causes of the Great Troubles* first published.

1592 Robert Greene’s *Groatsworth of Wit* first published.

1593 Barnes credited with a sonnet in Harvey’s *Pierces Supererogation*.

1593 Dyer served as a Member of Parliament for Somerset.

1593 Gabriel Harvey’s *New Letter* first published.

1593 Harvey’s *New Letter* first published.

1593 Harvey’s *Pierces Supererogation* first published, a satire against Nashe.

1593 Lodge’s *Philis* first published.

1593 Nashe’s *Christs Tears over Jerusalem* first published.

1593 Nathaniel completed a B.A. at Cambridge.

1593 Penry died.

1593 Philip Sidney’s *Arcadia* (Books IV-VI) first published.

1593 Playfere’s “The Pathway to Perfection” first preached.

1593 Thomas Nashe’s *Christ’s Tears* first published.

1593? Nashe might have worked as a hack writer for the printer John Danter, while living in the home of Sir George Carey, also Bassano and Shakespeare’s patron.

1594 Nashe’s *The Terrors of the Night* first published with a dedication to his likely pupil, Carey’s daughter; Nashe is imprisoned for this work.

1594 Thomas Nashe’s *Unfortunate Traveler* first published.

1594 W. Har’s *Epicedium* first published.

1594-11 Nathaniel held a fellowship at Cambridge.

1595 Anthonie Fletcher’s *Certain Very Proper* first published.

1595 Philip Sidney’s *Defense of Poesie* first published.

1595 Thomas Morley’s *Cantus of Thomas Morley: The First Book of Ballets to Five Voices* first published.

1595 William Covell’s *Polimanteia, or, The means lawful and unlawful* first published.

1596 Dyer knighted and turned Chancellor of the Order of the Garter.

1596 Hall finished an M.A. at Cambridge.

1596 Playfere completed his D.D. at Cambridge.

1596-09 Playfere served as Lady Margaret’s Professor of Divinity at Cambridge.

1596-12 Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury’s tested letters initially written.

1596-12 Robert Cecil served as Secretary of State of England.

1597 Bancroft consecrated Bishop of London (supervised Marprelate proceedings).

1597 James’ *Daemonologie* (pro-witch-burning) first published in Edinburgh.

1597 Joseph Hall’s *Virgidemiarum* first published.

1597 King James I’s *Daemonologie* first published.

1597 Nashe cohabited with Jonson in Yarmouth prior to their prosecution for the satirical play, *The Isle of Dogs.*

1597 Nathaniel completed an M.A. at Cambridge.

1597 Playfere’s “The Pathway to Perfection” first published.

1597 Rous graduated from Oxford with B.A.

1597 Thomas Morley’s *A Plain and Easy Introduction to Practical Music* first published.

1598 Barnes prosecuted for attempted poisoning of John Browne, but escaped prison prior to the verdict.

1598 Playfere promoted to senior fellow and senior dean at Cambridge.

1598 Rous completed an M.A. at University of Leiden.

1598 Rous’ *Thule; or, Virtue’s History* first published.

1598 Samuel Rowlands’ *Betraying of Christ* first published.

1598-02 Morley holds the music printing monopoly license.

1598-9 Munday toured as a play editor with Pembroke’s Men in the Low Countries.

1599 Archbishop of Canterbury ordered both Harvey and Nashe’s books burned over their literary battle.

1600 J. Bodenham’s *England’s Helicon* first published with poems attributed to Dyer.

1600 Playfere promoted to principal lecturer at Cambridge.

1600/8 Chapman put in debtor’s prison and sued after overspending to gain acceptance in the royal court.

1601 John Lyly’s *Love’s Metamorphosis* first published.

1601 Nashe died.

1601 Queen Elizabeth I speech first published.

1601 Rous entered the Middle Temple, becoming a lawyer.

1601-14 Donne served as an M.P.

1602 Meres named rector of the Wing village and an administrator of a school.

1602 Morley died.

1602 Playfere shows signs of mental decline via apparent addiction to “love” according to Chamberlain.

1602 Rowlands’ *A Poetical Rapsody* first published.

1602 Samuel Daniel’s *Defense of Rhyme* first published.

1603 Bacon continued service as “counsel” to James after serving Elizabeth.

1603 Breton’s *A Dialogue of Pith and Pleasure* first published.

1603 Breton’s *A Post with a Packet of Mad Letters* first published.

1603 Elizabeth I died.

1603 James I becomes King of England as well after the union of the crowns.

1603 Joseph Hall’s *King’s Prophecy* first performed and published.

1603 Peacham served as the schoolmaster of Kimbolton Grammar School.

1603 Samuel Daniel’s *Defense of Rhyme* first published.

1603-4 Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first performed.

1604 After James I’s coronation, Dyer lost his stewardship of Woodstock.

1604 Alexander’s *Aurora* first published.

1604 Alexander’s three dramas *Croesus*; *Darius*; *The Alexandrean*, *Julius Caesar* published in *The Monarchick Tragedies.*

1604 Bancroft becomes the Archbishop of Canterbury (the religious censor over the London theater).

1604 Breton’s *Fantastics* first published.

1604 Daniel’s *Vision of the Twelve Goddesses* first performed for the Queen and first published.

1604 Edward Vere died.

1604 Playfere’s *The Sick-mans Couch: A sermon preached before the most noble Prince Henrie at Greenewich* first preached.

1604 Whitgift died.

1604-5 Daniel served as Licenser to the Children of the Queen’s Revels.

1605 Forset served under Robert Cecil as a justice of the peace during the Gunpowder Plot.

1605 Nicholas Breton’s *Old Man’s Lesson* first published.

1605 Playfere preached as a chaplain to King James and Henry, Prince of Wales.

1605 Robert Cecil discovered the Gunpower Plot.

1605 Wroth danced in a Whitehall performance designed by Jonson, *The Masque of Blackness*.

1605-16 Munday served as the chief pageant-writer for London.

1606 Barnabe Barnes’ *Four Books of Offices* first performed and published.

1606 Edward Forset’s *Comparative Discourse of the Bodies Natural and Political* first published.

1606 Forset became M.P. for Wells.

1606 Lyly died.

1606 Nathaniel completed a B.D. at Cambridge.

1606 Playfere preached at the residence of Robert Cecil, and afterwards his mind deteriorated.

1607 Donne’s earliest attributed work, *Divine Poems*, first published.

1607 Dyer died.

1607 George Wilkins’ *The Miseries of Enforced Marriage* first published: about the Calverley scandal.

1608 George Chapman’s *Charles Duke of Byron* first performed and published.

1608 George Wilkins’ *Pericles Prince of Tyre* first published.

1608 Joseph Hall’s *Epistles the First Volume* first performed and published.

1608 Playfere became rector of All Saints in Shipdham and of Thorpe St Andrew Norfolk.

1608-12 Robert Cecil served as the Lord High Treasurer.

1609 Barnes died.

1609 Nathaniel appointed Rector of Barking and then of Darmsden in Suffolk.

1609 Playfere died.

1610 Bancroft died.

1611 Richard Bancroft’s *Holy Bible, Containing the Old Testament, and the New* first published.

1612 Robert Cecil died.

1612? Breton’s *Wit’s Private Wealth* first published.

1613 Chapman’s *The Revenge of Bussy D’Ambois* first published.

1613 William Covell died (rector in Mersham, Kent).

1614 Alexander’s *Doomes-Day* first published.

1614 Anthony Munday’s *Himatia-Poleos* first performed and published.

1614 Norden’s *Labyrinth of Man’s Life* first published.

1614 Richard Carew’s *Remaines* published: equates Puttenham and Philip Sidney as great verse writers.

1615 Anthony Munday’s *Metropolis Coronata* first performed and published.

1615 Breton’s *Characters upon Essays* first published.

1615 Raleigh’s *Dialogue Between a Counsellor of State and a Justice of the Peace* probably written during his imprisonment by James.

1616 Anthony Munday’s *Chrysanaleia* first performed and published.

1617 Breton’s *A Dialogue betwixt a Courtier and a Countryman* first published.

1617-30 Verstegan publishes widely in books, epigrams, jestbooks, and journalism.

1618 Anthony Munday’s *Sidero-Thriambos* first performed and published.

1618 George Wilkins (innkeeper in the prostitution district) died.

1618 Raleigh executed by James I.

1619 Daniel died.

1620 *Dekker His Dream* first published.

1621 Lady Mary Wroth’s *Countess of Montgomery’s Urania* first published.

1621-31 Donne serves as the Dean of St Paul’s Cathedral in London.

1622 Henry Peacham’s *Complete Gentleman* first published.

1622-3 John Donne’s *Three Sermons upon Special Occasions* first preached and published.

1623 Playfere’s *The Whole Sermons of that Eloquent Divine, of Famous Memory; Thomas Playfere, Doctor in Divinity. Gathered into one Volume* first published.

1624 Wriothesley died.

1625 James I died.

1625 Lodge died.

1625? Breton died.

1625? Norden died.

1626 Bacon died.

1626/8/40/53 Rouse served as Speaker of the House.

1627 Francis Bacon’s *New Atlantis* first published posthumously by Bacon’s chaplain and literary executor and prefacer, Dr. William Rawley, as part of *Sylva Sylvarum: or A Naturall Historie in Ten Centuries.*

1627 John Donne’s *A Sermon of Commemoration of the Lady Danvers* first preached and published.

1627 Rowlands died.

1627-41 Hall served as the Bishop of Exeter.

1628 Raleigh’s *The Prerogative of Parliaments in England* (edited version of *Dialogue Between*) first published.

1628 Walter Raleigh’s *Dialogue Between a Counselor of State* first published.

1630 Alexander’s *Map and Description of New-England* first published.

1630 Forset died.

1630 Harvey died.

1631 Donne died.

1632 Dekker died.

1633 “J. D.’s” or John Donne’s songs and sonnets first published in *Poems*.

1633 Munday died.

1634 Chapman died.

1634 \*Francis Meres’ *Wits Common Wealth: Part 2* first published. The last tested text to be published from this linguistic group.

1640 Alexander died.

1640 *An Humble Remonstrance to the High Court of Parliament* first published under the name “Smectymnuus” but attributed to Hall; in response to this critique, John Milton published five pamphlets attacking Hall’s satires.

1640 Verstegan died.

1641-56 Hall served as the Diocese of Norwich.

1644 Peacham died.

1647 Meres died.

1653 Wroth died.

1656 Hall died.

1659 Rous died.

1670? Anthonie (Nathaniel) Fletcher died.

**Gabriel Harvey’s Linguistic Group**

1517 Richard Bertie (Bassano’s semi-adopted-father) born.

1525? Raphael Holinshed born. No records of the birth or his early life survive.

1533 Elizabeth I born.

1544 George Whetstone born.

1547? John Norden born.

1548 Giles Fletcher the Elder born.

1548-73 Reyner Wolfe, one of the founding members of the Royal Stationers’ Company, begins planning for an illustrated world history that later became *Holinshed Chronicles*.

1550? Gabriel Harvey born.

1550? Nathaniel Baxter born.

1552/4 Sir Walter Raleigh born.

1552? Edmund Spenser born.

1553 Thomas Moffett born.

1553? Nicholas Breton born.

1554 Fulke Greville born.

1557? Sir Arthur Gorges, first cousin of Sir Walter Raleigh, born.

1558 Thomas Lodge born.

1558? William Warner born.

1559 George Chapman born.

1560 Henry Chettle born.

1560? Anthony Munday born.

1562 Samuel Daniel born.

1563 Michael Drayton born.

1564 Christopher Marlowe born.

1564 Greville and Philip Sidney begin their studies at Shrewsbury School. Greville, Philip Sidney and Sir Edward Dyer were members of the Areopagus literary circle led by Gabriel Harvey.

1564 William Shakespeare born.

1565 Samuel Rowlands born.

1565? John Davies of Hereford born.

1567 William Alexander, 1st Earl of Stirling, born.

1567? Thomas Edwards born.

1568 Greville begins his studies at Cambridge.

1569 Emilia Bassano born.

1570 Giles Fletcher the Elder completed a B.A. on a fellowship at Cambridge.

1570 Harvey receives a B.A. from Cambridge and becomes a fellow at Pembroke Hall, meeting Spenser.

1571 Barnabe Barnes born.

1572 Benjamin Jonson born.

1572 John Donne born.

1572 Thomas Dekker born.

1572-80 \*Elizabeth I’s tested letters dated within these years. Earliest tested text with unconfirmed creation date matching this linguistic group.

1572-9 Giles Fletcher the Elder served as a lecturer in Greek at Cambridge.

1573 A consortium of three London stationers hire Holinshed and several other writers to create *Holinshed Chronicles*.

1573 Moffett received a B.A. from Cambridge.

1573 Norden (cartographer) received an MA from Oxford.

1574 Gorges completed B.A. from Oxford.

1574 Richard Barnfield born.

1575-7 Baxter toured Europe with Vere.

1576 Bassano’s father died and she moved in with the Bertie family.

1576 Munday temporarily bound as an apprentice to stationer John Allde.

1576? Dunstan Gale born (unknown birth and death dates).

1576? Richard Lynche born. No surviving records of birth or death.

1577 Baxter completed an M.A. from Oxford.

1577 First publication attributed to Baxter of *Calvin’s Lectures or Daily Sermons upon the Prophet Jonas*.

1577 Harvey’s *Ciceronianus* first published in Latin.

1577 \*Raphael Holinshed’s *Chronicles of England, Scotland, and Ireland* (Books 2-3) first published. The earliest tested text with a confirmed publication date matching this linguistic group.

1578 Harvey became a fellow of Trinity Hall and began studying civil law.

1579 Anthony Munday’s *Mirror of Mutability* first published.

1579 First publication of Spenser’s *The Shepheardes Calendar*, a celebration of Spenser’s friendship with Harvey.

1579 Francis Rous born.

1579 Moffett received a doctorate in medicine from Basel University with the thesis *De Amodinis Medicamentis* (1578).

1580 Gabriel Harvey and Edmund Spenser’s *Three Proper and Witty Familiar Letters* first published.

1580? Thomas Middleton born.

1580? Holinshed died.

1580-1 Giles Fletcher the Elder served as dean of arts at Cambridge until his marriage.

1581 Anthony Munday’s *Courtly Controversy* first published.

1581 Lodge receives MA from Oxford.

1581-21 Greville spent several terms in the House of Commons.

1582 Anthony Munday’s *English Roman Life* first published.

1582 Bertie died.

1582 George Whetstone’s *Heptameron* first published.

1582 Moffett was recognized as a physician by the College of Physicians in London.

1582 Phineas Fletcher born.

1582 Whetstone’s *An Heptameron of Civil Discourses* first published; Shakespeare’s *Measure for Measure* is said to be based in plot of a tale in this collection, *The Rare Historie of Promos and Cassandra*.

1583 Donne begins studying at Oxford at only twelve.

1584 Giles Fletcher the Elder elected as an M.P.

1584 Gorges served as the Member of Parliament for Yarmouth.

1584 Norden’s *A Pensive Mans Practise* first published, reaching over forty editions in his lifespan.

1585 Daniel’s translation of *The Worthy Tract of Paulus Jovius* first published.

1585 Harvey rejected from doctoral program at Trinity, commencing studies at Oxford instead.

1586 Barnes enrolled but did not complete a degree at Oxford.

1586 John Ford born.

1586 William Warner’s *Albion’s England* first published.

1586? Reverend Giles Fletcher born to Giles Fletcher the Elder.

1586-05 Giles Fletcher the Elder served as Remembrancer of London.

1586-9 Donne transfers to Cambridge, but leaves without a degree.

1587 Barnes’ father died and left him an inheritance that sustained him for the rest of his life.

1587 Privy Council via Lord Burghley (Shakespeare’s guardian) steps in to grant Marlowe an M.A. from Cambridge.

1587 Whetstone appears to have died in a duel.

1588 Giles Fletcher the Elder served as ambassador to Russia.

1588 Gorges served as the Member of Parliament for Camelford.

1588 Moffett becomes a fellow with the College of Physicians after attacking them for Papist influences.

1588-? Bassano believed to be a mistress to Henry Carey, Elizabeth’s cousin, Lord Chamberlain and arts patron, including “Shakespeare’s” company: Carey gave Bassano an annual pension of £40.

1590 Drayton’s *The Harmony of the Church* first published.

1590 Spenser’s satire, *Mother Hubbert’s Tale*, insults Lord Burghley, William Cecil, forcing Spenser to withdraw to Ireland.

1590 Three books of Spenser’s *The Faerie Queene* first published, winning a £50 lifetime pension from the Queen.

1591 Giles Fletcher’s *Russe* first published.

1592 Bassano became pregnant with Carey’s child and married her cousin and Elizabeth’s musician, Alfonso Lanier.

1592 Daniel’s *Delia* first published.

1592 Donne admitted into Lincoln’s Inn.

1592 Gorges served as the M.P. for Dorsetshire.

1592 Greene made the first reference to Shakespeare in *Groats-worth* posthumously quoting lines from *Henry VI, Part 3.*

1592 Harvey’s *Foure Letters and Certaine Sonnets* first published in response to Greene satirizing Harvey’s brother Richard, an Anglican minister.

1592 Marlowe faces Lord Burghley’s judgement on suspicion of coining: no prosecution follows.

1592 Nicholas Breton’s *Pilgrimage to Paradise* first published.

1592-9 Baxter served as the warden of Collegiate Church of St Mary Youghal in Ireland. The appointment ended with a dispute over his mismanagement of funds.

1593 Barnabe Barnes’ *Parthenophil and Parthenophe* first published.

1593 Barnes credited with a sonnet and Nashe is satirized in Harvey’s *Pierces Supererogation*.

1593 Days after the Privy Council issued an order for Marlowe’s arrest over blasphemy and atheism charges, Marlowe is killed over the bill at a lodging house by Ingram Frizer, a property reseller who was working for landowner Thomas Walsingham, a relative of Sir Francis Walsingham, Elizabeth’s Secretary of State, both active in secret service.

1593 Drayton’s *Idea, The Shepheards Garland* first published.

1593 Harvey’s *New Letter* first published.

1594 Drayton’s *Ideas Mirrour* first published.

1594 Marlowe’s *Edward II; Dido Queen of Carthage* first published.

1594 Michael Drayton’s *Matilda* first published.

1594 Richard Barnfield’s *Complete Poems of Richard Barnfield* first published.

1594 William Shakespeare’s *Rape of Lucrece* first published.

1595 Edwards died.

1595 Michael Drayton’s *Endimion and Phoebe* first published.

1595 Thomas Edwards’ *L’Envoy to Narcissus* first published.

1595 Thomas Lodge’s *Fig for Momus* first published.

1596 Richard Lynche’s or “R.L.’s” *Love of Dom Diego and Ginevra* first published.

1597 Moffett elected as an M.P. for Wilton.

1597 Munday and Drayton’s *Modern Redcap* first performed and published.

1597 Rous graduated from Oxford with B.A.

1597/17? Dunstan Gale’s *Pyramus and Thisbe* first published: in a lost edition in 1597, and then in Greene’s *History of Arbasto* in 1617.

1598 Barnes prosecuted for attempted poisoning of John Browne, but escaped prison prior to the verdict.

1598 Christopher Marlowe and George Chapman’s *Hero and Leander* first published.

1598 First reference to Shakespeare’s sonnets made by Francis Meres in *Palladis Tamia.*

1598 Francis Rous’ *Thule* first published.

1598 Marlowe and Chettle’s *Hero and Leander* first published.

1598 Munday and Drayton’s *The Funeral of Richard Cordelion* first performed.

1598 Rous graduated from University of Leiden with M.A.

1598 Rowlands’ *Betraying of Christ* first published.

1598 Samuel Rowlands’ *Betraying of Christ* first published.

1598 Spenser’s Irish castle in burned in the Nine Years’ War.

1598-01 J. D.’s “Parnassus plays”, *The Pilgrimage to Parnassus, The Return from Parnassus, The Return from Parnassus: Or the Scourge of Simony* first published.

1598-9 Munday toured as a play editor with Pembroke’s Men in the Low Countries.

1599 Archbishop of Canterbury ordered both Harvey and Nashe’s books burned over their literary battle.

1599 Jonson’s *Every Man Out of His Humor* performed by Lord Chamberlain’s Men at the Globe Theatre.

1599 Richard Lynche attributed as the author of *The Fountain of English Fiction*.

1599 Spenser died.

1599 Thomas Moffett’s *Silkworms, and Their Flies* first published.

1600 Shakespeare’s *Sonnets* entered by Eleazar Edgar as by “W.S.” into the Stationers’ Register.

1600/8 Chapman put in debtor’s prison and sued after overspending to gain acceptance in the royal court.

1601 Dekker satirized in Ben Jonson’s production of *Poetaster* as Demetrius Fannius.

1601 Gorges served as the Member of Parliament for Rye.

1601 Jonson seemingly satirizes Shakespeare in the playwriter character of Pantalabus in *The Poetaster.*

1601 Nicholas Breton’s *Soul’s Heavenly Exercise* first published.

1601 Richard Lynche attributed as the author of *An Historical Treatise of the Travels of Noah into Europe*.

1601 Rous entered the Middle Temple, becoming a lawyer.

1601-14 Donne served as an M.P.

1602 Nicholas Breton’s *Soul’s Harmony* first published.

1602 Rowlands’ best-known text, *A Poetical Rapsody*, first published.

1603 Breton’s *A Dialogue of Pith and Pleasure* first published*.*

1603 Davies’ *Microcosmos* first published with the note “W.S. R.B.”

1603 Dekker oversaw street entertainments for James I entry into London.

1603 Dekker’s *The Wonderful Year* (about the plague) published.

1603 Elizabeth I died.

1603-4 Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first performed.

1604 Daniel’s *Vision of the Twelve Goddesses* first performed for the Queen and first published.

1604 Greville granted Warwick Castle.

1604 Moffett died.

1604-5 Daniel served as Licenser to the Children of the Queen’s Revels.

1605 Anthony Munday’s *Triumphs of Reunited Britania* first performed and published.

1605 Davies’ *Wit’s Pilgimage* first published.

1605-8 Thomas Middleton’s *Yorkshire Tragedy* first performed.

1606 Barnabe Barnes’ *Four Books of Offices* first performed and published.

1606 Nathaniel Baxter’s or “N. B.’s” (can also be referring to Nicholas Breton) *Sir Philip Sydneys Ourania* first published.

1607 Chapman’s *Bussy D’Ambois* first published.

1607 Chettle died.

1607 Donne’s earliest attributed work, *Divine Poems*, first published.

1607 Edward Grimeston’s *A General Inventory of the History of France* first published: source for Chapman’s *Revenge.*

1608 Thomas Middleton’s *Yorkshire Tragedy* first published.

1608 Anonymous *Merry Devil of Edmonton* first published; attributed to “Shakespeare” in 1631 quartos together with *Fair Em.*

1608 Dekker’s *The Belman of London* (material borrowed from Greene).

1608 Phineas Fletcher completed an M.A. at Cambridge.

1609 Barnes died.

1609 Dekker’s *The Guls Horne-Booke* (anti-theatres) first published.

1609 Shakespeare’s *Sonnets* first published.

1609 Warner died.

1610 Reverend Giles Fletcher’s *Christ's Victory* first published.

1611 Bassano’s *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum* first published.

1611 Davies’ *The Scourge of Folly* first published.

1611 Emilia Bassano’s poems first published.

1611 Giles Fletcher the Elder died.

1611 John Donne’s *Anatomy of the World* first published.

1611-2 Gorges served as Gentleman of the Privy Chamber of Prince Henry, retiring after the prince died of typhoid fever in 1612; eulogies written upon Prince Henry’s death include: Davies’ *The Muses-Teares for the Losse of their Hope*, Sir William Alexander’s *An Elegie on the Death of Prince Henrie*, as well as those by Sir Walter Raleigh and Thomas Heywood.

1611-5? Phineas Fletcher served as a fellow at Cambridge.

1612 *Venus and Adonis* first attributed to “W. Shakespeare” in the 2nd edition.

1612 “W S’s” “Funeral Elegy for Master William Peter” first published.

1612, 27-9 Dekker oversaw the Lord Mayor’s pageants.

1613 Chapman’s *The Revenge of Bussy D’Ambois* first published.

1613 Thomas Middleton’s *Triumphs of Truth* first performed and published.

1613/9 Dekker imprisoned for debt.

1614 Arthur Gorges’ translation of Lucan’s *Pharsalia* first published.

1614 John Norden’s *Labyrinth of Man’s Life* first published.

1614 Walter Raleigh’s *History of the World* first published; lawsuit filed between printers over it with Stationers’ Court transferring rights from Stansby to Burre after Burre’s death in 1635.

1614-21 Greville served as Chancellor of the Exchequer.

1615-9 Reverend Giles Fletcher served as Reader in Greek Grammar and Language at Cambridge after a fellowship.

1616 “On Poet-Ape” published anonymously in the *Epigrams* frontmatter*,* part of *The Works of Benjamin Jonson.*

1616 Davies’ *Select Second Husband for Sir Thomas Overbury’s Wife*.

1616 Shakespeare died.

1617 Breton’s *A Dialogue betwixt a Courtier and a Countryman* first published.

1617 Davies’ *Wit’s Bedlam* first published.

1617/9 Bassano arrested for rent shortages on a school she founded.

1618 Anthony Munday’s *Sidero-Thriambos* first performed and published.

1618 Davies died.

1618 Raleigh executed by James I.

1619 Collection of signed Drayton works published in *Idea: In Sixty Three Sonnets.*

1619 Daniel died.

1619 Reverend Giles Fletcher named rector of Alderton in Suffolk.

1620 Barnfield died.

1620 *Dekker His Dreame* (about imprisonment) first published.

1621 Phineas Fletcher becomes rector of Hilgay in Norfolk.

1621-31 Donne serves as the Dean of St Paul’s Cathedral in London.

1622 Rowley and Shakespeare’s *Birth of Merlin, or, The Child Hath Found his Father*: first performed.

1623 Reverend Giles Fletcher died.

1623 *Romeo and Juliet* first attributed to “Shakespeare”.

1625 Gorges died.

1625 Lodge died.

1625? Breton died.

1625? Norden died.

1627 Ford’s *The Queen* first published.

1627 John Donne’s *A Sermon of Commemoration of the Lady Danvers* first preached and published.

1627 Middleton died.

1627 Rowlands died.

1628 Francis Hubert’s *Deplorable Life and Death of Edward the Second* first published.

1628 Greville died.

1629 Francis Hubert died. The three books attributed to him were published between 1628 and 1631, and no concrete information is known about his life.

1630 Harvey died.

1630 John Donne’s *Death’s Duel* first performed.

1630 Michael Drayton’s *Muses Elizium* first published.

1630 William Alexander’s *Map and Description of New-England* first published.

1631 Donne died.

1631 Drayton died.

1632 Dekker died.

1632 John Donne’s *Death's Duel* first published.

1633 “J. D.’s” or John Donne’s songs and sonnets first published in *Poems*.

1633 Baxter died.

1633 \*Fulke Greville’s *Certain Learned and Elegant Works* first published. One of two latest tested published texts matching this linguistic group.

1633 Marlowe’s *Jew of Malta* first published.

1633 Munday died.

1633 \*Phineas Fletcher’s *Purple Island* first published. One of two latest tested published texts matching this linguistic group.

1634 Chapman died.

1637 Jonson died, leaving over 100 books and records of payments for his writing.

1638 Ford’s *The Lady’s Trial* first published.

1639 Ford died.

1640 Alexander died.

1645 Bassano died.

1650 Phineas Fletcher died.

1651/2 Greville’s *The Life of the Renowned Sir Philip Sidney* first published.

1659 Rous died.

**Josuah Sylvester’s Linguistic Group**

15?? William Smith born.

1533 Elizabeth I born.

1550 Richard Verstegan born (initial name: Richard Rowlands).

1556 George Peele born.

1558 Elizabeth I accession to the throne.

1558 Thomas Lodge born.

1558? Robert Greene born.

1561 Mary Sidney born.

1562 Henry Constable born.

1562 Samuel Daniel born.

1563 Josuah Sylvester born.

1563 Mary Dudley (Mary Sidney’s mother) nursed Elizabeth I from smallpox.

1563 Michael Drayton born.

1563 Robert Sidney, 1st Earl of Leicester (Mary Sidney’s brother) born.

1564 William Shakespeare born.

1566 James I born.

1568 Gervase Markham (horse breeder and farmer) born.

1574 Joseph Hall born.

1575 Francis Davison (son of Elizabeth’s secretary of State William Davison) born.

1576 Sylvester joins his father’s clothing business after completing schooling at the King Edward VI School. He later became a servant to the Earl of Essex.

1576 Verstegan publishes a Western European guidebook, *The Post of the World.*

1578? Robert Sidney completed a B.A. from Oxford.

1578-80 Constable completed his B.A. at Cambridge.

1579 Mary Dudley retired from the court.

1579 Peele received an M.A. from Oxford.

1579-80 Lodge’s *Defence of Poetry, Music and Stage Plays* first circulates privately.

1581 Lodge receives MA from Oxford.

1581 Verstegan exiled for printing a pro-Catholic book against Edmund Campion’s execution, and received a pension from the Pope.

1582? Cyril Tourneur born.

1583 Constable briefly enrolled into Lincoln’s Inn, but appears not to have completed a law degree.

1583 Peele employed in arranging two plays by William Gager at Oxford.

1583 Robert Aylett born.

1583-5 Constable serves in Paris under the English ambassador Sir Edward Stafford.

1585 Peele hired to write *Device of the Pageant borne before Woolston Dixie.*

1585 Robert Sidney elected as an M.P. for Glamorganshire and fought in the war with Spain, where Philip Sidney (his brother) died, while he received a medal.

1585-6 Verstegan set up a publishing and engraving business in Belgium.

1586 Davison enrolled in Cambridge.

1586 Sir Philip Sidney died.

1586-? John Mason born.

1588 Robert Sidney takes a diplomatic trip to Scotland and is named governor of a Flushing (a Dutch town won after a rebellion).

1588-9 Constable is a favorite in Elizabeth’s court.

1589 \*Thomas Lodge’s *Scillaes Metamorphosis* first published. The first tested text published from this linguistic group.

1589 Constable attends King James VI/I’s marriage in Scotland.

1589 Constable credited with authoring the pro-catholic *Examen Pacifique de la Doctrine des Huguenots*.

1589 Nashe wrote and published a preface reviewing contemporary literature for Greene’s *Menapho.*

1590 Drayton’s *The Harmony of the Church* first published.

1590 Sylvester’s first self-attributed text, a translation of Du Bartas’ *A Canticle of the Victory Obtained by Henry the Fourth at Yvry*, first published.

1590-3 George Peele’s *Edward I* first performed.

1591 During a military campaign in France and after the death of his father, Constable converted to Catholicism and went into exile in Paris under a pension from Henri IV.

1591 Robert Greene’s *Orlando Furioso* first performed.

1592 Greene died.

1592 *Greene’s Groats-worth of Wit* first published with the first claimed allusion to Shakespeare.

1592 Mary Sidney’s translation from French of *Antonie* by Robert Garnier (1544-90) first published with Daniel’s *Cleopatra* as a companion.

1592 Richard Verstegan’s *Declaration of the True Causes of the Great Troubles* first published.

1592? Henry Constable’s *Diana* first published.

1593 Davison enrolled in Gray’s Inn.

1593 George Peele’s *Edward I* first published.

1593 Markham’s *A Discourse of Horsemanship* first published.

1593 William Shakespeare’s *Venus and Adonis* first published.

1593-4 George Peele’s *Love of King David* first performed.

1594 Anonymous *Locrine* first performed.

1594 Davison wrote and Thomas Campion created music for perhaps the first staged masque in England, *Masque of Proteus and the Adamantine Rock*, for the Gray’s Inn performance for Elizabeth.

1594 Robert Greene’s *Orlando Furioso* first published.

1594 Thomas Lodge’s *Wounds of Civil War* first performed and published.

1594-1619 Michael Drayton’s *Sonnets* first published.

1595 Anonymous *Locrine* first published.

1595 Constable journeys to Rome and Antwerp (likely crossing paths with Verstegan)

1595 Mary Sidney or Edmund Spenser’s “Dolefull Lay of Clorinda” (elegy to Philip Sidney) and “A Dialogue Between Two Shepherds, Thenot and Piers” first published.

1596 Gervase Markham’s *Poem of Poems* first published.

1596 Hall finished an M.A. at Cambridge.

1596 Peele died.

1596 William Smith’s *Chloris* first published.

1597 Joseph Hall’s *Virgidemiarum* first published.

1599 Constable hunted and conversed on writing with King James IV/I in Scotland.

1599 George Peele’s *Love of King David* first published.

16?? William Smith died.

1600 Constable’s *Discovery of a Counterfecte Conference… for the Advancement of a Counterfecte Title* propagating James I’s claim to the crown was printed in Paris with the falsified claim that it was printed in Cologne on the title-page.

1600 England’s Helicon featured four of Constable’s poems including “Damelus Song to His Diaphenia” and “Venus and Adonis”.

1600 Tourneur’s earliest work, *Transformed Metamorphosis*, first published.

1601 Mary Sidney was trying to secure a position from Elizabeth for her son, William, who was instead imprisoned for impregnating outside wedlock Mary Fitton, Elizabeth’s Maid of honor.

1601 Richard Verstegan’s *Odes in Imitation of the Seven Penitential Psalms* first published.

1603 Elizabeth I died, and James I was coronated.

1603 James I grants the titles of Baron and chamberlain to the queen consort Anne of Denmark to Robert Sidney upon his ascension.

1603 Joseph Hall’s *King’s Prophecy* first performed and published.

1604 Constable was briefly granted his inherited land after James I’s ascension to the throne, before he was imprisoned in the Tower for his propagandizing for Catholicism, later being released without his lands to remain under house arrest.

1604 Daniel’s *Vision of the Twelve Goddesses* first performed for the Queen and first published.

1604 Heywood’s *Wise Woman of Hogsdon* first published (inspired by “Mother Bumbey” folktale).

1604-5 Daniel served as Licenser to the Children of the Queen’s Revels.

1606? Mason received an M.A. from an unspecified university. John Mason co-owned Whitefriars Theater that produced the Turke with King’s Revels Children.

1606-8 Robert Sidney serves in the war in the Netherlands.

1607 John Mason’s *Turk* first performed.

1608 Constable was again arrested.

1608 Mary Sidney’s sons take over her patronage duties to writers.

1608-12 Sylvester served as a Groom of the Chamber to Prince Henry.

1610 Constable allowed to leave England for Paris.

1610+? Mason died.

1610-5 Robert Aylett’s *Valiant Welshman* first performed.

1611 Cyril Tourneur’s *Atheist’s Tragedy* first performed and published.

1611 Francis Davison’s *Poetical Rapsody* (including around 80 poems attributed to Davison and the rest by other authors) first published.

1611-3? Constable died in exile in Liege.

1613-4 Tourneur serves in the military in the Low Countries.

1613-8 Sylvester served as a secretary to merchants in Middelburg.

1614 Samuel Daniel’s *Hymen’s Triumph* first presented before Elizabeth for the marriage of the Earl of Roxborough to Jean Drummond.

1614-25 Robert Sidney, 2nd Earl of Leicester and Robert’s son, serves in the House of Commons.

1615 Robert Aylett’s *Valiant Welshman* first published.

1615 Samuel Daniel’s *Hymen’s Triumph* first published.

1616 Shakespeare died.

1617 Markham banned by the Stationers from publishing any more books about horsemanship because they were self-plagiarizing.

1618 Robert Sidney is granted the title Earl of Leicester.

1618 Sylvester died.

1619 Daniel died.

1619 John Mason’s *Turk* first published.

1620 \*Sylvester’s *All the Small Works* first published. The last published tested text from this linguistic group.

1620 Sylvester’s *Wood-mans Bear* first published.

1621 Davison died.

1621 Mary Sidney died.

1625 James I died.

1625 Lodge died.

1625 Tourneur briefly appointed and then recalled as secretary to the council of war for the Cadiz Expedition.

1626 Robert Sidney died.

1626 Tourneur died.

1626 Tourneur dies among the sick soldiers in Ireland on the return journey from Cadiz.

1627-41 Hall served as the Bishop of Exeter.

1631 Drayton died.

1634 Markham’s *Art of Archery* first published.

1637 Markham died.

1640 *An Humble Remonstrance to the High Court of Parliament* first published under the name “Smectymnuus” but attributed to Hall; in response to this critique, John Milton published five pamphlets attacking Hall’s satires.

1640 Verstegan died.

1641-56 Hall served as the Diocese of Norwich.

1655? Aylett died.

1656 Hall died.

1663-4 Third Folio published with “Shakespeare” Apocrypha.