Paper 3 Q1 Language Change

Question 1

Read Texts A, B and C.

Analyse how Text A exemplifies the various ways in which the English language has changed over time. In your answer, you should refer to specific details from Texts A, B and C, as well as to ideas and examples from your wider study of language change. [25]
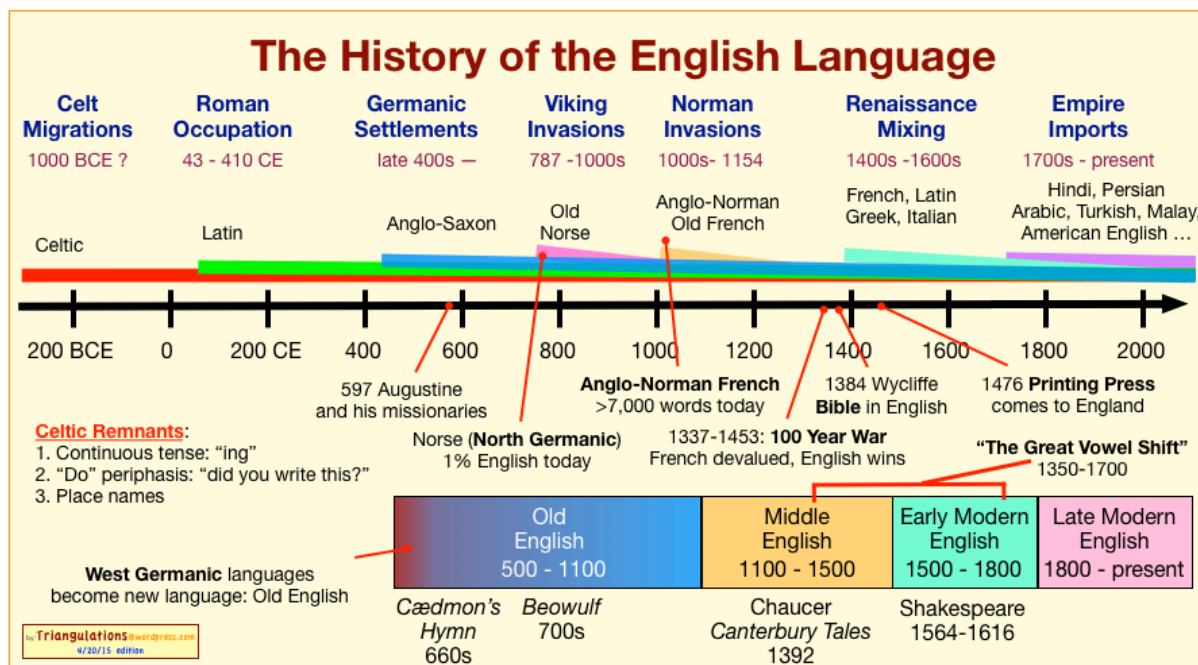
Text A Excerpts from a book of moral reflections written by Francis Quarles and Arthur Warwick, printed in 1680…
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Language changes are due to:
- **Individuals - Claxton, Shakespeare, Robert Lowth, Samuel Johnson…**
- **Society - Cultural, Renaissance …**
- **Technology - Printing Press, Industrial Revolution**
- **Foreign Influences - colonisation, Latin, Greek, French …**
- **Science - Borrowing words, innovations (neologisms)**
- **Travel - globalisation and migration**

In your **text A, B and C**, analyze (i.e.look for and comment on) in a discursive style essay using the following linguistic framework

The History of the English Language

Celt Migrations	Roman Occupation	Germanic Settlements	Viking Invasions	Norman Invasions	Renaissance Mixing	Empire Imports
1000 BCE ?	43 - 410 CE	late 400s —	787 -1000s	1000s- 1154	1400s -1600s	1700s - present

Anglo-Norman Old French

French, Latin Greek, Italian

Hindi, Persian Arabic, Turkish, Malay, American English ...

Celtic

Latin

Anglo-Saxon

Old Norse

200 BCE 0 200 CE 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600 1800 2000

597 Augustine and his missionaries

Anglo-Norman French >7,000 words today

1384 Wycliffe **Bible** in English

1476 **Printing Press** comes to England

Celtic Remnants:
1. Continuous tense: "ing"
2. "Do" periphasis: "did you write this?"
3. Place names

Norse (**North Germanic**) 1% English today

1337-1453: **100 Year War** French devalued, English wins

"The Great Vowel Shift" 1350-1700

West Germanic languages become new language: Old English

by: **Triangulations**@wordpress.com 4/20/15 edition

Old English 500 - 1100	Middle English 1100 - 1500	Early Modern English 1500 - 1800	Late Modern English 1800 - present

Cædmon's Hymn 660s

Beowulf 700s

Chaucer *Canterbury Tales* 1392

Shakespeare 1564-1616

Language Change Framework : What to Look Out for and Mention

1) Lexis, Semantics, Morphology

Linguistic Feature (in Text A, B and C)	Historical event / Reasoning	Theory Application

Lexis: (actual physical word itself)
 	
- Are there **archaic** words? N-gram, lower frequency over time?
-Where did the word come from (**etymology**)? Greek, Latin, Anglo-Saxon, French?
-How did the word enter the language?
  1) **Borrowing**/Loanwords
  2) **Derivation** (derive from…)
     ● **Compounding** - notebook
     ● **Clipping** - mayo
     ● **Blending** - brunch/Brexit
	English Renaissance 1550-1660
	
	1763 - Canada
	1788 - Australia
		(write in/attach more theories, these were just a sample and state your reason why you mentioned them i.e. develop the idea)
		
		Cultural Transmission Theory

Language Change Framework : What to Look Out for and Mention

1) Lexis, Semantics, Morphology

Linguistic Feature (in Text A, B and C)	Historical event / Reasoning	Theory Application
• **Affixation** - big<u>ness</u> (prefix/suffix) - 3) **Coinage** - new inventions/phenomenon never seen before need new words to describe. These are called neologism e.g. cryptocurrency How is the **register**? formal/informal - Does the text shift/how does it develop?		

Semantics: (word meaning)
 	
-How has the word changed in meaning over time? By …
    -Narrowing >
    -Broadening <
    -Pejoration -
    -Amelioration +
- A word can have a symbolic meaning (connotation) or a literal meaning (denotation/dictionary) e.g. red
-Does the writer use synonyms, antonyms, homonyms (bat/bat)
	Social, Political, Technical, Cultural changes
	
	Industrial Revolution …	

Morphology: (parts of words/morphemes i.e. prefix, suffix, base)		
- Does the author use **additional 'e'** (aka the final 'e')	To emphasize the long vowel sound in the preceding syllable. This was phased out in the 17th c with the increase	

Language Change Framework : What to Look Out for and Mention

1) Lexis, Semantics, Morphology

Linguistic Feature (in Text A, B and C)	Historical event / Reasoning	Theory Application
	of standardization	
- Does the author use double consonants? E.g. "Hopp" - EME spelling of "hop" "Lett" - EME spelling of "let" "Sitt" - EME spelling of "sit" "Watt" - EME spelling of "what"	to indicate the shortening of a preceding vowel sound, to indicate pronunciation/which syllabus the stress is on, to differentiate between homophones e.g. reinn (horse) and rain, and to reflect the etymology of words the word "possess" comes from the Latin word "possidere, which had a double "s," and the word was spelled with a double "s" in EME to reflect its Latin origin	Functional Theory (Halliday)
Archaic inflection - est (2nd person), -eth (3rd person) -(indicated tense/number e.g. 'she goeth'	Disappeared during TGVS, replaced by the simpler marker 's' During Middle English time (1100-1500), English was greatly influenced by French and Latin which were inflected languages, by end of Middle English the English language was becoming more self-reliant and shedding these inflections for the sake of simplicity	
Archaic Elision (aka contractions) -proclictic (at the start) e.g. **t**'was -enclictic (at the end) e.g. seem'**d**	Reasoning: - pleasing rhythmic, mimics the spoken language, to help printing fit on the page	Functional Theory (Halaliday) … Jonathan Swift said contractions were 'inelegant'. Became much less common in the 19th c. However, today they are used in informal written texts.
Over time words moved from:	Making things simpler, efficient	

Language Change Framework : What to Look Out for and Mention

1) Lexis, Semantics, Morphology

Linguistic Feature (in Text A, B and C)	Historical event / Reasoning	Theory Application
2 separate words, hyphenated, to compound		

2) Grammar and Syntax

Linguistic Feature (in Text A, B and C)	Historical event / Reasoning	Theory Application
Are the sentences **long, multi clause?** Paragraphs dense? Today we try to keep our sentences shorter and colons and semicolons are used less, although a lot depends on the genre and its required conventions.	Showcasing their mastery and education as Latin often was written in this long way and that was thought of as sophisticated. Lack of punctuation norms allowed writers to use colons, semicolons, and dashes allowing them to structure their long complex sentences.	
1500-1700 **Interrogatives** (aka Questions) began with verb first "Spake you with him"? Order:**VSO -** especially in literary and poetic genres. Today we use order SUBJECT + VERB+OBJECT **SVO** (in fact we usually use the Auxiliary verb to help the sentence	The shift towards the modern SVO word order began in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, and was largely influenced by the development of prescriptive grammars and the influence of French on English syntax. John Dryden (grammarian), who in the late 17th century argued for the adoption of the SVO word order as a more "natural" and	

e.g."Did you speak to him?"	"logical" structure.	
To compensate for the loss of inflectional endings, LME saw a significant expansion of **auxiliary** verbs such as "do," "have," and "will." These auxiliary verbs were used to mark tense, aspect, and modality. Use of tenses LME saw the introduction of several **new tenses**, including the progressive ("I am walking"), the perfect ("I have walked"), and the future ("I will walk")		
Pronoun usage the second person singular pronouns were "thou/thee/thy/thine" the second person plural pronoun was "ye/you/your/yours"	The reasons for the shift away in the 17th and 18th c from "thou/thee/thy/thine" are not entirely clear, but it may have been influenced by social and cultural changes during this period, including the rise of social equality and the decline of the aristocracy.	
1500- 1750/1800 EME **Superlatives** e.g. properest **Comparatives** e.g. more cleverer **Double Negatives** e.g. I cannot find no one **Prepositional use** e.g.end of sentence and to indicate possession "the hat of John"	Due to the lack of standardized grammar rules, the influence of Latin grammar and rhetoric, and the desire to express ideas in a highly nuanced and sophisticated manner.	1700-1800 Rules from **Prescriptivests**: -end of double negatives -no preposition at the end of a sentence.
Use of the **Definite article 'the'** before most nouns e.g. the marriage, the love, the Russians Today we say marriage, Russians,	In Early Modern English, it was common to place "the" before adjectives that modified a noun, as in the phrase "the fair lady." Today we would likely say "the lady who is fair."	
In 1795 Lindly Murray introduced the first grammar book introducing the subjunctive mood e.g. wish suggestion, hypothetical Wishes: "I wish I were taller." Suggestions: "It is important that she arrive on time." Doubts: "I doubt that he be honest." Hypotheticals: "If I were rich, I would travel the world." Contrary-to-fact conditions: "If I had studied harder, I would have passed the test."	This helped to standardize and codify the use of the subjunctive in English, making it easier for learners to understand and use the mood correctly. Prior to Murray's work, the subjunctive was often used inconsistently or haphazardly, and its rules were not well understood.	

3) Orthology (spelling)

Linguistic Feature (in Text A, B and C)	Historical event / Reasoning	Theory Application
Interchangeability of letters e.g. <i> and <j> lust and just <u> and <v> loue and love 1569 John Hart - need to fix the many *abuses* of English <i> became a vowel and <j> a consonant publick became public <W> written as <VV> Sometimes the same words with the same meaning were spelt differently in the same text by the author. Shakespeare was famous for doing this.	Here we see the English language going through standardization, conventions applied and make simpler	
The Great Vowel Shift (TGVS) - 15th, 16th and 17th century - had a very big impact on the spelling and pronunciation of english words	Certain long vowel sounds became shorter and because of this spellings began to change to reflect the new pronunciation e.g. bete became bite. Conversely, some short vowels became longer foot was pronounced as book but then became foot. Mein became mine	**The Random Fluctuation Theory** proposes that the GVS was not driven by external factors or systematic linguistic rules, but rather emerged through a series of chance events.

4) Graphology (symbols)

Linguistic Feature (in Text A, B and C)	Historical event / Reasoning	Theory Application
Are any and all nouns **CAPITALIZED**?	• To put emphasis on certain words that the author deemed important • This could also be a spill off from the Anglo-Saxon influence as today the Germanic language does this.	
Long S and short s (can occur at the start,	• It had been used in English	

middle but not end of the word) "house" was written as "houſe" and "mistress" was written as "miſtreſs"	manuscripts since the Middle Ages and was still in common use during the early modern period. It was not a separate letter, but rather a variant of the standard "s" that was used in certain positions. ● Phased out with increase of printing and it was considered time-consuming and by 18th c it disappeared form standard english spelling	
Punctuation **comma, period, colon, semicolon, dashes** (to accommodate the very very long sentences) **diacritical marks**, such as the acute accent, which was used to indicate stress in some borrowed words from Latin and Greek. **ampersands (&**), which was used to represent the word "and", and various ornamental flourishes and ligatures that were commonly used in printing and calligraphy.		**Functional Theory** (Halliday) to make communication clearer and more efficient

5) Phonology

Linguistic Feature (in Text A, B and C)	Historical event / Reasoning	Theory Application
Many of the spelling rules and conventions of Middle English were still in use, but there were also new spelling patterns emerging to reflect the changes in pronunciation that were taking place.		
Consonant Cluster Reduction e.g. *Kn*ight, *Gn*at, the first letter became silent		
The Great Vowel Shift 1400-1700 A change in where the vowels were produced	TGVS This was a major change in the pronunciation of English long vowels that took	Random Fluctuation Theory

in our mouths	place between the 14th and 18th centuries. During this time, many long vowels were raised or shifted to new positions in the mouth. For example, the Middle English vowel "ee" (as in "tree") shifted to the modern English "i" sound (as in "bit"). The Loss of Final Consonants: In LME, many final consonants that were present in EME were lost. For example, the "e" at the end of words like "name" or "ride" used to be pronounced, but was later dropped. The Development of New Vowels: LME saw the emergence of new vowel sounds that were not present in EME, such as the "ow" sound in "now" or the "oy" sound in "boy". Changes in Stress and Intonation: LME saw changes in the way stress and intonation were used in spoken English. For example, the stress patterns of words changed, and there was an increased use of rising intonation at the end of sentences to indicate questions.	Cultural Transmission Theory
Rhoticity 'r' In Early Modern English (1500-1700), the pronunciation of "r" was generally rhotic (like a pirate). This means that the "r" sound was pronounced in all positions, including after vowels and in word-final positions. The pronunciation of "r" was also typically trilled, with the tongue vibrating against the roof of the mouth. However, during the Late Modern English period (1700-present), the pronunciation of "r" began to change. In some dialects, particularly those in the south of England, the "r" sound was weakened or dropped entirely in certain positions, a feature known as non-rhoticity. This change was likely influenced by social factors, such as the prestige of the non-rhotic accent in certain circles of society.	Today, the pronunciation of "r" in English is still highly variable, with some dialects being rhotic and others non-rhotic. In rhotic dialects, such as those spoken in much of the United States and Scotland, the "r" sound is pronounced consistently. In non-rhotic dialects, such as those spoken in England and Australia, the "r" sound is typically dropped after vowels and in word-final positions.	

6) Pragmatics

The most forgotten and disregarded aspect is pragmatics. The quickest way to approach the topic is to look at

the text and think if all phrases are suitable nowadays/in a talk among adults. If something is off – mention changes in society or technology, political correctness, how communication includes not only the language itself but also cultural norms we apply (what we can discuss with whom and in what way).

The following Theories/Models show
<u>Why</u> and the <u>How</u> Language Changes

<u>WHY</u>

Cultural Transmission Theory: This theory suggests that language change is due to the transmission of linguistic features from one generation to the next within a speech community. Changes in lexicon, semantics, and grammar can be attributed to cultural transmission. During the Early Modern English period (1500-1800), the English language saw the introduction of many loanwords from Latin and Greek, such as "philosophy," "biology," and "metaphor." These words were adopted into English through cultural transmission as scholars and academics began to use them in their writing and speech. <u>Criticism</u>: doesn't account for learning through trial and error.

Functional Theory: (Halliday) This theory suggests that language change occurs due to the communicative needs and goals of speakers. Linguistic changes are motivated by functional factors such as communicative efficiency, social status, or stylistic variation. During the Early Modern English period, changes in semantics occurred due to the need for more precise language. For example, the word "friend" was used to refer to both male and female friends, but the need for a gendered distinction led to the emergence of the word "girlfriend" to refer specifically to a female friend.
<u>Criticism</u>: only explains changes in lexis, not grammar

Random Fluctuation Theory: (Hockett) This theory proposes that linguistic changes are due to random fluctuations that occur within a speech community. Changes in orthography, graphology, and phonology can be attributed to random fluctuation. During the Early Modern English period, there were significant changes in orthography as the English language transitioned from Middle English to Early Modern English. For example, the use of the letter "y" to represent the sound "i" in words such as "my" and "by" eventually gave way to the use of the letter "i." <u>Criticism</u>: assumes everyone is trying to speak in the same way. Also, change in language seems to happen in a more organized way as this theory explains a sort of chaos.

Substratum Theory: (Labov) This theory suggests that linguistic changes occur when speakers of one language come into contact with speakers of another language and adopt features from the second language due to its influence. During the Early Modern English period, the English language was heavily influenced by contact with other languages, particularly Latin and French. This led to the introduction of many loanwords from these languages, such as "chaise" from French and "status" from Latin.

HOW

Wave-tree Model: This model posits that linguistic changes occur in waves, with changes originating in one geographic location and spreading outwards in a tree-like fashion. During the Early Modern English period, there were significant changes in phonology that occurred first in the southeast of England and then spread outwards. The Great Vowel Shift, which saw a change in the pronunciation of long vowels in the English language, is an example of a change that followed the wave-tree model.

S-Curve Model: This model suggests that linguistic changes follow an S-shaped curve, with a slow initial period of growth, followed by a period of rapid growth, and then a period of decline as the change becomes established. During the Early Modern English period, the loss of inflectional endings followed this model. For example, the Old English ending "-an" in the plural form of nouns was gradually replaced by the Middle English ending "-es," with the change following the S-curve model.

Jean Aitchison's Theory of Language Change PIDC - The four stages words go through to become part of vocabulary: This theory posits that language vocabulary acquisition occurs in 4 stages: the **P**otential, **I**mplementation, **D**iffusion, **C**odification phase, During the Early Modern English period, the introduction of Latin and Greek loanwords can be seen as an example of the potential phase. The implementation phase - where the word survives or dies, The diffusion phase saw the gradual adoption of these words by the speech community beyond the original group, while the codification phase saw them become part of the English language's standard usage.

An example of a change that followed this model is the introduction of the word "philosophy" into English from Greek, which followed the 4 stages of Jean Aitchison's theory.

In the 16th and 17th Centuries (English Renaissance) 'correctness' was important, a sign of the upper class. Centuries that followed, 18th and 19th, linguistics would fall into two extremes:

Prescriptivist	Descriptivists
John Hart (1569) - spelling **Robert Lowth** (1762) - teachings should be based on Latin conventions e.g. double negatives, not ending with preposition **Samuel Johnson**/dictionary (1755) started off as Prescriptivist then became a descriptivist	**Joseph Priestly** (18th century) - Grammar is defined by common usage and not by self-styled Grammarians **Jean Aichtensen** (1980s) - criticized the prescriptivists, how they look at the English language and how it is changing - the prescriptivists view that it is like a damp spoon, infectious disease, crumbling castle

	Cameron (1995) Language is an important social tool, our fear about language change symbolizes our fears about social problems **David Crystal** - "a language changes to reflect society" **Michael Halliday** - Functional theory

<u>Text B Corpus Data</u>

We don't just look at words on their own, we see other words they are paired with (this is a collocate, in context). Here we look at the word **meaning** change over time.
- Narrowing - meaning applies to less things
- Broadening - meaning applies to more things
- Pejoration - meaning has become more negative
- Amelioration - meaning has become more positive

Note: has it changed its status as a noun to verb? Look at the **spelling.** Compare to **English today**

ALWAYS LINK back to text A! How was the word used in the text?

<u>Text C n-gram (Frequency)</u>

Identify the patterns, what social / economic / political change happened at the peak and trough.
Is it a verb/noun has this changed over time?

ALWAYS LINK back to text A! How was it used in the text? How would it be used differently today etc.

<u>Lexis, morphology, and semantics:</u>

Loanwords from other languages: English has borrowed extensively from other languages throughout its history, resulting in the incorporation of new vocabulary and changes in word meanings. For example, many words from French were adopted during the Middle English period, such as "beef" and "pork" for meat (from "boeuf" and "porc" respectively). The Substratum Theory suggests that language contact with French speakers during the Norman Conquest led to this influx of French words into English.

Semantic shift: Over time, the meanings of words can change, resulting in shifts in semantics. For example, the word "nice" originally meant "foolish" or "stupid" in Middle English, but by the 18th century, its meaning had shifted to "pleasant" or "agreeable." The Wave-Tree Model suggests that this type of semantic shift occurs gradually and is influenced by cultural and social changes.

Morphological changes: The English language has undergone significant changes in its morphological system, particularly in the loss of inflectional endings. For example, the Old English word "nama" (meaning "name") had different forms depending on its grammatical context, but in Modern English, there is only one form for "name." The S-Curve Model suggests that this type of morphological change occurs rapidly, followed by a period of stability as the new system is established.

Grammar and Syntax:

Changes in word order: The English language has seen changes in its word order over time, particularly in the shift from a verb-second (V2) word order in Middle English to a subject-verb-object (SVO) word order in Modern English. The Functional Theory suggests that changes in word order are driven by communicative needs and the desire to make language more efficient.

Grammatical simplification:

English has undergone significant grammatical simplification over time, particularly in the loss of grammatical gender and the simplification of verb conjugation. The Cultural Transmission Theory suggests that grammatical simplification is driven by the need for language learners to simplify the grammar for ease of acquisition.

Orthography:

Spelling standardization: The English language has seen significant changes in its spelling system, particularly with the standardization of spelling in the 18th century. The Wave-Tree Model suggests that this type of change occurs gradually and is influenced by social and cultural factors.

Graphology:

Changes in handwriting: The English language has seen changes in its handwriting style over time, particularly with the transition from the Gothic script to the Roman script in the 16th century. The Cultural Transmission Theory suggests that changes in handwriting are driven by the need for learners to be able to read and write effectively.

Phonology:

Great Vowel Shift: The English language underwent a significant change in its vowel system during the Middle English period, resulting in the Great Vowel Shift. This shift involved changes in the pronunciation of long vowels, such as the pronunciation of "ee" changing from [i:] to [i]. The Random Fluctuation Theory suggests that this type of change is driven by random factors such as sound changes in neighboring languages, rather than by any specific social or cultural factors.

Great Vowel shift explained simply (Otto Jesperson)
600 years ago, people spoke English differently than we do today. One of the most significant changes that happened to English during this time was called the Great Vowel Shift.

Before the Great Vowel Shift, the vowels in English sounded more like the vowels in other European languages, like Spanish or Italian. But during the Great Vowel Shift, the way English vowels were pronounced changed (long vowels and some consonants)

For example, the vowel sound in the word "meat" used to be pronounced like the "a" in "cat", but it shifted to the "ee" sound we hear today. The vowel sound in "bite" used to be pronounced like the "ee" in "meet", but it shifted to the "ai" sound we hear today.

Here are some more examples to help you understand the Great Vowel Shift:

The word "wife" used to be pronounced like "weef", but it shifted to "wai-fuh".
The word "food" used to be pronounced like "fode", but it shifted to "foo-d".
The word "house" used to be pronounced like "hoos", but it shifted to "howz".
The Great Vowel Shift was a big deal for English because it changed the way we pronounce many words and helped to create the sounds of English that we know today.

HISTORICAL EVENTS AND THEIR EFFECT ON THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

[Old English : 500-1100]

Old English is the earliest form of the English language, spoken and written in England from approximately the mid-5th century to the mid-12th century. Here are some examples of Old English terms and phrases, along with their modern English equivalents :

- "Þæt wæs god cyning." (That was a good king.) - This sentence is an example of Old English, and the spelling and grammar are quite different from modern English. For example, the letter "þ" is used to represent the "th" sound, and the word "god" is spelled with a "g" rather than a "d".

- "Ða Engliscan gewritu sindon swiðe yfel awendan." (English writings are very difficult to translate.) - This sentence contains the word "Engliscan," which means "English," and is the origin of the modern word "English." It also uses the word "swiðe" instead of "very," and "awendan" instead of "translate."

- "Hwæt! We Gardena in geardagum." (Lo! We, the Spear-Danes in days of yore.) - This sentence is the opening line of the Old English epic poem Beowulf. It uses the word "hwæt," which means "lo" or "listen," as a way of capturing the audience's attention.

Overall, Old English differs from modern English in its spelling, grammar, and vocabulary. The language has gone through many changes over time, including the loss of inflectional endings and the adoption of new words and phrases from other languages.

Roman raids of Britain : (55 BC) Pre-Old English
- The Roman raids on Britain in 55 BC may have influenced the English language indirectly.
- The native language of the Britons at the time was a Celtic language.
- Latin words and concepts were introduced to the Britons through their interactions with Roman traders and merchants.
- Latin became the language of administration, law, and education after the Roman conquest of Britain in AD 43.
- Latin words and phrases remain in use in English today, particularly in academic, legal, and scientific contexts.
- Examples of Latin words in English include "agenda" (from "agere," meaning "to do") and "ad hoc" (from "ad hoc," meaning "for this purpose").
- The withdrawal of Roman troops from Britain in 410 AD left the island vulnerable to invasion and paved the way for the eventual arrival of Germanic tribes and the development of Old English.

Anglo-Saxons in Britain : 500-1066 AD
The arrival of the Anglo-Saxons in Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries AD had a significant impact on the English language. The Anglo-Saxons spoke various Germanic dialects, and their language eventually evolved into Old English, which became the dominant language in England until the Norman Conquest in 1066.

Here are some ways that the Anglo-Saxon settlement may have impacted the English language:
- **Lexis**: The Anglo-Saxon dialects brought many new words into the English language, particularly words related to everyday life, such as "bread," "cheese," "house," and "drink." Many of these words are still in use in Modern English today. Additionally, the Anglo-Saxons were known for their poetic language, which influenced the development of English literature.

- **Phonology**: The Anglo-Saxon dialects had a different sound system than the Celtic languages spoken in Britain at the time, and their influence can be seen in the sound changes that occurred in Old English, such as the loss of certain vowel distinctions and the development of a more complex system of consonant sounds.

- **Morphology**: The Anglo-Saxon dialects had a more complex system of inflectional endings than the Celtic languages, and this complexity is reflected in the inflectional system of Old English. For example, Old English had different endings for nouns depending on their grammatical case and for verbs depending on their tense, mood, and subject.

- **Grammar**: The Anglo-Saxon dialects had a more complex system of grammar than the Celtic languages, and this complexity is reflected in the grammar of Old English. For example, Old English had a more complex system of word order than modern English, with more flexibility in the placement of verbs and nouns.

- **Orthography**: The Anglo-Saxon dialects used the runic alphabet, which was eventually replaced by the Latin alphabet. The spelling of Old English was not standardized, and many variations existed, which can make reading Old English texts challenging for modern readers.

Norman Conquest : (1060)
The Norman Conquest of England in 1066 AD had a significant impact on the English language, culture, and society. Here are some ways that the Norman Conquest may have affected English Language :
- **Lexis**: The Normans brought many new words into the English language, particularly words related to government, law, and administration. Many of these words, such as "jury," "chancellor," and "parliament," are still in use in Modern English today. Additionally, the Normans introduced French words into the English language, particularly in the areas of fashion, food, and culture. For example, "beef" and "pork" come from the French words "boeuf" and "porc," which were used to refer to the meats eaten by the Norman nobility.

- **Semantics**: The Norman Conquest may have also influenced the meanings of some English words. For example, the word "villein" originally referred to a free peasant, but after the Norman Conquest, it came to refer to a serf or a bonded laborer.

- **Phonology**: The Normans spoke a dialect of Old French, which had a different sound system than Old English. The influence of Old French can be seen in the sound changes

that occurred in Middle English, such as the development of the "ch" sound in words like "church" and "cheese," which came from the Old French "ch" sound.

- **Grammar**: The Normans introduced many changes to English grammar, particularly in the areas of syntax and word order. Old French had a more rigid word order than Old English, and this influenced the development of Middle English. For example, Middle English had a fixed subject-verb-object word order, whereas Old English had more flexibility in word order.

- **Orthography**: The Normans brought with them the Latin alphabet, which they used to write Old French. This eventually led to the adoption of the Latin alphabet for writing Middle English.

French became the language of the ruling class and the court in England, and it was seen as a symbol of high status and education. The English language, on the other hand, was spoken primarily by the lower classes and was considered to be a less prestigious language.

This divide between French and English persisted for several centuries, with French remaining the language of government and the legal system for many years after the Norman Conquest. However, over time,

English gradually reasserted itself as the dominant language of England, and by the late Middle Ages, it had become the language of government, literature, and everyday communication.

[Middle English : 1100-1500]
A period of the English language from around 1100 to 1500 AD, following the Old English period and preceding the Early Modern English period. During this time, the language underwent significant changes in terms of pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar, due to various external influences.

Influences on Middle English include the Norman Conquest of 1066, which introduced French and Latin words to the language, as well as the influence of Old Norse from the Viking invasions. The language also underwent changes due to the Great Vowel Shift in the late Middle English period.

Here are some examples of Middle English phrases and their modern-day equivalents:
- "Whan that Aprille with his shoures soote" (from Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales") translates to "When April with its sweet-smelling showers"
- "Ich am of Irlaunde" (from "The Cuckoo Song") translates to "I am from Ireland"
- "Hit is y-wurth the while" (from "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight") translates to "It is worth the while"

Wycliffe Bible : 1380s

The Wycliffe Bible, also known as the "Early Version," was completed in the 1380s and is considered one of the earliest translations of the Bible into English. The translation was the work of John Wycliffe, an English theologian, and philosopher who believed that the Bible should be accessible to everyone, not just the clergy.

The Wycliffe Bible had a profound impact on the English language, both in terms of its influence on the development of the language and in terms of its cultural significance. Here are some ways in which the Wycliffe Bible impacted the English language:

- The Wycliffe Bible helped to **standardize English spelling and grammar**. The translation of the Bible into English required a consistent system of spelling and grammar, which helped to standardize the language.

- The Wycliffe Bible contributed to the **development of Middle English**. The translation of the Bible into English helped to expand the vocabulary of the language and introduce new words and expressions.

- The Wycliffe Bible helped to **democratize knowledge**. By making the Bible available in English, Wycliffe helped to democratize knowledge and made it accessible to people who were not part of the clergy or the educated elite. (they did not like this, executions!)

- The Wycliffe Bible contributed to the development of a **distinct English literary tradition**. The translation of the Bible into English helped to establish a distinct literary tradition in English, and it paved the way for the development of English literature in the centuries that followed.

English replaced latin in schools : Late 14th century (1384ish)
- English gradually replaced Latin as the language of instruction in schools in England from the late 14th century onwards

- The **spread of the printing press in the 15th century made it easier to produce books** in English, further promoting its use in education

- The shift towards English as a language of education had a significant impact on the development of the English language, helping to **standardize it and expand its vocabulary**

- English became established as the **language of government, law, and business** in England

- The replacement of Latin with English in schools had a **democratizing effect**, making education more accessible to people from all social backgrounds

- This contributed to the rise of a more meritocratic society and helped to **promote English as a language of social mobility**

- Overall, the replacement of Latin with English in schools played a crucial role in the development and spread of the English language as a global language

The Great Vowel Shift : 1400-1700

- The Great Vowel Shift occurred between the 14th and 17th centuries, with most of the major changes happening in the 15th and 16th centuries.

- The shift affected long vowels in English, and the pronunciation of many words changed as a result. For example, the Old English word "fēt" (feet) was pronounced with a long "e" sound like "fate", but after the Great Vowel Shift, it shifted to be pronounced with a short "e" sound like "pet".

- The shift caused **vowel sounds to move upward** in the mouth, meaning that long vowels became more closed and higher in the mouth. For example, the Old English word "hūs" (house) was pronounced with a long "u" sound like "goose", but after the Great Vowel Shift, it shifted to be pronounced with a sound closer to the modern English "house".

- The Great Vowel Shift had a significant impact on the spelling of English words. Many of the **irregular spellings we see in English today are a result of the shift**, as the spelling of the word did not always change to reflect the new pronunciation. For example, the word "night" is spelled with "gh" even though it is not pronounced, because it reflects the Old English pronunciation of the word before the shift.

- The Great Vowel Shift is considered to be one of the most important sound changes in the history of the English language, and it played a key role in the development of modern English phonology.

- It happened so gradually over time (spanning over 300 years) that the changes to words went largely unnoticed (no recording devices to compare current pronunciations to how it was pronounced before.)

Caxton Printing Press : 1476

- The printing press allowed for the mass production of books, pamphlets, and other printed materials, which made them more widely available and accessible to the general population. This **increased literacy** and led to a greater demand for books in the English language.

- The printing press **helped standardize the English language** by providing a consistent form of written English that could be replicated across multiple copies of the same work. This helped establish a common spelling and grammar, which eventually became known as Standard English.

- Before the introduction of the printing press, there was a lot of variation in the way words were spelled and the way sentences were structured. The printing press helped **stabilize the language and make it more consistent**, which made it easier for people to learn and understand.

- The printing press played a **crucial role in the spread of the English** language, both within England and around the world. English books and pamphlets were exported to other countries, which helped establish English as a global language.

- The printing press also had an impact on the development of the English vocabulary. As more books were printed, new words and phrases were introduced into the language, which **expanded its vocabulary** and enriched its expressive power.

- Because early printing was time-consuming and expensive, printers looked for ways to save space and reduce costs. One of the ways they did this was by **using contractions**.

- In the early days of printing, contractions were typically used for common words and phrases such as "is" and "not," which were abbreviated as "ys" and "n't," respectively. These contractions eventually became standard usage and are still in use today.

European Renaissance : 14-17th century

The European Renaissance occurred from the 14th to the 17th century, beginning in Italy and spreading throughout Europe, making it's way to England, therefore having a significant impact on the English language. Here are some specific ways in which the Renaissance influenced English :

- **Loanwords**: During the Renaissance, there was a renewed interest in classical learning and the arts, which led to an influx of Latin and Greek loanwords into English. This helped to expand the English vocabulary and make it more expressive. Examples of loanwords from this period include "allegory," "epitome," and "icon."

- **Standardization**: The Renaissance also played a role in standardizing the English language. As printing technology improved and literacy rates rose, there was a need for a consistent written form of English. This led to the establishment of grammar and spelling rules, which helped to make English more uniform and easier to learn.

- **Literature**: The Renaissance produced some of the greatest works of English literature, including the plays of William Shakespeare and the sonnets of John Donne. These works helped to establish English as a literary language and contributed to its status as a global language.

- **Scientific and Technical Terminology**: The Renaissance was a time of great scientific and technological advancement, which led to the creation of new terms and concepts. As a result, many scientific and technical terms entered the English language during this period. Examples include "biology," "chemistry," and "astronomy."

- **New Grammar Rules**: The Renaissance also saw the development of new grammar rules in English. Scholars such as Sir Thomas Elyot and John Cheke wrote influential treatises on English grammar, which helped to codify the language and establish it as a legitimate subject of study.

[Early Modern English : 1500-1800]

- **Early Modern English**: "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? Thou art more lovely and more temperate."
  Modern English: "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? You are more lovely…."
- **Early Modern English**: "How now, spirit! whither wander you?"
  Modern English: "Hey, spirit! Where are you wandering to?"

Shakespeare's impact on the English Language : 1558-1625

William Shakespeare is considered one of the greatest English writers in history, and his works had a significant impact on the English language. Here are some examples of his contributions:

- **Vocabulary**: Shakespeare is credited with introducing over 1,700 neologisms (new words) to the English language, many of which are still in use today. Examples include "bedazzled," "eyeball," "fashionable," and "uncomfortable."

- **Phrases and idioms**: Shakespeare also coined or popularized many famous phrases and idioms that are still in use today, such as "break the ice," "foul play," "all that glitters is not gold," and "the game is up."

- **Grammar and syntax**: Shakespeare's works helped to standardize English grammar and syntax. He was known for his use of iambic pentameter and his mastery of complex sentence structures.

- **Influence on literature**: Shakespeare's plays and sonnets set the standard for English literature and continue to be studied and performed around the world. His works have inspired countless writers and poets over the centuries.

Despite being a famous writer and playwright, his **spelling was not always consistent**. Potential reasons for this could have been :

- The **English language was still evolving** at the time, and there were no standardized rules for spelling. (pre-Samuel Johnson's dictionary.)

- Shakespeare wrote for a specific audience, and some of his spellings may have been **influenced by the dialect of his intended audience**.

- The printing technology of the time was not very advanced, and **mistakes could easily be made in the printing process**, leading to variations in spelling. (Random Fluctuation Theory.)

- Shakespeare himself may **not have been particularly concerned with consistency** in spelling, as long as his works were understood by his audience. (Functional theory.)

Examples of inconsistent spellings in Shakespeare's works include:

- "woe" and "wo" both being used to mean "woe" in different parts of a play

- "sperr" and "spur" both being used to mean "spur" in different plays

- "com" and "come" both being used to mean "come" in different plays

John Hart's impact on the English Language : 1569

- John Hart was an English phonetician and orthographer who lived from 1539 to 1579.

- He is best known for his work "An Orthographie", which was published in 1569 and **aimed to reform English spelling.**

- Hart believed that English spelling should **be more phonetic**, and he proposed a number of changes to achieve this.

- He **introduced several new letters to represent sounds** that were not represented in the English alphabet at the time, such as "thorn" (þ) and "eth" (ð) for the "th" sound, and "ash" (æ) for the short "a" sound. (phonetics - sounds)

- Hart also advocated for the use of **diacritical marks** to indicate vowel sounds and stress patterns. (tone indicators - ` ~)

- Although Hart's proposals did not gain widespread acceptance, his work had a lasting impact on English spelling reform and phonetics.

- Some of the letters he introduced, such as "thorn" and "eth", continued to be used in English until the early modern period.

- Hart's work also **influenced** later spelling reformers, such as **Noah Webster**, who used some of his ideas in his own spelling reforms.

- Overall, Hart's work reflects the ongoing efforts to improve the consistency and phonetic accuracy of English spelling, which has been a challenge throughout the history of the language.

Robert Cawdrey - First Dictionary : 1604

Robert Cawdrey (or Caudrey) was an English schoolmaster who published "A Table Alphabeticall", the first single-language English dictionary, in 1604.

The impact of his work on the English language includes:

- **Standardization of spelling**: Cawdrey's dictionary helped standardize the spelling of English words, which had previously been inconsistent and varied by region and writer.
- **Expansion of English vocabulary**: The dictionary included more than 2,500 words, many of which were borrowed from other languages and have since become common in English.
- **Increased literacy**: Cawdrey's dictionary was intended as an aid to English language learning, and its publication helped increase literacy rates in England.

Examples of words included in Cawdrey's dictionary:

- "**alphabet**": Cawdrey's dictionary was the first to include this word, which comes from the Greek "alpha" and "beta" and refers to the set of letters used to write a language.
- "**book**": The Old English word for "book" was "bōc", but Cawdrey's dictionary lists the word as "book", which has since become the standard spelling.
- "**dictionary**": The word "dictionary" was borrowed from Latin and **first appeared** in English **in Cawdrey's dictionary**

King James Bible : 1611

The King James Bible had a significant impact on the English language, particularly lexis/syntax

- **Introduction of new words**: The King James Bible introduced many new words into the English language, some of which have become common usage. Examples include "charity," "mercy," and "atonement."

- **Influence on English syntax**: The language used in the King James Bible also influenced English syntax, particularly in terms of sentence structure and word order. For example, the Bible **frequently uses the word "and" to begin sentences**, which is not typical in modern English usage.

- **Standardization of English**: The King James Bible helped to standardize the English language, particularly in terms of spelling and grammar. This made it **easier for people to communicate** with each other and helped to create a shared understanding of the language.

- **Literary impact**: The language used in the King James Bible has had a significant impact on English literature, particularly in terms of its use of **metaphor and figurative language**. Many writers have been influenced by the Bible's use of language, including William Shakespeare.

- **Examples**: Some examples of phrases and expressions from the King James Bible that have become part of common usage in English include "the apple of my eye," "fight the good fight," and "the writing on the wall."

- The spread of Christianity and the King James Bible's use as a proselytizing tool brought the English language to new territories and peoples, **helping to establish English as a global language.**

Newspapers and their affect on the English language : 1622-1700ish

The first English newspaper was called "**The Weekly Newes**," and it was introduced in **1622**. Its influence on the English language includes :

- **Standardized spelling and grammar usage**: The newspaper's influence led to a more standardized approach to spelling and grammar usage in written English.

- **Increased use of English**: It also contributed to the rise of English as a language of journalism and news reporting, which helped spread the language beyond its borders.

- **Vocabulary expansion**: The newspapers expanded vocabulary by introducing new words and phrases, especially in fields like politics, economics, and science.

- **Development of idioms**: The newspapers also helped to develop idiomatic expressions that are still used today. (figurative and understood through common usage - "it's raining cats and dogs".)

Examples of language usage in early English newspapers:
- **The spelling and punctuation rules were not consistent**, and some of the words used were spelled differently than they are today. For example, "newes" was spelled with an extra "e" on the end, and "contry" was spelled with an "o" instead of a "u."

- This could have been due to **early printing errors** alongside the poor proofreading abilities of printing workers, influencing others to write similarly (Random fluctuation theory.)

- Early newspapers **used archaic or obsolete words** and expressions, such as "methinks" (it seems to me), "peradventure" (perhaps), and "anon" (soon).

- Newspapers also **helped to develop idiomatic expressions**, such as "the writing on the wall" (a sign of impending doom or disaster) and "skeletons in the closet" (hidden secrets or shameful experiences).

- **Vocabulary was expanded by introducing new words**, such as "bankrupt," "budget," and "monopoly," which were borrowed from other languages such as French and Italian.

The **London Gazette** was a newspaper established in **1665.** (40 years after first newspaper.)

- It was different from the first newspaper because it **focused on official government** announcements, rather than sensational news.

- **Used Latin words** : Many official notices were published in both English and Latin, reflecting the use of Latin as an international language of diplomacy and governance.

- The language used in The London Gazette was **formal and legalistic**, with a specific style and structure for the official announcements. Introduced **legal jargon** such as "attainted", "confiscated", and "forfeited" to the English language.

- The use of this style and language in The London Gazette had an impact on the development of legal and administrative English, as well as the use of official language in other contexts.

- Example: The use of phrases like "Her Majesty's Government" and "I hereby declare" in official announcements and documents can be traced back to the language used in The London Gazette.

- Overall helped further standardise the English language, alongside introducing more formal words (due to it's publications being more government related), legal jargon and use of latin words

Dr. Samuel Johnson's Dictionary (most official dictionary) : 1755

- It was a comprehensive dictionary of the English language, containing **42,773 entries** with detailed definitions and examples. It took him **over 9 years** to write.

- It was different from previous dictionaries in that it **relied more heavily on quotations from famous authors** to illustrate usage and meanings of words.

- Johnson's dictionary became the **most authoritative source** for **spelling and definition**s in English, and it **helped standardize the language by establishing a set of rules and guidelines.**

- It also had a significant impact on the development of English literature by providing a **common language and vocabulary** for writers to use.

- Johnson's dictionary also included many words that had previously been considered **slang or dialectal, which helped legitimize them** as part of standard English.

- He also excluded some words that he deemed **vulgar**, **obscene**, or **too specialized** (profession related words)**,** as he believed that they would not be commonly understood and were not suitable for polite conversation. (i.e squibster - scandalous journalists.)

- His dictionary helped establish English as a language of scholarship and intellectual inquiry, and it had a **profound influence on later dictionaries** and language works.

Examples of words included that were previously considered non-standard/slang include:
- "**fizzle**" - meaning to fail or fizzle out
- "**bamboozle**" - meaning to deceive or trick someone
- "**lollygag**" - meaning to waste time or idle about

Additionally :
- Johnson approached dictionary-making as a **prescriptivist**, meaning he believed that the purpose of the dictionary was to set forth the correct usage of words and to prescribe rules of grammar and spelling.

- However, his approach **later shifted towards descriptivism**, meaning that he saw the role of the dictionary as describing how language is used in practice, rather than how it "ought" to be used.

Robert Lowth's influence on Grammar : 1762
- He was a bishop who published "**A Short Introduction to English Grammar**" in 1762, which became a widely used textbook.

- Lowth's grammar was **prescriptive in nature**, emphasizing the "**correct**" usage of English.

- He introduced many of the **rules and conventions** that are still taught in English classes today, such as the distinction between **"who" and "whom"**, and the prohibition on splitting infinitives.

- He established **guidelines for the use of prepositions**, such as not ending a sentence with a preposition.

- He emphasized the importance of parallelism, or the **repetition of grammatical structures**, in sentences and phrases.

- He encouraged the use of the **subjunctive mood** in certain situations, such as expressing a wish or a hypothetical scenario. (If I were king ✅ If I was king❌)

- Lowth's book was also notable for its **insistence on following the norms of classical languages like Latin**, leading to a greater emphasis on formality and precision in English writing.

- Lowth's grammar had a significant impact on English language education and usage, as it was widely adopted by schools and universities in England and America.

- However, Lowth's **prescriptive approach to grammar has been criticized** for being **too rigid** and stifling creativity in the English language.

- Despite this, Lowth's grammar remains an important landmark in the history of English grammar and usage.

Britain's colonoziation of Canada and Australia : Late 1700's - Late 1800's
- The colonization of Australia and Canada began in the late 18th century and continued through the 19th century. As a result, **British English became the dominant language** in these countries.
- The **English language in these countries was influenced by the indigenous languages** of the region, such as Aboriginal languages in Australia and various First Nations languages in Canada. Many English words of Aboriginal or First Nations origin have entered into the English vocabulary.
- As the colonies developed their own distinct cultures, **variations of English** emerged. For example, Canadian English is influenced by French due to the country's history of colonization by France in addition to Britain.
- The **colonization of Australia and Canada contributed to the spread of English as a global language**. As these countries became more influential on the world stage, their version of English became more widely known and adopted.
- The colonization also led to the **displacement and marginalization of indigenous languages** and cultures, which has had a lasting impact on language diversity in these countries.

Examples of changes in English due to colonization:
- **Australian English**: "Barbecue" (from "barbacoa," a word in a language spoken in the Caribbean and Central America), "Esky" (a portable cooler), "Woop Woop" (an Australian term for a remote or faraway place).

- **Canadian English: "Poutine"** (a dish of French fries topped with cheese curds and gravy), "Toque" (a type of knitted hat), "Loonie" (a one-dollar coin featuring a loon bird).

Lindley Murray's influence on Grammar (1795)
- Lindley Murray was an influential grammarian
- He wrote several popular books on English grammar, including "**English Grammar Adapted to the Different Classes of Learners**," which was first published in 1795.
- Murray's grammar books were widely used in schools and universities in both Britain and the United States, and helped to **establish many of the grammar rules that are still followed today.**
- Murray's grammar rules **emphasized correctness and precision** in the use of English, and his books helped to **standardize the language** by promoting a **common set of rules and guidelines.**

Some of the key aspects of Murray's grammar rules include:
- The use of proper syntax and sentence structure
- The importance of clear and concise expression
- The proper use of punctuation and capitalization (non-random capitalisation)
- The use of standard spelling and pronunciation
- The avoidance of slang and colloquial language

Murray's influence can be seen in the works of many other influential writers and grammarians, including Noah Webster, who wrote the first American dictionary, and George Washington, who was a strong advocate of standardized English usage.

Some specific examples of Murray's impact on English language and grammar include:
- Murray's rules for proper punctuation helped to **establish the modern use of commas**, **semicolons**, and other forms of punctuation in written English.
- His emphasis on clarity and precision helped to promote the use of **simple**, **direct language** in both spoken and written communication.
- His books helped to establish a common standard for English grammar and usage, which has helped to **facilitate communication and understanding** across different regions and cultures.

John Adams, the second president of the United States, believed that the English language **would become a global language** due to the growing influence and dominance of the British Empire.

He wrote in a letter to his wife Abigail in 1780: "English is destined to be in the next and succeeding centuries more generally the language of the world than Latin was in the last or French is in the present age."

[Late Modern English : 1750ish- to present day] (Cambridge says after 1750- but not rigid.)

Refers to the period of English language from the 18th century to the present day. During this period, English underwent significant changes in its grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation due to various historical, social, and cultural factors. Some examples of phrases from this period include :
- "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" (a commonly used sentence to demonstrate the use of all letters in the English alphabet)

- "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal" (from the United States Declaration of Independence, 1776)

- "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed" (from Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, 1963)

What are the main differences between Early Modern / Late Modern English?

- **Vocabulary**: Late Modern English has a much larger vocabulary than Early Modern English, with many new words being added due to technological and societal advancements. For example, words such as "computer," "internet," and "smartphone" did not exist in Early Modern English.

- **Spelling**: Late Modern English has a more standardized spelling system than Early Modern English. In Early Modern English, spelling was not yet fully standardized, and even within a single text, a word could be spelled in different ways. For example, "through" could also be spelled as "thorow" or "thorough."

- **Pronunciation**: The pronunciation of Late Modern English has changed considerably from that of Early Modern English. For example, the "Great Vowel Shift" that occurred during the Early Modern English period changed the pronunciation of many vowels. In Early Modern English, "bite" was pronounced as "beet," while in Late Modern English, it is pronounced as "byte."

- **Grammar**: The grammar of Late Modern English is generally less complex than that of Early Modern English. For example, the use of the subjunctive mood has largely disappeared in Late Modern English. In Early Modern English, one would say "If I were rich," whereas in Late Modern English, "If I was rich" is more common.

- **Early Modern English**: "Thou hast loved me as a friend."
- **Late Modern English**: "You have loved me as a friend."

- **Early Modern English**: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
- **Late Modern English**: "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Webster Dictionary : 1828

- Webster's Dictionary was started in 1806, taking 22 years to finish. It was the first dictionary to use American spellings of words, which differed from British spellings. For example, "color" was used instead of "colour", "center" instead of "centre", and "defense" instead of "defence".

- It included more than 70,000 entries, which was far more than any other English dictionary at the time. It also included words that were unique to American English, such as "skunk" and "squash".

- Webster's Dictionary standardized spelling, which helped to establish a more consistent form of written English. This was important because there were many different variations of spelling for the same words prior to the dictionary's publication.

- The dictionary also included pronunciation guides, which helped to establish a more standard form of spoken English. This was important because there were many different dialects of English being spoken in the United States at the time, and the dictionary helped to establish a more unified form of spoken English.

- Overall, Webster's Dictionary helped to establish a distinct form of American English and contributed to the standardization of the English language in the United States. It also had an impact on spelling and pronunciation in other English-speaking countries, as some of the American spellings were eventually adopted elsewhere.

The Industrial Revolution : 1830s

- The Industrial Revolution was a period of major industrialization that took place from the 18th to the 19th century, with significant advances in agriculture, manufacturing, transportation, and technology.

- **Increased use of technical vocabulary**: The Industrial Revolution brought about many new inventions and technologies, which required the creation of **neologisms** (new words) and technical terms. For example, words like "locomotive," "telegraph," and "steam engine" were introduced during this time.

- **Rise of standardized spelling**: With the increased **need for written communication** in the workplace, there was a push for standardized spelling. This led to the creation of spelling dictionaries and the establishment of rules for spelling.

- **Regional dialects became more distinct**: As people **moved to urban areas** for work, they **brought their regional dialects** with them. This led to the development of distinct urban dialects, which were **influenced by the local language and culture.**

- **The growth of print media**: The Industrial Revolution saw the rise of **mass-produced print media**, such as newspapers and magazines. This helped to **standardize** the English language and **spread it to a wider audience.**

- **Changes in grammar and syntax**: The need for efficient communication in the workplace led to changes in grammar and syntax. Sentences became shorter and more direct, and there was a greater focus on clarity and brevity. (Functional theory)

- **Introduction of loanwords**: The Industrial Revolution brought about **new technologies** and products that were **often named after their country of origin**. This led to the introduction of loanwords from other languages into English. For example, the words "sushi" and "karaoke" come from Japanese.

Rise of the British Empire : 1600ish-1950ish when it all went downhill (colonised gain independence.)

- The British Empire began to expand in the 16th century and reached its peak in the late 19th century, with Britain colonizing countries across the world.

- As a result, **English became the dominant language** in many of these territories, leading to the development of various **English-based creole languages.** (mix of languages that occur naturally overtime - Singlish etc.)

- For example, in the Caribbean, the English-based creole language of Jamaican Patois emerged, which is a mixture of English, West African languages, and Spanish. In India,

English became a major language of administration and education, leading to the development of Indian English.

- In some cases, the **English language also borrowed words from the languages of the colonized territories**. For example, the English language adopted many words from Hindi, such as "bungalow", "pajamas", and "chutney".

- The spread of the British Empire also led to the growth of the **English language as a global language**, with English becoming a dominant language in international trade, diplomacy, and media.

August Schleicher (1821-1868):

- Known for his work in comparative linguistics and the development of the **family tree model** for language classification.

- Suggested that **all languages have a common origin** and that they evolve through a process of natural selection, similar to Darwin's theory of evolution.

- His work laid the **foundation for the study of historical linguistics**, which helped scholars understand the development of languages over time.

- His work on language families and the development of comparative linguistics **helped scholars better understand the relationships between different languages**, including English.

August Schleicher (1865-1927):

- Known for his work in **morphology**, the study of the structure of words and word formation.

- Developed the concept of a "**morpheme**," which is the smallest unit of meaning in a word.

- His work on morphology helped scholars understand how words are formed and how they change over time.

- His work also contributed to the development of the **International Phonetic Alphabet**, which is used to transcribe the sounds of languages.

- His work on morphology helped scholars better understand the structure of English words and how they have changed over time.

Here are some examples of morphemes:

- "**cat**" is a morpheme, as it is a single unit of meaning that cannot be further divided into smaller meaningful parts.

- "**un**-" is a morpheme that can be added to words to create a new meaning, such as "happy" becoming "unhappy" to mean the opposite of happy.

- "-**s**" is a morpheme that can be added to the end of a noun to make it plural, such as "cat" becoming "cats".

- "**pre**-" is a morpheme that can be added to a word to change its meaning, such as "dictate" becoming "predominate" to mean to have power or control over.

Education Act : 1870

The Education Act of 1870 was a law passed by the British Parliament that aimed to provide elementary education to all children in England and Wales. Its impact on the English language is as follows:

- **Increased literacy rates**: The Education Act of 1870 provided opportunities for children from all social classes and gender to receive an education. As a result, literacy rates increased, and more people were able to read and write proficiently in English. This an **increase in literacy rates** is evidenced by the **rise in newspapers**, **magazines**, and other forms of written media.

- **Standardization of English:** The Act helped to standardize the use of the English language by promoting a **common curriculum** and teaching methods. This led to **greater consistency** in **spelling**, **grammar**, and **vocabulary** usage across the country.

- **Reduced regional dialects**: With the promotion of standardized English, regional dialects and accents began to decline, as children were taught to speak and write in a more uniform manner. For example, the use of words like **"ain't"** and **"y'all"** became **less common**

- **Expansion of technical vocabulary**: The Act also introduced **technical** and **scientific vocabulary** to the English language as children were taught new concepts and terminology. For example, words such as "**photosynthesis**," "**electricity**," and "**algorithm**" entered the language as scientific knowledge grew and was taught in schools

Effect of WW1 on the English Language : 1914-1918

- Introduction of **phrasal neologisms related to war and military activities**, such as "trench warfare," "shell shock," "no man's land," and "over the top."

- **Adoption of new words and expressions from other languages**, particularly French, due to the **involvement of French-speaking soldiers** and the proximity of French culture, such as "debris," "rendezvous," and "camouflage."

- Use of **euphemisms and understatement** to describe the horrors of war, leading to the development of phrases like "collateral damage" and "friendly fire."

- Increase in the use of **slang and informal language among soldiers** and in wartime writing, including terms like "blighty," "dud," and "whiz-bang."

- **Shift in the use of pronouns** to refer to soldiers and military leaders, as they were often collectively referred to as **"they"** instead of "**he**" or "**him**."

- Development of **new forms of communication and technology**, such as the use of **radio** and **telegraph**, which had an impact on language use and communication styles :

- **Increased use of abbreviations and acronyms** due to the need for quick and concise communication, such as "msg" for message or "RIP" for rest in peace.

- Increased **standardization of spelling and gramma**r, as messages had to be quickly understood by operators from different backgrounds and dialects.

- Creation of **new technical vocabulary related to communication technology**, such as "transmitter," "receiver," and "frequency."

Received Pronunciation (Queen's English) : became standardised 20th century (1900s)

Received Pronunciation, also known as RP, is an accent of Standard English in the United Kingdom that has traditionally been associated with the educated classes and is often used as a model for teaching English as a foreign language. (i.e "How do you do?")

Here are some effects that RP has had on the English language:

- RP has been influential in **shaping the standard pronunciation of English in the UK** and in other parts of the world. Many English language learners are taught RP as the standard accent.

- RP has been **associated with prestige and power**, and has been seen as a marker of social class and education. As a result, people who speak RP have often been perceived as more **intelligent or sophisticated.**

- RP has had a significant impact on the pronunciation of English in other parts of the world, particularly in former British colonies where English is spoken as a second language. For example, **in India, RP has been adopted as the standard accent of English** used in broadcasting and government.

- The **spread of RP has led to the decline of regional accents and dialects in the UK**, as people have been **encouraged to adopt RP** in order to improve their social mobility and job prospects.

- **Further encouraged by the introduction of the BBC in 1920s** - The announcers and newsreaders on the BBC were expected to use RP, and this helped to spread its use throughout Britain.

- The use of RP has also been a subject of controversy, with some **critics arguing that it perpetuates social inequality** and reinforces the dominance of the upper classes.

Introduction of BBC : 1922

- **Standardization**: The BBC played a crucial role in standardizing the English language, as it required its presenters and announcers to use Received Pronunciation (RP) as the standard accent for broadcasting. This has influenced the way RP is spoken, making it less conservative and more accessible.

- **Expansion of Vocabulary**: The BBC contributed to the expansion of English vocabulary, as it broadcasted programs and news from all over the world, introducing new words and expressions to the English language. For example, "Word of the Day" segment in the 1970s helped to increase awareness of new and interesting words.

- **Influence on pronunciation**: The BBC's use of RP helped to spread the accent and influenced the way people spoke English in the UK and other parts of the world.

- **Changes in grammar and syntax**: The BBC also influenced the way grammar and syntax were used, as its programs set the standard for correct grammar and sentence construction. This helped to reinforce these rules in the English language, making them more widely accepted and understood.

- **Standardization of spelling**: The BBC's use of standard spelling contributed to the spread of British English spelling conventions around the world, such as the use of "-ize" rather than "-ise" in words like "organize" and "realize," helped to standardize British English spelling

Oxford Dictionary : 1928

- **Historical approach**: The OED was the first dictionary to use a historical approach, tracing the evolution of words and their meanings over time. It included not only current definitions but also **obsolete and historical meanings of words**, making it a valuable resource for scholars and historians. Set standard for other dictionaries to come.

- **Vocabulary expansion**: The OED included a vast number of words, many of which had not been previously recorded in dictionaries. It also **included many technical and scientific terms that were increasingly being used in modern times**, thereby expanding the vocabulary of the English language.

- **Standardization**: The OED played a role in standardizing spelling and usage of words by providing clear definitions and examples of their correct usage. It also established a standardized system of spelling and pronunciation.

Effect of WW2 on English Language : 1939-1945

New words and expressions (neologisms) : The war brought about new words and expressions that reflected the military and political realities of the time.

- For example : **Blitz** (German Bombings of English cities) , **Radar** (acronym for "radio detection and ranging,") **Jeep** (General Purpose vehicle, GP) **A-Bomb** (atomic bomb)

Changes in language usage: The war also brought about changes in language usage, particularly in the way people communicated with one another. For example:

- **Censorship**: The government imposed censorship on written and spoken communication to prevent sensitive information from falling into enemy hands.
- **Rationing**: The government imposed rationing on food and other goods, which led to new vocabulary related to rationing, such as "ration book."

- **Acronyms**: Acronyms became more common during the war, as a way of communicating more efficiently. Examples include RADAR, LORAN, SONAR, and NATO, POW (Prisoner of War)
- **Contractions** : increase in the use of contractions in written English. This was because telegrams charged by the word, so people began to use contractions to save money. For example, "do not" became "don't", "will not" became "won't", and "should have" became "should've". This trend continued after the war, and the use of contractions became more common in written English.

Influence on literature and culture: The war had a profound influence on literature and culture, which in turn influenced the English language. For example:

- The war inspired a **new genre of literature**, including novels, poetry, and memoirs, which reflected the experiences of soldiers and civilians alike.

- The war also i**nfluenced popular culture**, including films, music, and art.

- The war contributed to the rise of **American English as a global language**, as American troops and culture spread across Europe and Asia.

Sir Ernest Growers : (1948)

- Best known for his book "**Plain Words**," which was first published in 1948 and became a widely used guide for writers who wanted to communicate clearly and effectively.

- Gowers believed that the English language should be used to communicate ideas clearly and simply, and that the **use of jargon and complicated language should be avoided**.

- He **advocated for the use of plain English**, and his influence can be seen in the way **many organizations and businesses now communicate** with their customers and clients.

Some of the words that Gowers is credited with popularizing or introducing into the English language include:

- **Bureaucracy** - Gowers used this word in "Plain Words" to refer to the excessive and complicated rules and regulations of government and business organizations.

- **Clarity** - Gowers emphasized the importance of using clear and simple language to communicate effectively.

- **Simplify** - Gowers believed that writers should strive to simplify their language and avoid using unnecessarily complicated words and phrases.

- **Jargon** - Gowers used this word to refer to the specialized vocabulary and terminology used in particular professions or fields.

- **Precise** - Gowers believed that language should be used to convey precise meanings and that writers should strive to choose the right words to express their ideas accurately.

Civil Rights Movement : 1950s-1960s

The Civil Rights Movement in the United States, which took place primarily in the 1950s and 1960s, had a significant impact on the English language. The movement sought to end racial segregation and discrimination against African Americans and other minority groups, and it had a profound influence on the way that people spoke and wrote about race and social justice issues.

Some of the ways in which the Civil Rights Movement impacted the English language include:

• **New terms and phrases**: The Civil Rights Movement led to the creation of new terms and phrases related to race and social justice, such as "civil rights," "racial equality," "integration," and "racial profiling."

• **Changes in language usage:** The movement challenged and changed the way that people spoke and wrote about race and social justice issues. For example, the use of racial slurs and derogatory language became less socially acceptable, and the terms "black" and "African American" became more widely used to describe people of African descent

• **Use of metaphor and imagery**: The Civil Rights Movement made use of powerful metaphors and images to convey its message. For example, the phrase "I have a dream," from Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous speech, became a powerful symbol of the movement's goals and aspirations.

• **Influence on popular culture**: The Civil Rights Movement had a significant influence on popular culture, including music, literature, and film. Many artists and writers used their work to comment on the social and political issues of the time, and the movement inspired a generation of activists and artists.

Feminist Movement : 1960s-1970s

The feminist movement of the 1960s and 1970s had a significant impact on the English language, particularly in the way that people spoke and wrote about gender and sexuality. Some of the ways in which the feminist movement influenced the English language include:

• **New terminology and vocabulary**: The feminist movement introduced new terminology and vocabulary related to gender and sexuality, such as "gender equality," "reproductive rights," "sexual harassment," "gender identity," and "intersectionality."

• **Changes in language usage**: The feminist movement challenged and changed the way that people spoke and wrote about gender and sexuality. For example, the use of gender-neutral language became more common, with terms like "chairperson" and "firefighter" replacing "chairman" and "fireman." Additionally, the use of titles like "Ms." became more widely accepted as an alternative to "Miss" or "Mrs."

• **Use of metaphor and imagery**: The feminist movement used powerful metaphors and images to convey its message, such as the "glass ceiling" metaphor to describe the invisible barrier preventing women from achieving top positions in the workplace.

• **Influence on popular culture**: The feminist movement had a significant influence on popular culture, including literature, music, and film. Many feminist writers and artists used their work to challenge gender norms and stereotypes, and to promote women's rights and empowerment.

• **Critique of language**: The feminist movement also highlighted the ways in which language can be used to reinforce gender inequalities and discrimination. This led to a critique of language usage and an emphasis on using inclusive and non-discriminatory language.

Hollywood's Impact on English Language : 1920s-Now

- Many new words and expressions entered the English language due to Hollywood's influence, including **slang**, **idioms**, and **catchphrases**.

- In the 1920s and 1930s, Hollywood films **helped to spread American English around the world**, as people watched and imitated the language used in the movies.

- Many popular **expressions** and **idioms** that are still used today originated from Hollywood films, such as "show me the money," "you had me at hello," and "life is like a box of chocolates."

- Hollywood films also **introduced many neologisms** to the English language, such as "blockbuster," "couch potato," and "on the edge of your seat."

- Hollywood's influence on the English language can also be seen in the way that certain words and phrases have evolved over time. For example, the word "**movie**" was originally a **shortened form of "moving picture,"** but it has since become a standard term for a motion picture in the English language. (derivative / aptonym)

- In addition to introducing new words and expressions, Hollywood has also helped to shape the way that English is spoken and pronounced in different parts of the world, as people try to **imitate the accents and dialects** used by their favorite movie stars.

- Hollywood has had a significant impact on the English language, helping to **spread American English around the world** and introducing many new words and phrases

The Internet : 1990s - Today

- **Globalization of English language**: The internet has helped to spread English around the world and has made it the dominant language of the internet. English is now the language of international communication and has become a global lingua franca.

- **Creation of neologisms**: The internet has given rise to many new words, phrases and abbreviations that have become part of the English language. For example, "lol" (laugh out loud), "brb" (be right back), "emoji", "selfie", and "trending".

- **Evolution of existing words**: The internet has also caused the evolution of existing words and the creation of new semantics (meanings) for them. For instance, "friend" has taken on a new semantic as a verb with the emergence of social media platforms like

Facebook, "like" has become a noun to describe a positive reaction to a post, and "tweet" is now both a noun and a verb.

- **Shortened forms**: The internet has also led to a trend of using shortened forms of words, such as "u" for "you", "r" for "are", and "2" for "to" or "too". This trend has been popularized by text messaging, social media, and other online platforms.This process is called "text speak or txt spk" (functional theory.)

- **Influence on grammar**: The informal nature of online communication has influenced the way people write and communicate in English. There is a tendency to use **less formal grammar,** such as omitting articles or using sentence fragments, and more informal language, such as slang and contractions.

- **Memes**: The internet has popularized the use of memes, which are images, videos, or pieces of text that are shared and modified by internet users. These memes often include humorous or sarcastic commentary and can have an impact on language use and evolution.