



Exercise 1. The following texts are dated at the beginning and end of EModE, respectively. Which major differences do you notice? (Think about spelling variation and punctuation, as well as morphosyntactic features).

A) *The boke named the Gouvernour* (1531), by Sir Thomas Elyot (from Barber 1997: 2)

But the moste honorable exercise in myne opinion / and that besemeth the astate of euery noble persone / is to ryde suerly and clene / on a great horse and a roughe / whiche vndoubtedly nat onely importeth a maiestie and drede to inferiour persones / beholding him aboute the common course of other men / daunting a fierce and cruell beaste / but also is no litle socour / as well in pursuete of enemies and confounding them / as in escapyng imminent daunger / whan wisdomme therto exhorteth. Also a stronge and hardy horse dothe some tyme more damage vnder his maister / than he with al his waipon: and also setteth forward the stroke / and causethe it to lighte with more violence.

Bucephal / the horse of great kynge Alexander / who suffred none on his backe saulfe ['save'] onely his maister / at the bataile of Thebes beinge sore wounded / wolde nat suffre the kinge to departe from hym to a nother horse / but persistyng in his furiose courage / wonderfully continued out the bataile / with his fete and tethe betyng downe and destroyenge many enemies. And many semblable maruailles of his strength he shewed. wherefore Alexander / after the horse was slayne / made in remembrance of hym a citie in the countray of India / and called it Bucephal / in perpetual memorie of so worthy a horse: which in his lyfe had so well serued hym.

B) *Areopagitica* (1644), by John Milton (from Barber 1997: 7)

I deny not, but that it is of greatest concernment in the Church and Commonwealth, to have a vigilant eye how Bookes demeane themselves, as well as men; and thereafter to confine, imprison, and do sharpest justice on them as malefators: For Books are not absolutely dead things, but doe contain a potencie of life in them to be as active as that soule was whose progeny they are; nay they do preserve as in a violl the purest efficacie and extraction of that living intellect that bred them. I know they are as lively, and as vigorously productive, as those fabulous Dragons teeth; and being sown up and down, may chance to spring up armed men. And yet on the other hand unlesse warinesse be us'd, as good almost kill a Man as kill a good Book; who kills a Man kills a reasonable creature, Gods Image; but hee who destroyes a ood Booke, kills reason it selfe, kills the Image of God, as it were in the eye. Many a man lives a burden to the Earth; but a good Booke is the pretious life-blood of a master spirit, imbalm'd and treasur'd up on purpose to a life beyond life. 'Tis true, no age can restore a life, whereof perhaps there is no greate losse; and revolutions of ages doe not oft recover the losse of a rejected truth, for the want of which whole Nations fare the worse. We should be wary therefore what persecution we raise against the living labours of publick men, how we spill that season'd life of man preserv'd and stor'd up in Books; since we see a kinde of homicide may be thus committed, sometimes a martyrdom, and if it extend to the whole impression, a kinde of massacre, whereof the execution ends not in the slaying of an elementall life, but strikes at that ethereall and fift essence, the breath of reason it selfe, salies an immortality rather than a life. But lest I should be condemn'd of introducing licence, while I oppose Licencing, I refuse not the paines to be so much Historically, as will serve to shew what hath been done by ancient and famous Commonwealths, against the disorder.





Exercise 2. Consider the following excerpts from EModE works and comment on the most salient orthographic features (e.g. capitalisation, spellings, graphemes, etc.).

*Bullokars Booke at large, for the Amend-
ment of Orthographie for English Speech: wherein,
a most perfect supplie is made, for the wantes and double
founde of letters in the olde Orthographie, with Examples for the
same, with the easie conference and vse of both Orthographies,
as fast expenes in Booke for a time; until this amendment grow to a generall vse, for
the easie, speedie, and perfect reading and writing of English, (the speech not
changed, as some vntruly and maliciously, or at the least ignorantlie blouee
abroade) by the which amendment the same Authour hath also framed
a ruled Grammar, to be imprinted hereafter, for the same speech, to no
small commoditie of the English Nation, not only to come to easie, speedie, and
perfect vse of our owne language, but also to their easie, speedie, and readie
entrance into the secrettes of other Languages, and easie and speedie
pathway to all Strangers, to vse our Language, hereafter very
hard vnto them, to no small proficte and credite to this our
Nation, and stay therevnto in the weightiest causes.
There is also imprinted with this Orthographie
a short Pamphlet for all Learners, and a
Primer agreeing to the same, and as
Learners shall go forward ther-
in, other necessarie Bookes
shall speedily be prou-
ided with the same
Orthographie.*

William Bullokar. Booke at large, for the Amendment of Orthographie for English Speech (1580)

18.
S Hall I compare thee to a Summers day?
Thou art more louely and more temperate:
Rough windes do shake the darling buds of Maie,
And Sommers leafe hath all too short a date:
Sometime too hot the eye of heauen shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd,
And euery faire from faire some-time declines,
By chance, or natures changing course vntrim'd:
But thy eternall Sommer shall not fade,
Nor loofe possession of that faire thou ow'st,
Nor shall death brag thou wandr'st in his shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st,
So long as men can breath or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee,

Long s.
u for v.
Modernized punctuation.

William Shakespeare. Sonnet 18

To all Noble and VVorthy
LADIES.
THIS present Description of a New VVorld;
was made as an Appendix to my Observations
upon Experimental Philofophy; and, hauing
some Sympathy and Coberence with each other, were joy-
ned together as Two seuerall Worlds, at their Two Poles.
But, by reason most Ladies take no delight in Philofophi-
cal Arguments, I separated some from the mentioned
Observations, and caused them to go out by themselves,
that I might expresse my Respects, in presenting to Them
such Fancies as my Contemplations did afford. The First
Part is Romancical; the Second, Philofophical; and
the Third is meerly Fancy; or, (as I may call it) Fanta-
stical. And if (Noble Ladies) you should chance to
take pleasure in reading these Fancies, I shall account my
self a Happy Creatorels: If not, I must be content to
live a Melancholly Life in my own World; which I can-
not call a Poor VVorld, if Poverty be only want of
Gold,

Long s
Capitalization
Modernised punctuation.
-y in final position instead of -ie (philosophy).
ioned →

Margaret Cavendish, *The Description of a New Blazing World* (1668)