History of the English Language: Final Exam Review

Indo-European Language Families. Write the name of the language or language family in the blank next to the corresponding number in the tree.

1. ______________________
2. ______________________
3. ______________________
4. ______________________
5. ______________________
6. ______________________
7. ______________________
8. ______________________
9. ______________________

The First Consonant Shift. For each of the following Proto-Indo-European roots, indicate any sound changes that occurred. Be sure to write the sound changes in the appropriate column to show whether the change is part of Grimm’s Law or Verner’s Law.

<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*spyéu-</td>
<td>*steip-</td>
<td>*patér</td>
<td>*ruk-</td>
<td>*tuu-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*tén-</td>
<td>*ghutó-</td>
<td>*bhráter</td>
<td>*dém-</td>
<td>*pílo-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*grébh-</td>
<td>*gómbo-</td>
<td>*matér</td>
<td>*kél-</td>
<td>*kért-</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*púr-</td>
<td>klutos</td>
<td>*kwérp-</td>
<td>‘turn about’</td>
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<tr>
<td>*dhéit-</td>
<td>*dréw-</td>
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<tr>
<td>*kwód</td>
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<td>*wádh-</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Germanic Languages. Germanic languages share certain characteristics that distinguish them from other Indo-European languages. Compare the following Germanic forms with the non-Germanic ones and identify the Germanic characteristic that each example most clearly illustrates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. English</th>
<th>German</th>
<th>French</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>Latin</th>
<th>gloss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>drive</td>
<td>treiben</td>
<td>conduire</td>
<td>conducir</td>
<td>conductere</td>
<td>‘drive’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rain</td>
<td>Regen</td>
<td>pleuvoir</td>
<td>llover</td>
<td>pluit</td>
<td>‘rain’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>drink</td>
<td>trinken</td>
<td>boire</td>
<td>beber</td>
<td>bibere</td>
<td>‘drink’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>run</td>
<td>rennen</td>
<td>courir</td>
<td>correr</td>
<td>currere</td>
<td>‘run’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. OE</th>
<th>PIE</th>
<th>gloss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fédér</td>
<td>*patér</td>
<td>‘father’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bhópor</td>
<td>*bhráter</td>
<td>‘brother’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>módor</td>
<td>*matér</td>
<td>‘mother’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. French          OE          gloss
   jeunes mecs  george ceorlas  ‘young fellows’
les jeunes mecs  þæ geongan ceorlas  ‘the young fellows’

4. English        PIE         gloss
   beaver            bhibhrus  ‘beaver’
   dough             dheigh-  ‘dough’
   goat              ghaido-  ‘goat’

5. English        French       gloss
   I played         J’ai joué  ‘I played’
   She left         Elle est partie  ‘She left’
   We changed       Nous avons changé  ‘We changed’

6. OE             ME           gloss
   We dëmb ‘We judge, we are judging, we will judge’
   We dëmdon ‘We judged, were judging, have judged’

   French          ME           gloss
   Nous allons ‘We go’
   Nous allions ‘We were going, we went’
   Nous allâmes ‘We went, we did go’
   Nous irons ‘We will go’
   Nous irions ‘We would go’

7. English        Proto-Indo-European
   crow             *gër-  ‘to cry hoarsely’
   thresh           *ter-sk-  ‘to rub, thresh’
   till             *dël  ‘to split, carve, cut’

8. English        French       gloss
   They promised    Ils ont promis  ‘They have promised’
   She escaped      Elle a échappé  ‘She has escaped’

9. Old English    French       gloss
   *dol  bearn ‘(a) foolish child’
   *Dœt dole bearn ‘the foolish child’

10. English       ME           gloss
    blood            Blut       sangre ‘blood’
    bone             Bein       os ‘bone’
    dear             teuer      cher ‘dear’
    oar, rudder      Ruder      rame ‘oar’

11. Old English   Greek        gloss
    ‘father’
    féderas          nominative plural patéres
    fédera           genitive plural patérōn
    féderum          dative plural patrāsi
    féderas          accusative plural patēras
    féder            vocative singular pāter

12. English       French       gloss
    I sin            Il pêche ‘He sins’
    I sinned         Il pêchait ‘He was sinning’
    I pécherait ‘He would sin’
    Il pêchera ‘He will sin’

### The Great Vowel Shift.###

The following are phonetic transcriptions of Middle English words. Write their present-day developments in (1) phonetic transcription and (2) normal orthography.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ME</th>
<th>(1) PDE Sound</th>
<th>(2) PDE Spelling</th>
<th>ME</th>
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<th>(2) PDE Spelling</th>
<th>ME</th>
<th>(1) PDE Sound</th>
<th>(2) PDE Spelling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>[kæs]</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>e.</td>
<td>[mɛt]</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>i.</td>
<td>[wɪd]</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>[rɒst]</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>f.</td>
<td>[rɒst]</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>j.</td>
<td>[yɛ]</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>[lɪs]</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>g.</td>
<td>[sæf]</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>[lʊd]</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>h.</td>
<td>[ɡʊn]</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### History.###

Using the terms, words and dates from the list below, explain the history of the English language, being sure to reference and explain the main periods of English history; be sure to explain why these dates/people are important. Note: on the exam, this section will be a matching task: you match the dates/names with the events, etc.

- 55BC
- 43AD
- 410AD
- 449 AD
- 597AD
- 787 AD
- 994AD
- 1204 AD
- 1337 - 1435 AD
- 1476 AD
- 1775 AD
- Angles
- Augustine
- Benedictine Reform
- Black Death
- Celts
- Chaucerisms
- Colonialization
- Danelaw
- Edward the Confessor
- English Renaissance
- Europe’s intellectual capital
- Hundred Year’s War
- Inkhorn terms
- French nobility
- Frisians
- Geoffrey Chaucer
- Harold (Godwinson)
- Hundred Year’s War
- Industrial Revolution
- Inkhorn terms
- Joseph Priestley
- Jutes
- King John
- King Philip
- Mark Twain
- Benedictine Reform
- Edward the Confessor
- Harold (Godwinson)
- Hundred Year’s War
- Industrial Revolution
- Inkhorn terms
- Joseph Priestley
- Jutes
- King John
- King Philip
- Mark Twain
OE: A Colloquy on the Occupations (Ælfric)


2. Giese lœf, ic hæbbe micel gedeor! On ærnumægen ic drīfe mîn sceap tō læswe. Yes love¹, I have much hardship! In early-morning I drive my sheep to pasture. Yes, sir, I work very hard! In the early morning I drive my sheep to pasture.

3. Siþan stande ic ofer þe mid hundum, þy læs þe wulfas hie forswelgen. After stand I over them with dogs, the less that wolves them devour. After that I watch over them with dogs, lest the wolves devour them.

4. Ƿonne læde ic hie on æfen ongēan tō hira locum. Then lead I them in evening again to their enclosures/sheepfolds. Then in the evening I lead them back to their enclosures.

5. Ic hie melce tuwa on dæge. Ic macie butaran and cīse. I them milk twice in day. I make butter and cheese. I milk them twice each day. I make butter and cheese.

6. And ic eom mínun hlâforde getriew. And I am my lord faithful. And I am faithful to my lord.

¹Means dear, beloved; in direct address could be interpreted as a respect term like 'sir'.
1. And þerfore sykyng he sayde: ‘I beseche þe, Lorde,
And therefore seeking he said: ‘I beseech thee, Lord,
And therefore seeking he said: I beseech you, Lord,

2. And Mary þat is myldest moder so dere,
And Mary that is mildest mother so dear,
And May who is the mildest mother so dear,

3. Of sum herber þer heȝly I myȝt here masse,
Of some harbor there highly I might hear mass,
For some shelter where I can hear mass,

4. Ande þy matyne to-morne, mekely I ask,
And thy matins tomorrow, meekly I ask,
And tomorrow morning I will meekly say your matins,

5. And þerto prestly I pray my pater and ave, and crede.’
And thereto quickly I pray my pater and ave, and creed.’
And in addition, I’ll quickly pray my pater, ave, and creed.

[...He does find shelter, and the next morning a lady enters his room...]

6. And set hir ful softly on þe bed-syde,
And sit her full softly on the bed-side, (And she sat competely and softly on the bed-side.)

7. And lenged þere selly longe, to loke quen he wakened.
And lingered there very long, to look when he wakened.
And she lingered there a long time, to see when he wakened.

8. þe lede lay lurked a ful longe quyle,
The knight lay lurked a full long while,
The knight lay completely hidden for a long time,

9. Compast in his conscience to quot þat cace
Meditating in his conscience to what case/chance
Meditating in his conscience as to what that chance

10. Myȝt meve oþer amount, to mervayle hym poȝt;
might/power move or amount, to marvel him still;
powered or amounted to, that it continued staring at him;

11. Bot þet he sayde in hymself: ‘More semily hit were
But he said in himself: ‘More semely it were
But he said to himself: ‘It would be better

12. To aspye with my spelle in space quat ho wolde.’
To spy with my word in time what she would.
‘To find out with my words right away what she desires.’

13. þen he wakenede, and wroth, and to-hir-ward torned,
Then he awakened, and wroth, and to-her-ward turned,
Then he woke up and writhed, and turned toward her,

14. And un louked his yȝe-lyddez, and let as hym wondered,
And unlooked his eye-lids, and let as him wondered,
And opened his eyelids, and let on as if it surprised him,

15. And sayned hym, as bi his saya þe saver to worthe, with hande.
And signed him, as by this prayer the safer to become, with hand.
And signed himself [with the sign of the cross], as though by this prayer to become safer.

16. Wyth chynne and cheke ful swete,
With chin and cheek full sweet,
With competely sweet chin and cheek,

17. Boþe quit and red in blande,
Both white and red in mixture,
Both white and red all at once,

18. Ful lufly con ho lete,
Full lovely can she let,
Completely lovely she can behave,

19. Wyth lyppez smal laȝande.
With lips small laughing.
With small, laughing lips.

20. ‘Goud moroun, Sir Gawayn,’ sayde þat gay lady,
‘Good morning, Sir Gawayn,’ said that gay lady,
‘Good morning, Sir Gawayn,’ said that gay lady,

21. ‘ȝe ar a sleeper unslyȝe, pat mon may slyde hider;
‘You are a sleeper unwary, that one may slide hither;
‘You are an unwary sleeper, that one can slide in here unnoticed;

22. Now are ȝe tan as-tyt! Bot true uus may schape,
Now are you taken at-once! But true use may shape,
Now you are taken at once! But true use may shape,

23. I schal bynde yow in your bedde, þat be ȝe travyst.’
I shall bind you in your bed, that is your trust.’
I will tie you in your bed, be sure of that.’

All laughing the lady moved then joked.
Laughing, the lady moved, then joked.

25. ‘Goud moroun, gay,’ quoth Gawayn þe blyȝe,
‘Good morning, gay,’ quoth Gawayn the blythe,
‘Good morning, gay,’ said the joyous Gawayn,

26. Me schal worþe at your wille, and þat me wel lykez,
One shall become at your will, and that one well likes,
One will become what suits your pleasure, and that one well likes,
27. For I ʒe1de me ʒederly, and ʒe5e after grace,
   For I yield me right away, and ask after grace,
   For I yield myself immediately, and ask for grace,
28. And þat is þe best, be my dome, for me byhovez nede;'
   And that is the best, be my doom, for one behooves need;
   And that is the best, be my destiny, for one heeds need;

EME: Excerpts from Shakespeare's Plays (late 1500s and early 1600s)

Othello 5.2: Othello and Desdemona, immediately before her death.

1. DESDEMONA. Who's there? Othello?
2. OTHELLO. I Desdemona.
3. DESDEMONA. Will you come to bed, my Lord?
4. OTHELLO. Haue you pray'd to night, Desmon?
5. DESDEMONA. I my Lord.
6. OTHELLO. If you bethinke your selfe of any Crime
   Vnreconcil'd as yet to Heauen, and Grace,
   Solicite for it straight.
7. DESDEMONA. Alacke, my Lord,
   What may you meane by that?
8. OTHELLO. Well, do it, and be breefe, I will walke by:
   I would not kill thy vnprepared Spirit,
   No, Heauens fore-fend! I would not kill thy Soule.
9. DESDEMONA. Talke you of killing?
10. OTHELLO. I, I do.
11. DESDEMONA. Then Heauen haue mercy on mee.
12. OTHELLO. Amen, with all my heart.
13. DESDEMONA. If you say, I hope you will not kill me.
14. OTHELLO. Humh.
15. DESDEMONA. And yet I feare you: for you're fatall then

Julius Caesar 1.1: Two tribunes, Flavius and Murellus, and "certaine Commoners
over the Stage."

1. FLAVIUS. Hence: home you idle Creatures, get you home:
   Is this a Holiday? What, know you not
   (Being Mechanicall) you ought not walke
   Vpon a labouring day, without the signe
   Of your Profession? Speake, what Trade art thou?
2. CARPENTER. Why Sir, a Carpenter.
3. MURELLUS. Where is thy Leather Apron, and thy Rule?
4. COBLER. Truely Sir, in respect of a fine Workman, I am but
   as you would say, a Cobler.
5. MURELLUS. But what Trade art thou? Answer me directly.

PDE: NIGHT  by Bret Lott (1992)

1. He woke up. He thought he could hear their child's breathing in the next room, the near-silent, smooth sound of air in and out.
2. He touched his wife. The room was too dark to let him see her, but he felt her movement, the shift of blanket and sheet.
5. He listened harder; though he could hear his wife's breath, thick and heavy next to him, there was beneath this the thin frost of his child's breathing.
6. The hardwood floor was cold beneath his feet. He held out a hand in front of him, and when he touched the doorjamb, he paused, listened again, heard the life in his child.
7. His fingertips led him along the hall and to the next room. Then he was in the doorway of a room as dark, as hollow as his own. He cut on the light.
8. The room, of course, was empty. They had left the bed just as their child had made it, the spread merely thrown over bunched and wrinkled sheets, the pillow crooked at the head. The small blue desk was littered with colored pencils and scraps of construction paper, a bottle of white glue.
9. He turned off the light and listened. He heard nothing, then backed out of the room and moved down the hall, back to his room, his hands at his sides, his fingertips helpless.
10. This happened each night, like a dream, but not.
Review: Selected ANSWERS


The First Consonant Shift.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indo-European</th>
<th>Grimm's</th>
<th>Verner's</th>
<th>(Reconstruction)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#spýeú- 'to spit'</td>
<td>p→p</td>
<td>'spew'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#tênh- 'extend'</td>
<td>t→θ</td>
<td>'thin'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#grêbh- 'scratch'</td>
<td>g→k; bh→b</td>
<td>kreb 'crab'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#pûr-</td>
<td>p→f</td>
<td>'fire'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#dhêît-</td>
<td>dh→d</td>
<td>t→d</td>
<td>dêd 'deed'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#kwôd</td>
<td>k→h; d→t</td>
<td>hwat 'what'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#wâd- 'pledge'</td>
<td>dh→d</td>
<td>'wed'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#steîp- 'to pack'</td>
<td>t→t; p→f</td>
<td>stifare</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#ghutôé-</td>
<td>gh→g</td>
<td>t→d</td>
<td>gud 'god'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#gômbho- 'tooth, peg, bolt'</td>
<td>g→k; bh→b</td>
<td>'comb'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>klutôs 'famous'</td>
<td>k→h</td>
<td>t→d</td>
<td>hlud 'loud'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#drêw-</td>
<td>d→t</td>
<td>'tree'</td>
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<td>#kwérp- 'turn about'</td>
<td>k→h; p→f</td>
<td>hwerf 'wharf'</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>#kortû-</td>
<td>k→h</td>
<td>t→d</td>
<td>heard 'hard'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#rûk- 'wrinkle'</td>
<td>k→g</td>
<td>'rug'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#tuú- 'you'</td>
<td>t→θ</td>
<td>ðû ðou</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#dêmê-</td>
<td>d→t</td>
<td>'tame'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#pûlô-</td>
<td>p→f</td>
<td>'foal'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#kêl-</td>
<td>k→h</td>
<td>'hell'</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Germanic Languages
1. Unique vocabulary
2. Prosody/Stress
3. Adjectives
4. First Consonant Shift (Grimm's)
5. Dental Suffix
6. Simplify tense: past/pres
7. First Consonant Shift (Grimm's)
8. Dental Suffix
9. Adjectives
10. Unique vocabulary
11. Prosody/Stress
12. Simplify tense: past/pres

b. borrowing
ballet

The Great Vowel Shift
a. [kâs] kes case
b. [rûst] rost roast
c. [lis] lays lice
d. [lûd] lawd loud
e. [mêt] mit meet
f. [rûst] rust roost
g. [sâf] sef safe
h. [gûn] gawn gown
i. [wid] wayd wide
j. [yê] ye yea

o. borrowing

The Structure of the English Language:

Example of things that could be discussed for OE passage:

- Pronunciation and spelling/orthography: a single symbol can represent two or more sounds. The 'g' as [y] in line 1: seest, line 2: giese, etc., and [g] in line 4: ongêan. (A second example would be the use of 'c': pronounced as [k] in line 5: melce, macie, and [e] on line 5: ðiese. Also pronounced as [S] in the 'sc' combinations, as shown in line 2; sceap.)
- Compounds: scêaphierde (sheep+herder) in line 1, or ðêrnesmerge (early+morning) line 2.
- Flexible Word Order (not fixed like in PDE): SVO, as in line 2: I drive my sheep to pasture, and SOV, as in line 5: I them milk, VSO, as in line 3: stand I over them with dogs.
- Question formation: the subject and verb are reversed: Line 1: what sayest you? (It would be 'what do you say' in Present Day English.)
- Affixes: Use of the prefix 'ge-' in lines 1 (gedeorf) and 6 (getféwe). This affix was used a lot in OE, with a variety of meanings.

- Semantic narrowing: the narrowing of the term dogs ('hundum' in line 3) to mean a certain kind of dog. (A second example would be the term 'love' (line 2) which could be used as a respectful address term, while today it can only be used informally and affectionately.
- Pronouns: Greater use of inflection on pronouns in OE: notice the different forms of the possessive pronouns for 'my' depending on how it is used: line 2: mîn (my sheep) and line 6: mînum (my lord)
- Plural Inflection: the use of different inflections to show the plural form: 1) the -as plural on wulfas (wolves in line 3) that survived to become PDE 's', 2) the -um on hundum (dogs in line 3) and locum (enclosures in line 4) which didn't survive, and 3) scap (sheep in line 2) which survived as an irregular plural formation in present day English.
- Inflection: The greater use of inflection decreases the need for prepositions. In line 7, it is understood that 'my lord' is the object of the sentence from its inflection, but in present day English we must use a preposition to show this relationship.