

Answers to Homework Set 4, Fall 2013

FUN WITH OLD ENGLISH

1. Summarize the rules for Old English stress on words without a prefix.
Primary stress falls on the first root syllable of the word.
2. Summarize the rules for Old English stress on words *with* a prefix.
Primary stress falls on the first root syllable of the word; prefixes are never stressed.
3. Summarize the rules for Old English stress on compound words.
Primary stress falls on the first root syllable of the first element; secondary stress falls on the first root syllable of the second element.

FUN WITH GRAMMATICAL GENDER

Examine the following phrases in Old English:

MASCULINE

se wīfmann 'the woman'
se mete 'the food'
se mōna 'the moon'
se grund 'the ground'
se æppel 'the apple'
se earm 'the arm'

þes wīfmann 'this woman'
þes grund

sum æppel 'a certain apple'
sum earm

(Ic seah) sumne wīfmann
'(I saw) a certain woman'
(Ic seah) sumne æppel

se mōna . . . hē is gōd
'the moon . . . it is good'
se mete . . . hē is gōd
se wīfmann . . . hēo is gōd

NEUTER

þæt wīf 'the woman'
þæt ealu 'the ale'
þæt tungol 'the star'
þæt land 'the land'
þæt æg 'the egg'
þæt lim 'the limb'

þis wīf 'this woman'
þis land

sum æg 'a certain egg'
sum lim

(Ic seah) sum wīf
'(I saw) a certain woman'
(Ic seah) sum æg

þæt tungol . . . hit is gōd
'the star . . . it is good'
þæt ealu . . . hit is gōd
þæt wīf . . . hēo is gōd

FEMININE

sēo hlāfdige 'the lady'
sēo reord 'the meal'
sēo sunne 'the sun'
sēo eorðe 'the earth'
sēo bēan 'the bean'
sēo eaxl 'the shoulder'

þeos hlāfdige 'this lady'
þeos eorðe

sumu bēan 'a certain bean'
sumu eaxl

(Ic seah) sume hlāfdigan
'(I saw) a certain lady'
(Ic seah) sume bēane

sēo sunne . . . hēo is gōd
'the sun . . . it is good'
sēo reord . . . hēo is gōd
sēo hlāfdige . . . hēo is gōd

1. What is the gender and case of each of the italicized nouns?

	Gender of the italicized noun	Case of the italicized noun
sēo <i>ceaster</i> ‘the city’	Feminine	Nominative
þæt <i>scip</i> ‘the ship’	Neuter	Nominative or Accusative
Ic seah sum <i>fæt</i> ‘i saw a certain vat’	Neuter	Accusative
se <i>tūn</i> ‘the town’	Masculine	Nominative
sumu <i>lūs</i> ‘a certain louse’	Feminine	Nominative
þes <i>blōstm</i> ‘this blossom’	Masculine	Nominative
þis <i>lēaf</i> ‘this leaf’	Neuter	Nominative or Accusative
þēos <i>costung</i> ‘this temptation’	Feminine	Nominative
Ic seah sume <i>bollan</i> ‘I saw a certain bowl’	Feminine	Accusative
Ic seah sumne <i>disc</i> ‘I saw a certain dish’	Masculine	Accusative

2. Translate these phrases into Old English.

the blossom _____ *se blōstm* _____

this moon _____ *þes mōna* _____

this ship _____ *þis scip* _____

this sun _____ *þēos sunne* _____

a certain meal _____ *sumu reord* _____

I saw a certain star. _____ *Ic seah sum tungol.* _____

I saw a certain land. _____ *Ic seah sum land.* _____

3. Which of the following is the best indicator of the grammatical gender of an Old English noun?

Which is the poorest indicator?

Meaning (sexual gender) **WORST**

concord of adjective and noun **BEST**

The ending of the noun

concord of pronoun and noun

PRONOUNS

For each of the modern English pronouns, give the Old English word from which it developed and tell the case of the Old English source pronoun.

Mod-E Pronoun	OE Source	Case of OE Pronoun	Mod-E Pronoun	OE Source	Case of OE Pronoun
I	lc	Nominative	his	his	gen
Me	Mē	Acc, dat	She	hēo	Nom
Mine	Mīn	gen	Her	Hire	Gen, dat
We	wē	Nom	It	hit	Nom, acc
Us	ūs	Acc, dat	(you tell) 'em	Him	dat
Our	ūre	gen	Who	hwā	Nom
Thou	þū	Nom	Whom	hwām	dat
Thee	þē	Acc, dat	Whose	Hwæs (not hwaes)	gen
Thine	þīn	gen	What	Hwæt (not hwaet)	Nom, acc
Ye	gē	Nom	Why (adv.)	hwý	instrumental
You	ēow	Acc, dat	Which	hwilc	Nom
Your	ēower	gen	That	þæt	Nom, acc
He	hē	Nom	These	þis	Nom, acc
Him	him	Dat	Those	þās	Nom, acc