



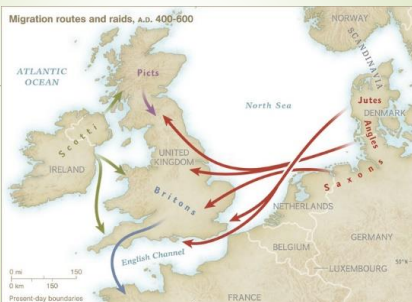




TWO KINDS OF COLONIZATION

- ANGLO-SAXON vs CELTS
- DANES vs ANGLO-SAXONS
- What was the character of this invasion?
- What was the character of this invasion?
- What effects can we see on the language of this type of invasion?
- What effects can we see on the language of this type of invasion?

ANGLO-SAXON MIGRATION



The Celts

- Only about one dozen words of Celtic origin remain in Mod. E.:
- Crag, for = high rock
- Combe = deep valley
- London = (lon) wild
- Lincoln = (lyn) lake
- Avon River = (afon) river
- Cheetwood = (cheet) wood
- Brill = (bre) hill

WHY?

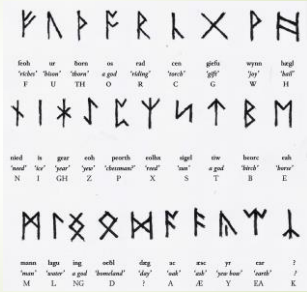
OLD ENGLISH RUNES (FUTHORC)

Runic script in which the "letters" represent concepts or things.

INFLUENCE OF CLERICAL CULTURE:

The "translation" of runes into an alphabet of 24 letters.

Rūn: sharing of knowledge or thought



2ND LATIN INVASION, 6TH & 7TH CENTURIES

The Book of Kells:

Where cultures meet.

Latin majuscules with Anglo-Saxon glosses.

The "2nd Latin Invasion"



2ND LATIN INVASION: MISSIONARY INFLUENCE

- Expanded written culture;
- Increased spiritual and abstract vocabulary: spiritual/abstract terms
 - martyr, angel, shrift, disciple, psalm);
- Introduction of vocabulary from Biblical world;
- "Christianization of O.E. words and A.S. concepts:
 - *spiritus sanctus* (lat) → *Halig gast* (O.E. Holy Ghost)
 - *Evangelicum* (lat. Good news) → *gospel* (O.E. god spell)
- Increased synonymic richness

SOUNDING IT OUT

How do we know what O.E. sounds like?

- ALPHABETICAL LOGIC: Latin clerics transcribing Roman texts (E.g. the Gospels) into A.S. would assign runic letters to Latin sounds → phonetic relationship;
 - Invented new letters for sounds with no equivalent:

| | Capital | Lower |
|-------|---------|-------|
| Ash | Æ | æ |
| Eth | Ð | ð (ð) |
| Thorn | Þ | þ |
| Yogh | Ț | ȝ |
| Wyn | ƿ | ƿ |

SOUNDING IT OUT

- COMPARATIVE RECONSTRUCTION:
 - Extrapolate backward from Modern English practices or known shifts in other languages in the "family"
 - E.g. O.E. "hit" → "it" as in Mod. E. dialects: I saw 'im.
- POETIC EVIDENCE: rhyme, rhythm, alliteration
 - SO (HWÆTI), surviving poems like *Beowulf* are crucial texts for sleuths.

KENNINGS

- O.E. = language of the concrete, the present, of forward motion
 - PORTMANTEAU:

| | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| gan/gangan | go/to go |
| gang | journey |
| Æftergengness | succession |
| Gangewite | spider (go + weaver) |
| Begangan | visit |
| Ingang | entrance |
| Utgang | exit (out + go) |

Hranrad=whale road (sea)

Banhus=bone-house (body)

Frumweorc=beginning work (creation)

On the way a miracle: water become bone (Exeter Book of Riddles, c. 10th C)

A NOTE ON "SOPHISTICATION"

Ecc. Cruet c. 10th C

Wholebone chess piece c. 10th C

A brooch from the Pentney Hoard, early 9th century (British Museum)

Stirrup w copper inlay c. 10th C

Silver spoon & spatula c. 10th C

"Primitive" vs "APPROPRIATE"

Brain c. 10th C Brain c. 2017

- "PRIMITIVE" = pejorative, based on a model that favours "us" as telos (end point or culmination);
- "PRIMITIVE" = "unsophisticated";
- RATHER, consider "appropriate to environment":
 - E.G. the farm people vs the submarine people

BEOOWULF

na mæca dægum. þeod cymra
 þym se framon huda æþe lincas elles
 þe medon. oþr se yld secpus scæþe
 þæt cum monegū mæþum meodo sæla
 oþre cealla. Esode eorl sýððan aqere þæt

ORAL CULTURE → WRITTEN CULTURE
 GERMANIC HEROIC → CHRISTIAN

Capturing the moment of TRANSITION

Pope St. Gregory to St. Augustine:

DO NOT destroy pagan temples but use them as Christian churches so "that the nation, seeing their temples are not destroyed, may remove error from their hearts, and knowing and adoring the true God, may the more familiarly resort to the places to which they have become accustomed."

Beowulf = a Christian Church (allegory) built inside a pagan temple (Germanic heroic epic)

BEOWULF'S CULTURAL DOUBLE-VISION

- GERMANIC FATE
- Cannot be evaded
- CONSOLATION:
 - WILL
 - FAME
 - WERGILD
- Beowulf as AVENGER
- BALANCE
- REVERSAL
- PROVIDENCE
- God's plan for all beings
- CONSOLATION:
 - SPIRITUAL REWARD
 - JUSTICE: Good vs. Evil
- Beowulf as SAVIOR
- DICHOTOMY
- TELEOLOGY

INFLECTION

- Mod.E = SYNTACTIC:

The MAN saw the WOMAN
vs

The WOMAN saw the MAN

The word's position in the sentence determines the function of the word.

- O.E = INFLECTED:

The WOMAN saw the MAN
Seo cwen geseah one guman
one guman geseah seo cwen

WORD ENDINGS determine the function of the word in the sentence

CONSEQUENCES OF INFLECTION?

POETIC FLEXIBILITY:

- ▀ The scop could manipulate the syntax to adjust
 - ▀ Rhyme
 - ▀ Rhythm
 - ▀ Alliteration
 - ▀ Repetition
 - ▀ Structured emphasis

MNEMONIC DEVICES

ALLITERATIVE VERSE W/ CÆSURA

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Hwæt! We Gárðena In gýrdstowum þeodrýmga sým gefilon-- hú óðr wéþingas ellen fencgastas Oðr Scyld Scefing scadewe þeodum menigum mrodigum meoðwefta ofigan agode Bode spððan adnef weard Mecostoff ferdan hú þæs folles gefedd-- weof under weofrum weafmýrdum það eð þæs her wélgjwa þæs þreofandras ofer heofode nigon scode, gamban gýðan þæs weas gýð cýning Doðm eðfara weas eafur cennad | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">ALLITERATION</div> | laker! We--of the Gardena In the days of you, of those stonings-- scold of their glory, How those nobles performed outrageous deeds, Oðer Scyld Scefing son, from enemy hosts, from many peoples sailed mead-benches; and ferocious the Scylding offered that he was found helpless and destitute, he then knew recompense for him-- he weaved under the clouds, throve in honour, until to him each of the banding tribes beyond the had to submit, and yield tribute-- that was a good thing! |
| | 5 | |
| | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">CÆSURA</div> | |
| | 10 | |
| | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">KENNING</div> | |

<http://www.heorot.dk/beowulf-rede-text.html>

LINGUISTIC SHIFT: INFLECTION → SYNTAX

MIDDLE ENGLISH IS **NOT** INFLECTED. WHAT HAPPENED TO REMOVE INFLECTIONS FROM THE LANGUAGE?

HINT:



AAAAAAAAAAAAAGH!

The Viking Invasions

SCANDINAVIAN DIASPORA

C. 850, The TREATY OF WEDMORE (Alfred the Great): THE DANELAW = 50% of England

THE SACKING OF LINDISFARNE & YARROW, 793 CE

The Holy Island, Lindisfarne

Chapel of St. Paul's, Jarrow, c. 7th C

Lindisfarne Gospels by Eadfrith, Bishop of Lindisfarne from 698 to 721 AD.

officium cond...
comparabatur accidit; Curru ut mi
nium i nterqualis pugnato coita

The Venerable Bede's *Historia Ecclesiastica*

COLONIZING THE MIND

- What is the purpose/effect of sacking religious sites like Lindisfarne and Jarrow?

2 KINDS OF COLONIZATION

ANGLO SAXONS & the Celts

- Only about one dozen words of Celtic origin remain in Mod. E.:
- Crag, *tor* = high rock
- Combe = *deep valley*
- London = *(lon) wild*
- Lincoln = *(lyn) lake*
- Avon River = *(afon) river*
- Cheetwood = *(cheet) wood*
- Brill = *(bre) hill*

SO (HWÆTI): linguistic clues tell us about the kind of colonization taking place in 5th & 8th-century England.

VIKINGS & the Anglo Saxons

- PLACE NAMES:
 - Covenham, Alvingham (O.E. *ham*=settlement) less than 5 miles from Thorsby (Norse *by*=town or farm)
- BORROWINGS: 900+ Norse words (*geit*, *hit*, *leg*, *skin*, *want*, *wrong*, *sky*);
- SYNONYMIC RICHNESS: O.E. *rear* and Norse *raise*
- SIMPLIFICATION: shift from INFLECTION to SYNTAX + PREPOSITIONS.

ENGLISH NATIONALISM

- ALFRED THE GREAT: CHAMPION OF THE **VERNACULAR LANGUAGE**:
 - Rebuilds monasteries;
 - Learns Latin to supervise the translation of religious texts into English;
 - Commissioned the *Anglo Saxon Chronicles* and the translation of Bede's *Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum* (The Ecclesiastical History of the English Nation, 731 CE)
- The pressure of Viking diaspora creates conditions for ENGLAND to emerge as a concept, and ENGLISH as a unifying language.
- VERNACULAR: "the language of the people"
