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Candidate session number			
Candidate name			
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School name			
Examination session (May or November)	May	Year	cat 1

Diploma Programme subject in which this extended essay is registered: Group 2 English B  
(For an extended essay in the area of languages, state the language and whether it is group 1 or group 2.) cat 1

Title of the extended essay: The Development of English Vocabulary

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**Candidate's declaration**

*This declaration must be signed by the candidate; otherwise a grade may not be issued.*

The extended essay I am submitting is my own work (apart from guidance allowed by the International Baccalaureate).

I have acknowledged each use of the words, graphics or ideas of another person, whether written, oral or visual.

I am aware that the word limit for all extended essays is 4000 words and that examiners are not required to read beyond this limit.

This is the final version of my extended essay.

Candidate's signature:

## Supervisor's report and declaration

*The supervisor must complete this report, sign the declaration and then give the final version of the extended essay, with this cover attached, to the Diploma Programme coordinator.*

Name of supervisor (CAPITAL letters)

*Please comment, as appropriate, on the candidate's performance, the context in which the candidate undertook the research for the extended essay, any difficulties encountered and how these were overcome (see page 13 of the extended essay guide). The concluding interview (viva voce) may provide useful information. These comments can help the examiner award a level for criterion E (engagement). Do not comment on any adverse personal circumstances that may have affected the candidate. If the amount of time spent with the candidate was zero, you must explain this, in particular how it was then possible to authenticate the essay as the candidate's own work. You may attach an additional sheet if there is insufficient space here.*

has always enjoyed learning languages, and began this study with a keen interest in the origins of English. He was immediately surprised to find that it is related to German, since he had thought that it probably derived from Latin, based on much of its vocabulary.

In the first weeks, struggled to decide how to limit this study, realising that the history of English is long and complex. He found that there is a great wealth of material on this subject, as well as a number of widely accepted dictionaries that may differ according to their authors and contexts.

Finally, chose to focus on the origins of English, finding this fascinating from both historical and linguistic points of view. His journey of discovery begins with the Germanic tribes arriving in the British Isles, passes through its main historical periods and changes, leading up to the publication of what is said to be the first ever English dictionary. No doubt he will continue to read further on this subject until he reaches the present day status of English as an international language.

Through this study, learnt that research needs to be focused and have parameters, no matter how fascinating the wider topic is. He also found that sources need to be sifted through to find the most relevant and reliable, especially when so many are available.

*This declaration must be signed by the supervisor; otherwise a grade may not be issued.*

I have read the final version of the extended essay that will be submitted to the examiner.

To the best of my knowledge, the extended essay is the authentic work of the candidate.

I spent  hours with the candidate discussing the progress of the extended essay.

Supervisor's signature:

**The Development of English Vocabulary from the end of the Roman Empire  
to the publication of the first dictionary**

**Research Question: How did English vocabulary develop from the end of the  
Roman Empire to the publication of the first modern dictionary?**

**(EE- English B)**

**Name:**

**Candidate's Number:**

**School:**

**Word Count: 3,987**

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The TOC is very broad with no detail added to the topics.

## Introduction

A language is a systematic means of communication by the use of sound or conventional symbol.<sup>1</sup> It is a way of expressing oneself to the targeted audience, and it is a very important way to communicate. This means that the language that is understandable by a lot of people is the best one there is because that language will enable them to interact with as many people as possible, who also understands and speaks the same language. Having the experience to understand such universal language may require years of training. However, being able just to speak and understand the language enables them to achieve their goal in life such as enlargement in business network, discovering new information (cultures, history, etc.), and improving relationships between countries. The English language has revolutionized the way of communication. It has managed to emerge from a single part of history and change the world in a way and has affected us in different perspectives of our lives such as opening our mind into new things, cultures and entertainment.

Broad

It is the world's language. It is the world's second largest native language<sup>2</sup> (after Mandarin). English has fewer native speakers than mandarin, but, it is the official language of a large number of countries than any another language. Its speakers differs from all around the world, including New Zealand, the U.S, Australia, The United Kingdom ,Hong Kong, South Africa, and Canada. English language is used in approximately 70 countries. These countries use English as an official language. Gathered from the world's statistics, approximately 1.8 billion people are able to speak and understand English. The language can at least almost be understood by every scholar and educated people, as it is has become the language of the media<sup>?</sup> and the language of the cinema, television, Pop music, radio, the computer world, and even advertisements. The language has also influenced a lot of international schools into using English language as their main language in their academic years.

Sources for this basic information are needed.

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<sup>1</sup> "What Is the Importance of English Language in Modern Society ..." Insert Name of Site in Italics. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Feb. 2014 <<http://education.blurtit.com/641082/what-is-the-importance-of-english-language-in-modern-society>>.

<sup>2</sup> "Minnesota : ENG 381 : French words within the English ..." Insert Name of Site in Italics. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Feb. 2014 <<http://www.coursehero.com/file/8370993/French-words-within-the-English-language-essay/>>.

“Surprisingly enough, the language that is used around the world has a lot of dialects. EE-Not English B only are there different regional dialects of English in England itself, but also in every other country that English is spoken. <sup>3</sup>“There are over 1 00 variants <sup>4</sup> of English, from American-English dialects to those of Australian, Asia, Africa, and Europe. **How is this related to the RQ ?**

“It is amazing how English language manages to branch out different kinds of dialects. From North to South, East to West<sup>5</sup>, it has been spoken from mouth to mouth, and this is what made the dialects exist. However have you ever wondered how did it all start? How did the language itself manage emerged from a single native language to an international language? How it’s made? Language has always taken my attention. It is the source of verbal communication that only we humans are capable of doing it such a way by using conventional symbols. This phenomenon is what triggers my inquiry about English language and how the language was recognized before it became an international language. The so called universal language was not always the universal language we know today. In fact, not many people are aware of this language.

The language goes through out many transformations during 3 main periods, The Old English, The Middle English, and the Modem English. Throughout the research, I have gathered much information from many sources from the internet and from a book called “The Origin and Development of the English Language“ , written by John Algeo. I have compared each resources obtained from the internet, to maximize the accuracy of the timeline. The book is also one of my primary sources for that book contains many, or more, information as found during the gathering of information throughout the internet. Understanding this history is needed to make this essay more adequate for the readers to read. Combining different information, from different sources, depicts a whole new part of the English language history, which can be divided into three significant parts. The evolution of the English language was surprisingly different from what people may have thought. Discovering that the international language that we are speaking right now, originated from a Germanic tribe was really shocking, as the kontras can really be seen between English and German language nowadays. All in all, this essay shows that how something insignificant, can become something really significant when combined together.

**The broad nature of the RQ lends itself to a wholly descriptive historical approach. The real focus here is unclear except to trace origins to a Germanic source- history that is well established given that English is categorized as a Germanic language.**

### **The Birth of the Old English language**

This huge phenomenon can be traced back to the year 400AD, during the invasion of the Germanic tribes in the British isle. In the 4th Century three Germanic tribes, Saxons, Angles, and Jutes, came to the British Isles from northwest Germany and Denmark. They were warlike and pushed out Celtic-speaking people into Scotland, Wales, and Cornwall. These invading tribes spoke similar languages, which together became Old English. Over time, the Saxons, Angles and Jutes ~~mixed their Germanic dialects.~~ This group of dialects is now called Old English or Anglo-

<sup>3</sup> "How many dialects are in the English language - The Q&A wiki." Insert Name of Site in Italics. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Feb. 2014 <[http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How\\_many\\_dialects\\_are\\_in\\_the\\_English](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_many_dialects_are_in_the_English)

<sup>4</sup> "How many dialects are in the English language - The Q&A wiki." Insert Name of Site in Italics. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Feb. 2014 <[http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How\\_many\\_dialects\\_are\\_in\\_the\\_English](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_many_dialects_are_in_the_English)

<sup>5</sup> "Colours of Egypt - Desert." Insert Name of Site in Italics. N.p., n.d. Web. 4 Feb. 2014 <<http://www.colours-of-egypt.com/themes/desert/desert.html>>.

Saxon. The word "English" itself was originated from an Old English word "Englisc" which comes from the name "Angles". The name Angles was also originated from the word "Engle", their land of origin. The Old English has few obvious similarities in terms of sound or structure; compared to the English we speak today. That makes it even hard for the Native English speakers when it comes to understanding the Old English vocabulary and sentences. Even though they both have few similarities in every aspect of their structures, approximately 50% of the most common words in the Modern English we speak today have Old English roots, which will be discussed through further.

Source lacking.

The English language is one of the languages that belong to the West Germanic branch of the Indo-European family of languages. This broad family includes most of the European languages which are spoken nowadays such as French, the Germanic languages (English, German, Swedish etc.), the Indo-Iranian languages (Hindi, Urdu, Indic, etc) the Slavic languages (Russian, Polish, Czech etc.) the Baltic languages of Latvian and Lithuanian, the Celtic languages (Welsh, Irish Gaelic, etc.).<sup>6</sup>

Based on my research, the Indo-European languages do somehow relate with each other. Example, "the word for *father*, for instance, is *vater* in German, *papa* in Latin, and *pitr* in Sanskrit. These are cognate words which have the same root although they appear in several languages."<sup>7</sup>

Within the year 410AD, Britain gained independence from Rome making the Romans withdrew, leaving the country defenseless towards invaders. Soon after the withdrawal of the Roman troops, occupants from the North began to assault the Britons. In response to those attacks, individual towns sought help from the *Foedarati*, a group of Roman mercenaries that originated from German, for the defense of the northern region of England. "As the legend has been told, a man named Hengest arrived on the shores of Britain with "3 keels" of warriors in 450 AD. This event is known in Latin as the "adventus Saxonum," or the coming of the Saxons".<sup>8</sup> The *Foedarati* ceased to defend Britain and overcame some places in the south east.

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<sup>6</sup> "The History of the English Language - an Introduction." *The History of the English Language - an Introduction*. N.p., n.d. Web. 27 Feb. 2014.

<sup>7</sup> *Welcome - Katedra anglistiky a amerikanistiky*. N.p., n.d. Web. 27 Feb. 2014.

<sup>8</sup> "Anglo-Saxon England." *Anglo-Saxon*. N.p., n.d. Web. 09 Feb. 2014.

They drove the British North West. The Saxons called the native Britons, 'wealas', which meant foreigner or slave, and from this term came the modern word Welsh.<sup>9</sup> Bretagne, a happening referred to as the second migration.

Interesting but merely a rehash of history.

In 597AD, Christianity was introduced in Britain for the very first time by St. Augustine, a Romanian missionary sent by Pope Gregory to convert the Saxons. As St. Augustine arrives in Kent, he then converts Frank King Aethelbert into Christian, which later then founded a monastery of Canterbury. St. Augustine also introduced some new Latin words such as: *church*, *bishop*, *baptism*, *monk*, *Eucharist* and *presbyter* (which came indirectly through Latin from the Greek.) were introduced as well.

Source?

Around 789 AD, the Danes and Norsemen, who are also known as the Vikings, invaded Britain. This event transforms Old English because of the vast new North Germanic words the Vikings brought up, particularly in the North of England.

As Old English began to evolve, four dialects merged into Kentish, spoken by Jutes and West Saxons. Saxon, Northumbrian and Mercian, are divisions of the Angles dialects. The West Saxon dialect became common in literature, and was used among students.

The new Germanic tribes renamed their town. The most common Saxon town names ends with a -ton (fenced area), -wick (dwelling), -ham (home), -worth (homestead), -den (pasture), -Hurst (wooded hill), and -burn (stream).<sup>10</sup> Some names began with one word that expressed personal possession or was a physical description and these became one word. One example of this evolution would be the word Chatham that was originally Ceatta's Ham (Ceatta's home).

and so?

These suffixes might have been the source of an interesting category 1 essay. Thus far, there the essay has little to do with language.

In 975AD-1025AD, an anonymous Anglo-Saxon composed an amazing piece of manuscript that managed to revolutionize the Old English by its use of words. This written piece is known as "Beowulf", an epic-heroic poem which was written in Latin. Although several written works have survived from the Old English period, the poem managed to become the most famous piece of work. It survives in a single manuscript known as the Norwell Codex This poem

It was written in Old English!

<sup>9</sup> "Anglo-Saxon England." *Anglo-Saxon*. N.p., n.d. Web. 09 Feb. 2014.

<sup>10</sup> "Anglo Saxon England." *ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND*. N.p., n.d. Web. 27 Feb. 2014.

was written in Britain by an anonymous that is notable for its length and the expressive content written in Latin. !!!

The best known surviving work from the old English is an epic-heroic poem called Beowulf. The poem lasted until 1100AD, before the Norman Conquest, one of the most important event in the history of English language. Repetative and contradictory.

**Table 1: Excerpt from Beowulf<sup>11</sup>**

Beowulf (Latin)	Beowulf (English)
<p>“<i>Ā-lēdon þā lēofne þēoden, bēaga bryttan on bearm scipes, mærne be mæste. Þær wæs mādma fela, of feor-wegum frætwa gelæded: ne hyrde ic cymlicor cēol gegyrwan hilde-wæpnum and heaðo-wædum, billum and byrnum; him on bearme læg mādma mænigo, þā him mid scoldon on flōdes æht feor gewītan. Nalas hī hine læssan lācum tēodan, þēod-gestrēonum, þonne þā dydon, þē hine æt frumsceafte forð onsendon ænne ofer yðe umbor wesende: þā gyt hīe him āsetton segen gyldenre hēah ofer hēafod, lēton holm beran, gēafon on gār-secg: him wæs geōmor sefa, murnende mōd. Men ne cunnon secgan tō soðe sele-rædende, hæleð under heofenum, hwā þæm hlæste onfēng.</i>”</p>	<p>“They laid then the beloved chieftain, giver of rings, on the ship's bosom, glorious by the mast. There were brought many treasures, ornaments from far-off lands. Never have I heard that a vessel was more fairly fitted-out with war-weapons and battle-raidment, swords and coats of mail. On his bosom lay a host of treasures, which were to travel far with him into the power of the flood. They furnished him with no lesser gifts, and royal treasures, than those had done who, in the beginning, sent him forth over the sea alone, child as he was. They set besides a golden standard high above his head, and let the sea bear him, — gave him to the ocean. Their soul was sad, their spirit sorrowful. Counsellors in hall, mighty men beneath the heavens cannot say truly who received that load.”</p>

Table 1 shows how Latin was used in Beowulf, making it popular back then. The English translation was also given to compare how was English different from Latin, *because they share the same root, being a part of the Indo-European Languages.*

**This is a rather unforgivable error. Latin vs Old English. Surely the supervisor should have noted this and redirected the student. This will have obvious repercussions for Criterion B.**

<sup>11</sup> N.p., Web. <en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Beowulf>.

### The Norman Conquest, Middle English (1066-1500)

Middle English began in 1066AD. When William, from Normandy in France, conquered England, King Harold, and became king himself. The Normans had been in France for 2 Centuries but originally came from the Norse area and still used some of their original language as well as French. "English was soon replaced by French as the language of aristocracy and the church. By the late 11<sup>th</sup> century, the English higher clergy and nobility have also been replaced by French."<sup>12</sup> "However, the Normans spoke a rural dialect of French with Germanic influences, usually called Anglo-Normans. These differences between these dialects became even more noticeable after the Norman Invasion of the Britain, after King John and England lost the French part of Normandy to the king of France in this time of point (1204AD)."<sup>13</sup> More summarising history.

### Early Middle English: 1210AD-1300AD

In this period, Anglo Saxon vocabulary increased still mixed with some Norse words. All Germanic grammars were dying out, but were still used. Some of it was still seen in Modern English today, for example: ??

"The form cat's for "of the cat"; note how the apostrophe here doesn't mean that anything has been left out. However, in most of the other cases, the endings disappear from English during the Early Middle English period. Grammatical genders have also disappeared during the Early Middle English period, further simplifying matters."<sup>14</sup> No context given- this seems a random inclusion of a grammatical adaptation.

However, Germanic language was regarded as a peasant language and most official documents were still written in Latin.

<sup>12</sup> "The History of the English Language - an Introduction." *The History of the English Language - an Introduction*. N.p., n.d. Web. 09 Feb. 2014.

<sup>13</sup> "The History of the English Language - an Introduction." *The History of the English Language - an Introduction*. N.p., n.d. Web. 09 Feb. 2014.

<sup>14</sup> "Middle English History." *Middle English History*. N.p., n.d. Web. 09 Feb. 2014.

“The peasantry and lower classes continued to speak English as it is considered by the Normans as a low-class, vulgar-tongue; and the two languages developed in parallel, only gradually merging as Normans and Anglo-Saxons began to merge. It is this mixture of Old English and Anglo-Norman that is usually referred to as Middle English.<sup>15</sup>

English  
or  
Anglo-  
Saxon?

### The Re-establishment of English language

During the latter half of 1204AD, King John lost province Normandy to the French. In the aftermath, King Edward I spoke mainly English. During this time, a vast amount of foreigners entered England, which makes the nobility feel more “English”, making the usage of English language more recommended and considerable among people even the upper class. This makes the French lose its prestige by 1250 AD. The upper class tried to learn English words, but still, they sometimes use French words, which were considered cheeky during this time. French, losing its prestige, maintained its image somewhere else, making the upper class not wanting to lose it completely.

Very brief summary.

Nonetheless, a series of conflicts between the kingdom of England and the Kingdom of France, called “The Hundred Years War”, waged between 1337 to 1453CE. This occurrence is what intensifies the relationship between England and French, making everything related to French hated by all the people of England.

Vague with large gaps- still unfocused.

A plague, killing almost 200 million people called The Black Death, played a role in increasing the use of English with the emerging of the middle class. Several workers had been killed by the plague, which increased the status of peasants, who only spoke English.<sup>16</sup>

Again, a contextual void lacking any real understanding. (“several workers...killed by the plague..???)

<sup>15</sup> “Middle English History.” *Middle English History*. N.p., n.d. Web. 09 Feb. 2014.

<sup>16</sup> “History of English.” *History of English*. N.p., n.d. Web. 08 Feb. 2014.

## The pleading in English Act (1362AD)

By 1362, people of England protested about French being the law of the court. Since not all people are able to speak and understand French, there has been fraud upon justice during that time, until the pleading act in 1362. The pleading act was a movement planned by the parliament of England, by constructing a statute often rendered “The Statute of Pleading”. Although it is written in French, the main idea was to support the use of English language as official language of the court to the upper class. This movement had a great impact upon the history of the Middle English, and manages to leave a mark in the history of English. Although the population of French was decreasing, several words from French were borrowed into the English language between 1250 until the 1500.

This is a purely political-historical approach more than any sort of linguistic study.

- A great leap for English language, 1340-1440

The 1340s was the year of an amazing leap for the history of the Middle English. Famous poet, Geoffrey Chaucer, composed a masterpiece called “The Canterbury Tales, which was completed by the year 1344. His work was recognized as one of the greatest epic work on the world of literature. Chaucer made a very immense contribution to the world of English literature, in using English during a time where much court poetry was still written in Anglo-Norman or Latin, and because of his dialects and choice of vocabulary, his English was one considered perfect to be used as the standard during that time, prior after his death, 25<sup>th</sup> October 1400CE.

??

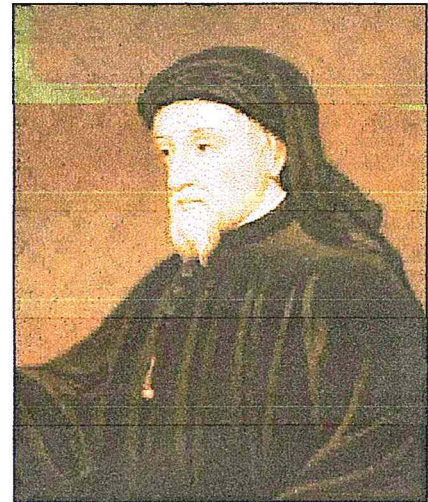


Fig 1: Geoffrey Chaucer<sup>17</sup>

<sup>17</sup> "Geoffrey Chaucer (c.1343-1400)." *Luminarium: Anthology of English Literature*. N.p., n.d. Web. 27 Feb. 2014.

As time goes by, writing system in the Middle English changes dramatically from its complicated structure, into a more simplified way. These changes are noticeable, because of the drastic changes in symbols, intonations, etc.

These noticeable changes were:

Simple list with no explanation or linguistic context.

- þ and ð were replaced by th (and sometimes y, as in ye meaning the)
- c before i or e became ch
- sc became sh
- an internal h was added after g
- hw became wh
- cw became qu
- The new symbols v and u were added; v was used word initially, and u was used everywhere else
- K was used much more often (cyning became king)
- New values were given to old symbols too; g before i or e was pronounced ȝ; ȝ became j, and c before i and e became s in some cases
- A historical h (usually not pronounced) was added to some words (it was assumed that these words had once begun with an h): honor, heir, honest, herb, habit
- Sometimes words were written with o but pronounced as [ɔ] but later were pronounced [ʌ]: son, come, ton, some, from, money, honey, front, won, one, wonder, of<sup>18</sup>

Why these changes?

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<sup>18</sup> "History of English." *History of English*. N.p., n.d. Web. 19 Feb. 2014.

## Dominance of English, Early Modern English 1500CE-1800CE

Early Modern English, 1500CE to the latter of 1800CE, began the development following William Caxton, a writer whom established his printing press at Westminster Abbey by 1476<sup>19</sup>. Prior to the printing press invented by Johann Gutenberg in France by 1450, it made prominence in England by Caxton by setting up England's first printing press. Thus, many valuable manuscripts including the well-known Bible were printed during this time period. This innovation of the new method of printing press made books available to people. More books were sold at a cheap price, thus more people learned to read, and it also brought standardization to English.

Approximately Ten thousand vocabularies were added to English as writers invented new words by using Greek and Latin affixes. Some old English words such as *divulgate*, *dispraise* and *attemptate* were no longer used. On the other hand, several words were borrowed from other languages as well as from Chaucer's work. In 1581, headmaster of Merchant Taylor's School Richard Mulcaster wrote two treatises regarding on education, one called Position, and one called Elementarie (1582). During that time, Merchant Taylor's School was the largest school in the country, where Mulcaster establishes a rigorous curriculum, aimed to set the standard for education in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. By 1596, Richard Mulcaster became High Master of St Paul's School; His contributions remained important in the study of humanist education and the sixteenth century.

A hodge-podge of facts that often have little relevance.

“Considered the greatest English-speaking writer in the history and known as England's national poet<sup>20</sup>, William Shakespeare (26 April 1564- 23 April 1616CE) introduced nearly over 3000 words into the English language. The writer is also known for inventing new English words during making scripts for his drama, which is to find the right suitable words for the script. His influence towards the English language can be called a legacy, as his invented words are still commonly used in the Modern English we now speak. Some of these words are “laughable, gloomy, majestic, lonely, radiance, hurry, etc”.

The inclusion of random vocabulary does not constitute a linguistic approach.

<sup>19</sup> "A Brief History of the English Language." *A Brief History of the English Language*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Feb. 2014.

<sup>20</sup> "William Shakespeare." *History.com*. A&E Television Networks, n.d. Web. 17 Feb. 2014.

- The Great Vowel Shift

The English language is somewhat imperfect for it has been modified many times before. However, these changes are what make the language survive, until now, and one of these crucial changes that the language had experienced is none other than The Great Vowel Shift (GVS). The GVS was an occurrence that took place in England during the 1400CE-1700CE. It was an abrupt yet crucial change that affected the pronunciation, and spelling within the English language which takes place in the Middle English era, prior after Chaucer's death. It was first studied in 1860 until 1943 by a Danish linguist and Anglist, Otto Jespersen, whom also coined the term "The Great Vowel Shift".

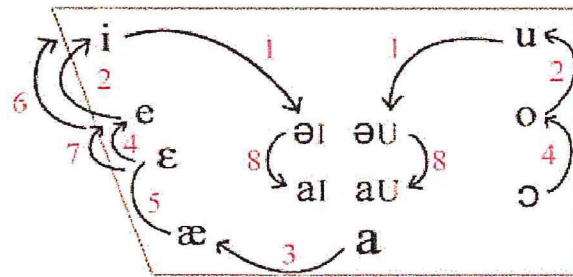
**After the shift:<sup>21</sup>**

- long *i* became a diphthong (probably in the sixteenth century pronounced [əi] with a first element like the [ə] of the first syllable in ago)
- long *e* took its place with the value [i:]
- long *a* became a front vowel, more like that of air to begin with, but later [e:].

How is this related to the RQ, then?

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<sup>21</sup> "Early modern English pronunciation and spelling." *Oxford English Dictionary*. N.p., n.d. Web. 27 Feb. 2014.



What is the point?

- Step 1: i and u drop and become e and o
- Step 2: e and o move up, becoming i and u
- Step 3: a moves forward to æ
- Step 4: æ becomes e, a becomes o
- Step 5: æ moves up to e
- Step 6: e moves up to i
- Step 7: a moves forward to æ
- Step 8: e and o drop to æ and a

Fig 2: Steps of how the Great Vowel Shift took place throughout the years<sup>22</sup>

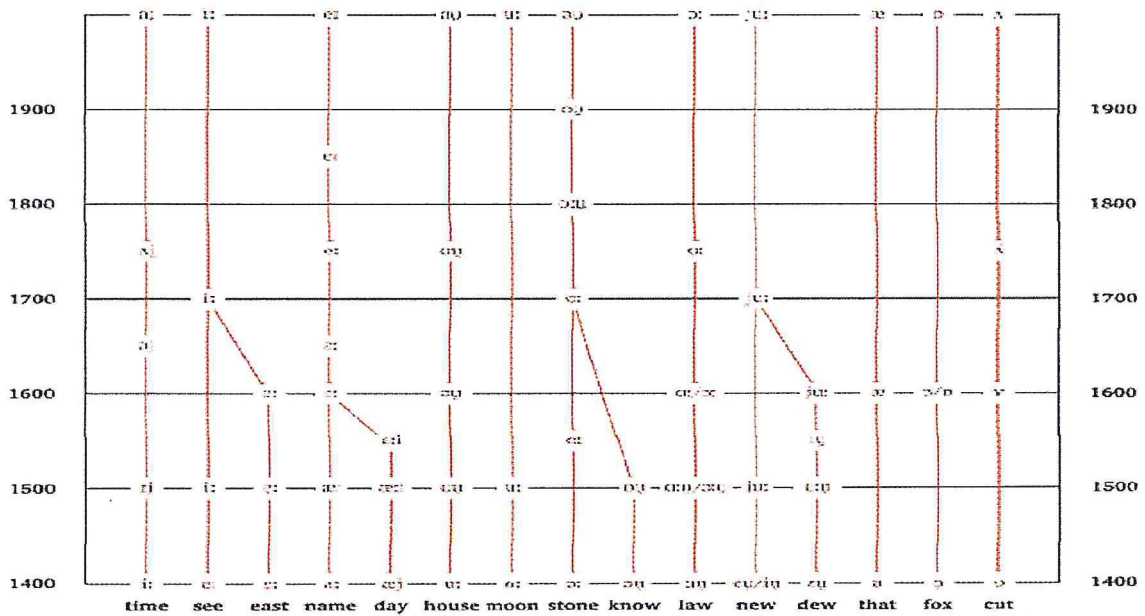


Fig 3: Timeline of The Great Vowel shift from 1500 -1800<sup>23</sup>

There is no explanation beyond the poorly copied graphs.

<sup>22</sup> "The History of English - Early Modern English (c. 1500 - c. 1800)." *The History of English - How the English language went from an obscure Germanic dialect to a global language*. N.p., n.d. Web. 27 Feb. 2014.

<sup>23</sup> "Great Vowel Shift." *Princeton University*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Feb. 2014.

## The Dictionary of the English Language

English is notorious for its complication to learn, as its constant abruptly evolving vocabulary makes things harder for early learners. “For centuries, people have striven to chronicle and categorize the expression of the English language, and Samuel Johnson is usually thought to be their original predecessor.<sup>24</sup> However, that fact is absolutely false; by 1604, Robert Cawdrey, a teacher, published his “Table Alphabeticall”, 149 years before Johnson’s time. Johnson’s dictionary contains a total of 40,000 English words and their first ever definitions, which is basically a guide, aimed for individual which lack of education, who might not know the advanced vocabularies borrowed from French, Hebrew, Greek and Latin.<sup>25</sup> Although Johnson may not have made the first ever English dictionary, he made a dictionary that is very easy to understand for the lesser educated, thus greatly increasing English speakers. Johnson’s dictionary took over 8 years to complete, required 6 helpers throughout the production. Oxford English Dictionary’s chief editor, John Simpson, gave his contribution to an insightful introduction, which recounts the eventful life of Robert Cawdrey<sup>26</sup>, and his vision to become the first ever English lexicographer.

Not relevant.

Not a valid conclusion.

Relevance.

Johnson helped standardize English but was not alone- just the most widely used- and had an effect on modern English- though this point is not made clear.

<sup>24</sup> "The First English Dictionary, 1604." *University of Chicago Press*. N.p., n.d. Web. 19 Feb. 2014.

<sup>25</sup> "The First English Dictionary, 1604." *University of Chicago Press*. N.p., n.d. Web. 19 Feb. 2014.

<sup>26</sup> "The First English Dictionary, 1604." *University of Chicago Press*. N.p., n.d. Web. 19 Feb. 2014.

## Conclusion

The history of the English language are divided into three different parts; The Old English, The Middle English, And the Early Modern English. These three divisions are what construct the English Language, followed by changes within each important era.

The Old English Era are the start of this all. As the language starts off as a Germanic language, it soon traveled into Britain. Which an anonymous writer soon published an epic poem called "Beowulf". Followed by the Middle English where the language experienced its hardship, fighting against French for its acceptance in England, which is currently dominating most part of the country by this era. English, by this time, was spoken only by the lower class people, unlike French which is only spoken by the upper class people which are more educated. The succession of the statute soon happened, which finally allows English to be the language of the court which forced French to lose its fame. English soon became widely known to the upper class people new French words are introduced within the language. Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales made a very immense contribution to the world of English literature, in using English during a time where much court poetry was still written in Anglo-Norman or Latin. Soon, The Great Vowel Shift managed to play a role, which modifies the vowels and the intonations of a certain vowels, thus affecting its pronunciation

A rather muddled summary.

The Modern English, however, introduced a vast amount of new vocabularies into the English Language, thanks to Shakespeare, which made English harder to learn. The problem is ? soon solved by Johnson's dictionary which consists of 40,000 words and its first ever description and meaning of the word, which is aimed for the lesser educated people so that they could understand the more advanced English words.

The significance of each event within the Old English, the Middle English, and the Modern English, crucially aids the development of the English language. Events such as the invasion of the Anglo-Saxon plays an overly great role upon the development of the language, as it made the language travels into a foreign land, which is soon mixed and some new vocabularies are added. The Beowulf are also some of the events which made Latin famous, because the use of vocabularies the writer chose.

The Middle English, on the other hand, plays the most important role in the history of the English language. Events such as the statute of pleading really helps the language, as it made the usage of English increase among people during that time, especially the upper classes, which only speaks French. The Great Vowel Shift also contributes significantly as it alters the once sophisticated and complicated vowels and pronunciation, making it easier modifying vowels and pronunciation.

Last but not least, by Shakespeare himself. He has managed to add over 3,000 vocabularies for his plays, simply to find the right words that contain the right expression and meaning, to fit for his scripts. His contribution has made a great impact upon the history of the English language, until today.

New info.

The lack of a focused RQ leads the candidate to simply describe, however poorly, some of the history of English. Along with a poor understanding of that history, there is no argument established.

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