

Lesson 7, Middle English Study Guide

1. As for changes in spelling conventions, characterize the newly launched symbol „g“. Comment on its occurrence and usage.
2. Explain the transformation of OE symbol *f* into Middle English.
3. Explain the treatment of OE „y“ symbol in Middle English
4. Explain the usage of OE *[dʒ]* in Middle English with respect to its position within the word.
5. Explain why Middle English is often referred to as “*the period of weakened inflections*”
6. Give two main reasons for morphological changes from OE to Middle English.
7. What are the main morphological changes resulting from phonology? Give an example of a word and its treatment in Middle English with respect to these changes.
8. Give an example of a change in noun declension from OE to Middle English.
9. What was the difference between the declension of nouns in the Southern and the Northern dialects? Give examples.
10. Give an example of „*en*“ plural common in the time of Shakespeare. Is the „*en*“ plural still present in Modern English? If so, give an example.
11. Explain and comment on the reductions in the number of cases from OE into Middle English.
12. Explain the loss of case distinctions in adjectives
13. Explain and comment on the transformation of the definite article from OE to Middle English.