

Question 13: Ye olde English problem

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English has changed a lot since the period in which Germanic languages were brought to these islands over 1500 years ago. In this problem, you will look at the way in which the use of pronouns in Old English (the variety of English that existed in Anglo-Saxon times) differs from the use of pronouns in the modern language. Watch out! The word order in Old English is sometimes not the same as in Modern English.

Look at the following Old English sentences and their Modern English translations then complete the exercises that follow. Note: the letter *þ* is pronounced like 'th'.

<i>wit lufodon þæt mægden</i>	we both loved the girl
<i>þæt mægden unc lufode</i>	the girl loved us both
<i>ge lufodon þone cyning</i>	you all loved the king
<i>se cyning inc lufode</i>	the king loved you both
<i>þæt mægden we lufodon</i>	we all loved the girl
<i>we inc lufodon</i>	we all loved you both
<i>wit eow lufodon</i>	we both loved you all

D1. Translate the following into modern English. (6 pts)

- (a) *se cyning eow lufode*
- (b) *ge lufodon þæt mægden*
- (c) *wit inc lufodon*

D2. When they function as subject, the Old English phrases for 'the prince' and 'the child' are *se æþeling* and *þæt cild*, respectively. Using this information, translate from the following from Modern English into Old English. (14 pts)

- (a) The prince loved the child
- (b) The child loved the prince
- (c) We all loved the child
- (d) The child loved you both
- (e) The girl loved you all