

Instructions: Read and think about each of the following questions and address them in concise short essays. Your answers can be drawn from class readings, notes, and discussions and other resources. Beware, however, of using new resources (stuff on the internet): plagiarism will result in course failure so make sure you \*understand\* what you have read before you try to use it in your own words.

Essay answers should generally not be more than 500 words. Answer questions on separate paper, typed or handwritten.

Exam answers should be emailed to me [flemingd@pfw.edu](mailto:flemingd@pfw.edu), before 5 P.M, Thursday, May 7

**Save you exam answers as a single PDF file with YOUR NAME in the file name**

1. Give the modern English equivalents of the following Old English words
  - a. deað (noun)
  - b. cwic (adjective)
  - c. hlaford (noun)
  - d. eorðe (noun)
  - e. toþ (noun)
  - f. riht (noun)
  - g. hlaford (noun)
  - h. bryd (noun)
  
2. Please explain what “Middle English” in terms that someone who has never taken a Fleming class could understand. Why is Middle English (generally speaking) much easier to read than Old English?

3. What is a loanword? How common are loanwords in Old English? Middle English? Early Modern English? What languages were significant sources of loanwords in English in each of those three periods?
4. "I can't stand hearing Shakespeare performed in American accents," says your friend. "I wish we lived back when everyone talked like the actors in *Harry Potter*, because British people are much better at Shakespeare's Old English." Patiently explain all the things wrong with his statement.
5. The modern English word Wednesday comes from the Old English *Wodenes dæg* (Odin's Day).

Think about inflectional morphology, i-mutation, and metathesis and explain why "Wednesday" ended up the way it did, and why we pronounce it the way we do.

6. Point out the errors and correct the "Fun Fact" portion of this post, most especially the underlined words:

The image shows a screenshot of a social media post. At the top, the user is identified as 'magicaldeductions' with a source attribution to 'direcartographies'. Below the user name is a quote from 'tobiornottobithatisthequestion'. The quote contains the word 'librarienne' and a nested quote from 'direcartographies'. This nested quote contains a 'fun fact' about the pluralization of 'goose' and 'moose', with the phrase 'undergoing strong declension' underlined. Below the nested quote is the text 'Oh baby. Keep talking dirty to me.' At the bottom of the post, there is a hashtag '#linguistics' and a note count of '157,214 notes'. The interface includes icons for settings, share, and refresh.

magicaldeductions Source: direcartographies  
↳ tobiornottobithatisthequestion

librarienne:

direcartographies:

fun fact: the reason that the plural of goose is geese but the plural of moose is not meese is because goose derives from an ancient germanic word undergoing strong declension, in the pattern of foot/feet and tooth/teeth, wherein oo is mutated to ee. however 'moose' is a native american word added to the english lexicon only ~400 years ago, and lacks the etymological reason to be pluralized in that way.

Oh baby. Keep talking dirty to me.

#linguistics

157,214 notes

7. Using evidence based on class readings, how would you respond to a person who objects to the use of singular “they” as a gender-neutral pronoun? (your answer **must** include some discussion of the word “you” as well).

8. “I had a real hard time understanding that one professor but it actually makes sense because they didn’t speak normal English they spoke a dialect.”

Please carefully explain the problems with the above statement, paying careful attention to the words “normal” and “dialect.”

9. “Girls and women would be more successful in school and work if they did not talk so much like girls.”

- a. What features of language are frequently associated with girls’ and women’s speech?
- b. What are the problems with the statement above?

10. Write a brief definition of each of the following terms and give an example (your example can’t be from Question 11!)

- a. Cognates
- b. Loanwords/derivatives
- c. Grimm’s Law
- d. i-mutation
- e. Strong Verb
- f. Weak Verb

11. Use the terms from Question 10 to identify the concepts exemplified by the pairs of words below. Please note that 5 of the pairs require two answers

- a. see / saw \_\_\_\_\_
- b. seven [English] / seiben [German] \_\_\_\_\_
- c. pater [Latin] / paternal [English] \_\_\_\_\_
- d. look / looked \_\_\_\_\_
- e. goose / geese \_\_\_\_\_
- f. pater [Latin] / father [English] \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
- g. food / to feed \_\_\_\_\_
- h. pedis [Latin] / foot [English] \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
- i. full / to fill \_\_\_\_\_
- j. cordis [Latin] / heart [English] \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
- k. fly / flew \_\_\_\_\_
- l. strong / strength \_\_\_\_\_
- m. genu [Latin] / knee [English] \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
- n. buy / bought \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
- o. unicus [Latin] / inch [English] \_\_\_\_\_