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	f	V V VERY	() INK	 ТН)	S SIX		 Z	-		3 CASUAL
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[i:] meat, sleep, treat [o:] law, caught
[i] bit, tin, lip [v] look, cook
[e] bed, head, said [u:] boot, shoot, loot
[æ] cat, ap, pan [o] about, sofa
[a:] rather, far, bar [o] bird, hurt
[p] hot, rock, mop [A] bus, gun

OE graph	Pronunciation	IPA Symbol
ā	as in the <a> in rather	[a:]
æ	as in the <a> in cat	[æ]
ā	as in the French bête	[ε:]
е	as in the <e> in bed</e>	[٤]
ē	a longer form of <e> (extended vowel sound of bed)</e>	[e:]
i	as in the <i> in win</i>	[i]
ī	as in the <ee> in deed</ee>	[i:]
ο	as in the <o> in hot</o>	[a]
ō	a longer form of <o> (extended vowel sound of hot)</o>	[o:]
u	as in the <u> of full</u>	[ʊ]
ū	as in the <oo> of pool</oo>	[u:]
У	<i> as in sit but with your lips pursed: this sound is also similar to the <u> in French tu</u></i>	[y]
ÿ	the same as the above but longer	[y:]

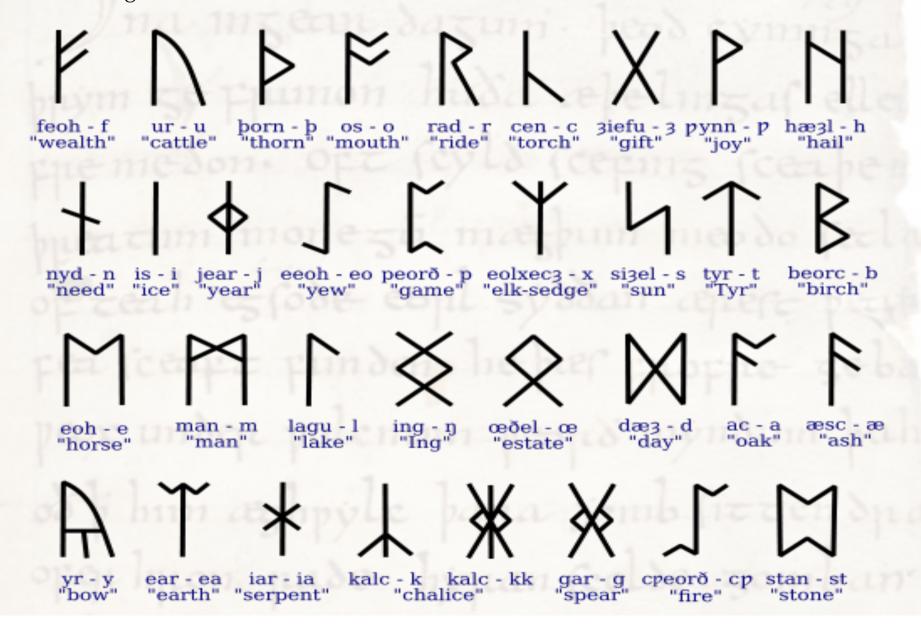
OE graph	IPA Symbol
ea	[æə]
ēa	[ɛ:ə]
ео	[eə]
ēo	[e:ə]
CHIM INONE	LI IIICCEVIIII IIICO O

The symbol [ə], found in the transcription on the right, represents a phoneme called **schwa**. It is the vowel sound at the beginning of the word *about* and at the end of the word *sofa*. To pronounce the digraphs in the left-hand columns, combine the pronunciation of the IPA symbols on the right.

opp hun azhpyle papa somb fizzen spa

OE grapheme	Pronunciation	IPA Symbol
c	usually pronounced as the <k> in king but as the <ch> in <i>church</i> when between or after vowels</ch></k>	[k] or [tʃ]
f	as the $\langle v \rangle$ in <i>van</i> when between vowels or other voiced sounds, but as $\langle f \rangle$ in <i>four</i> when at the beginning or end of a word.	[v] or [f]
g (sometimes written as 3)	usually pronounced as the <g> in <i>gold</i> but as the <y> in <i>yet</i> when between or after vowels</y></g>	[g] or [j]
h	as the <h> in <i>hand</i> when at the beginning of the word but as the <ch> in <i>loch</i> when in medial or final position</ch></h>	[h] or [x]
S	as the <z> in <i>snooze</i> when between vowels or other voiced sounds but as the <s> in <i>seven</i> when at the beginning or end of a word</s></z>	[z] or [s]
þ or ð (these letters were used interchangeably by most scribes)	as the in <i>clothe</i> when between vowels or other voiced sounds but as the in <i>theatre</i> when at the beginning or end of a word	[ð] or [θ]
SC	as in <sh> in <i>ship</i></sh>	Ŋ
cg	as in <dg> in <i>ledge</i></dg>	[dʒ]

The earliest appearances of the Old English language are found in inscriptions written using the runic (Futhorc) alphabet. Here is a memonic poem in Old English for the Anglo-Saxon runes:



Once Old English started to be used more commonly for writing, the Roman alphabet was adopted and adapted. The grapheme AE/ae (called 'ash'), earlier used by scribes to represent the Latin diphthong ae, came to stand as a full letter on its own. Two runes – P/p (called 'thorn') and P/p (called 'wynn') – from Futhoric were retained to represent sounds with no corresponding letters in the Roman alphabet. The letter D/δ (called 'eth'), developed first in Irish writing, was also employed, being generally interchangeable with P/p.



- 1. Genitive expresses the possessive meaning: whose? of what?
- 2. Dative expresses the object towards which the action is directed.
- 3. Accusative expresses the object immediately affected by the action (what?), the direct object.

NOUNS

Singular N.	stān	gief-u	hunt-a	icel
G.	stān-es	gief-e	hunt-an	
D.	stān-e	gief-e	hunt-an	
Α.	stān	gief-e	hunt-an	
Plural N.	stān-as	gief-a	hunt-an	
G.	stān-a	gief-a	hunt-ena	
D.	stān-um	gief-um	hunt-um	
Α.	stān-as	gief-a	hunt-an	

THE DEFINITE ARTICLE

	Singular				
CE Thun	Masculine	Feminine	Neutre		
Nominative	sē	sēo	Þæt		
Accusative	Þone	Þā	Þæt		
Genitive	Þæs	Þære	Þæs		
Dative	Þæm	Þære	Þæm		

310	an en fa	Plural	. eyee
Carz L	Masculine	Feminine	Neutre
Nominative	Þā	Þā	Þā
Accusative	Þā	Þā	Þā
Genitive	Þāra	Þāra	Þāra
Dative	Þæm	Þæm	Þæm

	Stro	ong declens	sion	Weak declension		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Singular N.	gōd	gōd*	gōd	gōd-a	gōd-e	gōd-e
G.	gōd-es	gōd-re	gōd-es	gōd-an	gōd-an	gōd-an
D.	gōd-um	gōd-re	gōd-um	gōd-an	gōd-an	gōd-an
Α.	gōd-ne	gōd-e	gōd	gōd-an	gōd-an	gōd-e
I.	gōd-e		gōd-e			
Plural N.	gōd-e	gōd-a	gōd		gōd-an	
G.	gōd-ra	gōd-ra	gōd-ra	gōd-ena or gōd-ra		
D.	gōd-um	gōd-um	gōd-um		gōd-um	
Α.	gōd-e	gōd-a	gōd		gōd-an	

2_	Singular				
	Masculin	Feminin	Neuter		
Ν	sē	sēo	Þæt		
А	Þone	Þā	Þæt		
G	Þæs	Þære	Þæs		
D	Þæm	Þære	Þæm		

	Plural					
	Masculin	Feminin	Neuter			
Ν	Þā	Þā	Þā			
A	Þā	Þā	Þā			
G	Þāra	Þāra	Þāra			
D	Þæm	Þæm	Þæm			

<u>king was tired.</u> **S**ē king was tired.

horse was strong.Pæt horse was strong.

The king loved _____ queen. The king loved **Pā** queen.

The king loved _____ swans. The king loved **Pā** swans. _____ swans of _____ king were beautiful. **Pā** swans of **Pæs** king were beautiful.

_____ queen gave _____ swans food. Sēo queen gave Pām swans food.

opquinnon nade hypan scolde zomban

na mzery dazum. peod cym

	Infinitive	Preterite singular	Preterite	Past participle
		1° and 3° person	plural	
Ι.	drīfan (drive)	drāf	drifon	(ge) drifen
П.	cēosan (choose)	cēas	curon	coren
ш.	helpan (help)	healp	hulpon	holpen
IV.	beran (bear)	bær	b æ ron	boren
V.	sprecan (speak)	spræc	spr æ con	sprecen
VI.	faran (fare, go)	fōr	fōron	faren
VII.	feallan (fall)	fēoll	fēollon	feallen

opquinnon pade hypan scolde zomban

	Indicative		Subjunctive
	Present		Present
ic	drīf-e	ic	drīf-e
ðū	drīf-st (-est)	ðū	drīf-e
hē	drīf-ð (-eð)	hē	drīf-e
wē	drīf-að	wē	drīf-en
gē	drīf-að	gē	drīf-en
hīe	drīf-að	hīe	drīf-en
	Past		past
ic	drāf	ic	drīf-e
ðū	drīf-e	ðū	drīf-e
hē	drāf	hē	drīf-e
wē	drīf-on	wē	drīf-en
gē	drīf-on	gē	drīf-en
hīe	drīf-on	hīe	drīf-en

	Celt	Latin	Angles	Danes	13 th century
Eburos (yew?)	Eboracon	Eboracum	Eferwic eofer = boar wīc = village, 'boar-village'	Iorvik ↓ Iork, 3eork and 3ork	York

Place names

A few Celtic words survive as place name elements:

brocc (badger, tasso): Brockholes (badger holes)

tor (hill): Dunster

Many river names are of celtic origin: Avon comes the Celtic word 'water' which also gives rise to the variants Esk and Usk. Cities with names that were originally Celtic include Carlisle: Luguvalos (personal name) + Cair (city or fortified place), York (Eboracon), London (Londinos, which was Latinised as Londinium)

Latin elements:

castra (a city or walled town, a Roman fort or camp; e.g. Lancaster, Lanchester, Doncaster, Manchester; OE *ceaster* derived from Latin)

portus (Portsmouth, Portland)

strat (street: i.e. a Roman road; e.g. Stratford, Streatham; strat was borrowed into OE becoming *str***æ***t*)

Anglo-saxon elements:

bury/burgh: fortified place (e.g. Loughborough, Canterbury) *bridge/brig*: bridge (e.g.Cambridge, Stockbridge) *cliff*: (e.g. Wharncliffe) *dale*: valley (e.g. Borrowdale) *don*: hill, down (e.g. Swindon) *ey*: island (e.g. Walney) *filed*: open land (e.g. Sheffield, Wakefield) *ley*: clearing, glade (e.g. Honley) *ham*: village, manor, estate, settlement (e.g. Rotherham, Rockingham) *hamm*: enclosure, bend of a river (e.g. Higham) *ingas*: people of (e.g. Hastings, Worthing) *ton*: farmstead (e.g. Bolton)

Scandinavian elements:

beck: stream (e.g. Calbeck, Sandbeck) by: village, farm (e.g. Quarmby, Whitby) carr: brushwood, marsh (e.g. redcar) rigg: ridge (e.g. Haverig) slack: shallow valley (e.g. Whiterslack) thorpe: farm, hamlet (e.g. Grimesthorpe) thwaite: meadow, clearing (e.g. Slaithwaite)

French elements:

bel/beu: Beaulieu (beautiful place), Beaumont (beautiful hill), Beauchief (beautiful headland) *le/en* (articles): Chester-le-Street, Chapel-en-le-Frith

Changed pronunciation of Anglo-Saxon forms: [tf] at the beginning of the place name element *ceaster* did not exist in Norman French and so French speakers would commonly pronounce the sound $[s] \rightarrow$ Gloucester, Cirencester

French personal names: Melton *Mowbray*, Shepton *Mallet*, Aspley *Guise*, Drayton *Beauchamp*.

offi hun æshpyle bapa jemb fizzen spa

Beowulf

It is the highest achievement of Old English literature and the earliest European vernacular epic. Preserved in a single manuscript (Cotton Vitellius A XV) from *c*. 1000, it deals with events of the early 6th century and is believed to have been composed between 700 and 750. It did not appear in print until 1815. Although originally untitled, it was later named after the Scandinavian hero Beowulf, whose exploits and character provide its connecting theme. There is no evidence of a historical Beowulf, but some characters, sites, and events in the poem can be historically verified.

Hwæt. We Gardena in geardagum, þeodcyninga, þrym gefrunon, hu ða æþelingas ellen fremedon. Oft Scyld Scefing sceaþena þreatum, monegum mægþum, meodosetla ofteah, egsode eorlas. Syððan ærest wearð feasceaft funden, he þæs frofre gebad, weox under wolcnum, weorðmyndum þah, oðþæt him æghwylc þara ymbsittendra ofer hronrade hyran scolde, gomban gyldan. þæt wæs god cyning.

Lo, praise of the prowess of people-kings of spear-armed Danes, in days long sped, we have heard, and what honor the athelings won! Oft Scyld the Scefing from squadroned foes, from many a tribe, the mead-bench tore, awing the earls. Since erst he lay friendless, a foundling, fate repaid him: for he waxed under welkin, in wealth he throve, till before him the folk, both far and near, who house by the whale-path, heard his mandate, gave him gifts. That was a good king. Hwæt. We Gardena in geardagum, þeodcyninga, þrym gefrunon, hu ða æþelingas ellen fremedon. Oft Scyld Scefing sceaþena þreatum, monegum mægþum, meodosetla ofteah, egsode eorlas. Syððan ærest wearð feasceaft funden, he þæs frofre gebad, weox under wolcnum, weorðmyndum þah, oðþæt him æghwylc þara ymbsittendra ofer hronrade hyran scolde, gomban gyldan. þæt wæs god cyning.

