

Chapter 6: Basic verb inflections

One of the first things you need to do when reading any Old English clause is locate the subject and finite verb. You can quickly find the verb if you know the verb inflections: it is the word that is inflected like a verb. Then it helps to know how verbs and subjects agree. This exercise presents various subjects and asks you to choose the indicative verb form that agrees with the subject. Simply write the letter that corresponds to the correct verb form in each blank.

I. *Settan*. wk. 1. set.

For 1–6, choose present forms: a. sette b. setest c. seteð d. settað

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. hēo _____ | 4. þū _____ |
| 2. ic _____ | 5. hīe _____ |
| 3. gē _____ | 6. wē _____ |

For 7–12, choose past forms: a. sette b. settest c. setton

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 7. hē _____ | 10. þū _____ |
| 8. ic _____ | 11. hīe _____ |
| 9. gē _____ | 12. wē _____ |

II. *Ġifan*. st. 5. give.

Present forms: a. ġife b. ġifst c. ġifð d. ġifað

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. se bēahġifa _____ | 4. wē cyningas _____ |
| 2. þā cwēna _____ | 5. gē cāseras _____ |
| 3. þū, cyning, _____ | 6. ic _____ |

Past forms: a. ġeaf b. ġēafe c. ġēafon

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 7. ic _____ | 10. hīe _____ |
| 8. hē _____ | 11. gē _____ |
| 9. þū _____ | 12. wē _____ |

III. *Bēon.* anom. be.

Present forms: a. eom b. eart c. is d. sind

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. se wītere _____ | 4. ic Ælfrēd cyning _____ |
| 2. Ōhthere, þū _____ | 5. gē hlāfdigan _____ |
| 3. wē _____ | 6. þās fāmnan _____ |

Alternate present forms: a. bēo b. bist c. bið d. bēoð

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 7. þū _____ | 10. se gamola _____ |
| 8. ic _____ | 11. gē _____ |
| 9. þēodwitan _____ | 12. wē brōðor _____ |

Past forms: a. wæs b. wære c. wæron

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 13. secgas _____ | 16. wē ealle _____ |
| 14. þū _____ | 17. ælc _____ |
| 15. gē _____ | 18. ic _____ |

IV. *Cuman.* st. 4. come.

Present forms: a. cume b. cymst c. cymð d. cumað

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Æþelflæd _____ | 4. þū _____ |
| 2. ic _____ | 5. þā þeġnas _____ |
| 3. gē _____ | 6. wē _____ |

Past forms: a. cōm b. cōme c. cōmon

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 7. WƳnfrīð _____ | 10. þū _____ |
| 8. ic _____ | 11. ealle men _____ |
| 9. gē men _____ | 12. wē munecas _____ |