

Chapter 10. Prepositions, part one

This exercise is intended to give you practice recognizing and translating the more common Old English prepositions. Translate the following sentences, and for each of the prepositions in **bold** type indicate the case it is governing (when the inflections are ambiguous, indicate the choices, e.g. 'gen. or dat.').

1. **On** ðissum ġēare cōm miċel mancwealm¹ **on** Brytene īġland.
first *on* _____ second *on* _____
2. Ðā cȳdde man Harolde cyninge, þe **on** Lundene wæs, þæt Tostig his brōðor wæs cumen **tō** Sandwīc.
on _____ *tō* _____
3. Ðrȳ dagas sindon **on** twelf mōnðum **mid** þrim nihtum, **on** þām ne bið nān wīf ācenned.
first *on* _____ *mid* _____ second *on* _____
4. Ealswā hī wæron ġegān ūp **on** þæt land, þā axode hī hwær se Godes þegn wære Nicolaus.
on _____
5. Ān hēafodsynn² is gecweden *gula*, þæt is ġifernyss **on** Englisc, sēo dēð þæt man yt³ **ær** tīman and drincð.
ær _____
6. Þrȳ dagas wæron **ær** þām dæġe **būtan** sunnan and mōnan and eallum steorrum.
ær _____ *būtan* _____
7. Þā wearp se brōðor þæt glæsene⁴ fæt ūt **æt** ðam ēagðyrle⁵ uppon ðām heardan stāne.
æt _____

1 *mancwealm*: killing of men; pestilence

2 *hēafodsynn*: deadly sin

3 *yt*: 3rd person sg. of *etan*.

4 *glæsene*: of glass

5 *ēagðyrle*: window (*ēage* = eye; *þyrle* = opening)

8. Ðā sceolde se man feccan⁶ wæter **æt** þære ēa, and befēol **ofer** þām stæðe **intō** þām strēame.
æt _____ *ofer* _____ *intō* _____
9. Ðā ēode þæt wif **æfter** him.
æfter _____
10. Ealle men spyriað **æfter** þām hēhstan gōde.
æfter _____
11. Ēac hit wære rihtlic, **æfter** bōca tǣcinge,⁷ þæt se cniht ungewemmed wære oððæt hē wifode.
æfter _____
12. Hwylc man wāt þæs mannes mōdgeþancas, **būtan** þæs mannes gāst þe **on** him sylfum byð?
būtan _____ *on* _____
13. Sēo stōw is unwæstmberendlicu⁸ **for** þāra nāddrena menigeo.
for _____

6 *feccan*: fetch

7 *tǣcinge*: teaching

8 *unwæstmberendlicu*: barren; uncultivated