

## 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. ġē cāseras _____  |
| 3. þū, cyning, _____ | 6. ic _____          |

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

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

III. **Beon.** anom. *be.*

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

- |                      |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. se wri̅tere _____ | 4. ic̅ Ælfr̅ed cyning _____ |
| 2. Ōhthere, þū _____ | 5. ġē hl̅æfdigan _____      |
| 3. wē _____          | 6. þās f̅æmnan _____        |

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

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

Past forms: **a.** wæs **b.** wære **c.** wæron

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 13. secgas _____ | 16. wē ealle _____ |
| 14. þū _____     | 17. ælc̅ _____     |
| 15. ġē _____     | 18. ic̅ _____      |

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

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

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Æþelfl̅æd _____ | 4. þū _____        |
| 2. ic̅ _____       | 5. þā þeġnas _____ |
| 3. ġē _____        | 6. wē _____        |

Past forms: **a.** cōm **b.** cōme **c.** cōmon

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 7. Wynfrið _____ | 10. þū _____         |
| 8. ic̅ _____     | 11. ealle men _____  |
| 9. ġē men _____  | 12. wē munecas _____ |