



**Инновационный Евразийский Университет**

Кафедра «Английская филология и перевод»

## **Слайд-лекция**

по дисциплине **«История языка»**

на тему: Periodisation of English Language History

Для студентов специальностей

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# Traditional Periodisation of English Languages History

The commonly accepted, traditional periodisation divides English language history into **three periods**:

- ❑ *Old English (OE);*
- ❑ *Middle English (ME);*
- ❑ *New or Modern English (NE, Mod E).*

# Professor Rastorguyeva's Periodisation

- This periodisation of English language history is partly based on the conventional three periods.
- It subdivides the history of the English language into **seven periods**.

# Traditional Periodisation of English Languages History

The name of the period	Time (Chronology)
<b>1. Old English (OE):</b> 1.1 Early OE 1.2 Anglo-Saxon	1.1 5 <sup>th</sup> c.– 7 <sup>th</sup> c. 1.2 7 <sup>th</sup> c.– 11 <sup>th</sup> c.
<b>2. Middle English (ME):</b> 2.1 Early ME 2.2 Classical ME	2.1 11 <sup>th</sup> c.– 14 <sup>th</sup> c. 2.2 14 <sup>th</sup> c. – 15 <sup>th</sup> c.
<b>3. New English (NE):</b> 3.1 Early NE 3.2 The age of normalization and correctness 3.3 Late NE ( Modern English)	3.1 15 <sup>th</sup> c. - mid.17 <sup>th</sup> c. 3.2 mid.17 <sup>th</sup> c. - 18 <sup>th</sup> c. 3.3 the end of the 18 <sup>th</sup> c.- till <b>nowadays</b>

English language  
**development** started with  
the West Germanic (WG)  
Invasion by the Angles,  
the Saxons, the Jutes  
and the Frisians  
in the **5th century** (449 A.D.).

# Old English

- ❑ At the beginning it was the **stage of tribal dialects** of the WG invaders, which were gradually losing contacts with the related continental languages.
- ❑ The tribal dialects were only used for **oral communication**.
- ❑ The 7th century is **the beginning of writing**, the tribal dialects gradually changed into local or **regional dialects**.

# Old English

OE was a typical OG language, with a **purely Germanic vocabulary**, and few foreign borrowings. As far as grammar is concerned, OE was an inflected or **“*synthetic*” language** with a well-developed system of morphological categories.



Middle English Period  
starts  
with the Norman Conquest  
in 1066

# Early Middle English

Historic Events	Linguistic Peculiarities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1066, the year of the Norman Conquest</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A time of great linguistic changes at all the levels of the language</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Official language in England was French for 300 years</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English absorbed two layers of lexical borrowings: the <i>Scandinavian element</i> in the North-Eastern area (due to the Scandinavian invasions since the 8th c.) and the <i>French element</i> in the South-East (due to the Norman Conquest).</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Feudal system and foreign influences caused the greatest dialectal divergence</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Grammatical changes were so drastic that by the end of the period they transformed English into a <i>mainly analytical</i> one.</li></ul>

# Classical Middle English

- The time of the **restoration** of English to the position of the state and literary language and the time of **literary flourishing**.
- The main dialect used in writing and literature was the mixed **dialect of London**, which arose in the 14<sup>th</sup> c.

New English period  
starts with the  
introduction of printing  
in 1475 by William Caxton.

# Early New English

- ❑ A time of **progress** in culture, education and literature.
- ❑ The formation of the national English language.
- ❑ A time of **sweeping changes** at all levels.
- ❑ The period of variety and **free choice** in pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar.

# The Age of Normalisation and Correctness

- ❑ Establishment of “norms”, which were fixed as rules in the numerous dictionaries and grammar-books published at the time.
- ❑ The 18th c. literary English differentiated into **distinct styles**.
- ❑ “Fixing the pronunciation”, and **normalisation and restriction** of word usage and grammatical construction.

# Modern English

- By the 19<sup>th</sup> c. English had achieved the relative **stability** and had acquired all the **properties of a national language**, with its recognised standards.
- The **expansion** of English overseas proceeded together with the growth of the British Empire in the 19<sup>th</sup> c.

# Modern English

The 20<sup>th</sup> c. witnessed considerable **intermixture of dialects**. The local dialects are being displaced by Standard English. The “best” form of English, the **Received Standard**, is being spread through new channels: the press, radio, cinema and television.



The last 30 or 40 years  
can be singled out  
as the final  
stage of development,  
representing  
*Present-day English.*

# Контрольные вопросы

1. How many periods is the history of English traditionally divided into? What are they? What are their boundaries?
2. How many periods does Pr. Rastorguyeva subdivide the history of English language into?
3. What do the following dates stand for: the 7th c.; 1475; the 5th c.; 1066; the 11th c. – the 15th c.; the 5th c. – the 11th c.
4. Characterise the main periods in the history of English.

# Литература:

## Основная учебная литература:

1. Расторгуева Т.А. История английского языка: Учебник для вузов М.: Астрель, 2003 (чз-5, аб-15).
2. Иванова И., Чахоян Л., Беляева Т. История английского языка: Учебник. Хрестоматия. Словарь/ И.Иванова, Л.Чахоян,Т.Беляева СПб.: Лань, 2006 (чз-5, аб-17).

## Дополнительная учебная литература:

1. Ярцева В.Н. Языкознание: Большой энциклопедический словарь / Под ред. В.Н.Ярцевой М.: Большая Российская энциклопедия, 2000 (чз-3).
2. «Crosscultural Aspects of The English Language History (Historical, social and cultural backgrounds of the English language history)»: учебное пособие по курсу истории английского языка/ Сост.: Р.Ж. Саурбаев, С.Г. Кулагина; Сургут. гос ун-т. – Сургут: Изд-во СурГУ, 2003 (медiateка ИнЕУ).