

were maintained, but ɣ was substituted by the sound symbol g , with the following distribution: g when guttural and \acute{g} when palatal. A similar distribution has been made concerning letter symbol c : when guttural is represented by c and when palatal, \acute{c} .

All these convections are followed in this text book, except two: long vowel symbol y , which was protruded, is represented as \acute{y} , and long vowel symbol æ is represented as $\acute{\text{æ}}$.

In order to get accustomed with mediaeval texts the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle is transcribed twice, one in the usual form of writing today and another one imitating the original mediaeval Anglo-Saxon texts.

Introduction to Declensions in Old English.

Imagine the following sentences in Old English:

1. Se cyning \acute{g} eaf \acute{b} æm eorl \acute{b} one mǣþm.
2. Se eorl \acute{g} esurmode \acute{b} one cyning.
3. Se cyninges mǣþm.
4. Hīe gefuhton wip \acute{b} æm cyninge.
5. Hīe hæfdon twǣġen cyningas
6. Se eorl \acute{g} iersummode cyningas twēgen
7. \acute{b} is hūs is se cyninga tūn.
8. Hīe gefuhton wip twǣm cyningum.

Here you can find the same word with different inflexions, cyning, cyninges, cyninge, cyning, cyningas, cyninga, cyningum, cyninga, repeated in all those sentences. This word always means the same but has different forms because it has different syntactic functions playing different syntactic roles. The equivalent sentences in Modern English are

1. The king gave the count the treasure.
2. The count obeyed the king.
3. The king's treasure
4. They fought with the king.

5. They had two kings.
6. People obeyed two kings.
7. This house is the estate of the kings.
8. They fought with two kings.

The word *cyning* is the Old English word for king. It is used with the following forms: *cyning*, *cyning*, *cyninges*, *cyninge*, *cyningas*, *cyningas*, *cyninga*, *cyningum*. This word is a MASCULINE NOUN. And the peculiarity of NOUNS in Old English is that the form of them is different depending on the function they play in a sentence. At the same time the form of NOUNS depends on the number it has and, finally, NOUNS are grouped in accordance with the gender they have. Remember that gender in grammar is something conventional.

In sentence 1 *cyning* is accompanied of PARTICLE *se*, the same as *eorl* (*þæm*) and *māþm* (*þone*). This means that *se* is the ARTICLE and that *eorl* and *māþm* are NOUNS, all MASCULINE. The form of *cyning* is the stem of the word, that is, it has no ending. The function it plays in the sentence is subject of the sentence and the form of the word must be in accordance with the function it plays. At the same time the NOUN here is SINGULAR and MASCULINE. Old English NOUNS are declined differently if they are MASCULINE, NEUTER or FEMININE or if they are singular and plural. Bearing all this in mind you can say that the form of the word *cyning* is the original one for MASCULINE SINGULAR NOUNS, since it has no ending. Because of the syntactic role it plays, subject of the sentence, you can say that it is NOMINATIVE and that MASCULINE NOMINATIVE SINGULAR NOUNS in OLD ENGLISH have no particular form ending. Other examples, of MASCULINE NOUNS in Old English are: *stān* (stone), *āþ* (oath), *beorg* (hill), *cniht* (youth), etc.

The form of the MASCULINE NOUN *cyning* in sentence 2 is the same as in sentence 1 but the syntactic function is different. In sentence 2 *cyning* is object of the sentence. ACCUSATIVE case indicates that the word in question receives the determination played by the verb. Words with the syntactic function of object are expressed in ACCUSATIVE case. Both sentences 1 and 2 are SINGULAR. With this you know that MASCULINE NOUNS in NOMINATIVE and ACCUSATIVE SINGULAR CASES usually have the same form.

The form of MASCULINE SINGULAR NOUN in sentence 3 is the stem, *cyning*, plus the ending *-es* (*cyninges*). The function played by the word with this form is the modification of the following NOUN. That is, the word *cyninges* specifies a state of affairs that modifies the content in the

following NOUN, generally conveying a relationship that can be considered as possession. In this way the form of the word ends in -es and the case is called GENITIVE. The GENITIVE of NOUNS belonging to the class of MASCULINE NOUNS ends in -es.

In sentence 4 the form of the MASCULINE NOUN in question is *cyninge*. This is due to the fact that the NOUN is preceded by the preposition *wip* and thus its function is different, as well. The word here plays the function of an adjunct of company. The case, as a consequence, is DATIVE. DATIVE is the typical case of adjuncts, especially if they are strengthened by the presence of prepositions. However, it is necessary to say that certain prepositions request other CASES but the most general one with prepositions is DATIVE.

Sentences 5, 6, 7 and 8 are PLURAL and the form of the NOUN *cynning* is respectively NOMINATIVE, ACCUSATIVE, GENITIVE and DATIVE PLURAL, with the same functions as the ones specified above with words in SINGULAR. The only difference in them is number. 1 through 4 are SINGULAR and 5 through 8, PLURAL.

Summing up, in Old English NOUNS, ADJECTIVES, DETERMINERS, PRONOUNS, PRESENT and PAST PARTICIPLES the form of the word is determined by, the gender it has, the function it plays and the number it denotes. In this sense you have to distinguish the syntactic function (subject, object, adjunct or prepositional adjunct), the case the word has (NOMINATIVE, ACCUSATIVE, GENITIVE and DATIVE) and the number it represents (SINGULAR, PLURAL and with personal PRONOUNS, DUAL).

The combination of forms and functions played by a word when it is used in a sentence, if dealing with NOUNS, ADJECTIVES (OR PARTICIPLES), DETERMINERS OR PRONOUNS, is called DECLENSION and the different forms with the different functions performed is called CASES. A DECLENSION thus is a paradigm of forms in NOUNS, ADJECTIVES (OR PARTICIPLES), DETERMINERS OR PRONOUNS, when they appear in combination in a sentence, representing the function the word plays. In Old English you have four CASES in the DECLENSION of NOUNS and ADJECTIVES: NOMINATIVE, ACCUSATIVE, GENITIVE and DATIVE. When dealing with PRONOUNS you may have another one, INSTRUMENTAL.

The distribution of CASES runs as follows:

NOMINATIVE, subject and subject complement.

ACCUSATIVE, object and object complement.

GENITIVE, possessive.