

LANGUAGE COURSE

Middle English Grammar Appendix

1 Chapters

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MIDDLE ENGLISH GRAMMAR APPENDIX

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Chapter 1 Appendix Paradigms 2

📜 Paradigm Summary

One table each for nouns, the article and demonstratives, adjectives, pronouns and verbs. Every entry comes from Chapters 1 to 9 and carries its chapter number. Nothing here is new, and no gap has been filled: where the chapters had no verified form, the cell says "not given". Most of the sources were Wikipedia pages as a page tool summarised them, and some tables came through garbled, so treat this as a study aid, not a reference grammar.

> **How to read it**
>
> Slashes separate variant spellings that the source listed together. A label such as "Southern" is given only where a chapter's source gave it. Forms in brackets were given as variants.

Nouns (Chapter 2)

FEATURE	FORM	NOTE
Strong plural	**-(e)s**	Survives as the ordinary *-s*
Weak plural	**-(e)n**	From Old English n-stems; *oxen*, *children*
Strong genitive	**-es**	The only ending in use by the end of the period
Some formerly feminine or weak nouns	**-e** or none	**fole hoves**
Relationship nouns in *-er*	often none	**fader bone**
Dative	lost in early Middle English	Full paradigm: not given

FEATURE	FORM	NOTE
Gender	grammatical, then natural	Regional noun forms: not given

Article and demonstratives (Chapter 3)

WORD	FORMS GIVEN	NOTE
the	**þe**	Reduced from the Old English forms; a full paradigm and a date for the invariant form: not given
a / an	**a**, **an**	From *ān*; *n* lost before consonants by the 15th century
this	**þis** and variants	Southwest **þues, þusse**; Northern and East Anglia **yis**
that	**þat**	Conjunction, pronoun and determiner
these, those	Plural demonstratives: not given	

Adjectives (Chapter 4)

CONTEXT	FORM
Before a plural noun, after the, after a demonstrative or possessive, in direct address (single-syllable adjectives)	adjective + **-e**
Elsewhere	unmarked
Already ending in *-e*	no second *-e*

CONTEXT	FORM
Comparative / superlative	**-er / -est**; with vowel shortening **greet, gretter**; with umlaut **long, lenger**; **-lier / -liest** or **-loker / -lokest** for *-ly*, *-lich*
Dialect forms, full agreement	not given

Personal pronouns (Chapter 5)

PERSON	SUBJECT	OBJECT	POSSESSIVE
1st singular	**ic / ich / I**	**me / mi**	**min / minen (pl.)**
2nd singular	**þou / þu / tu / þeou**	**þe**	**þi / ti**
3rd masculine	**he**	**him / hine**	**his / hisse / hes**
3rd feminine	**scheo / scho / ȝho**	**heo / his / hie / hies / hire**	**hio / heo / hire / heore**
3rd neuter	**hit**	**hit / him**	**his**
1st plural	**we**	**us / ous**	**ure[n] / our[e] / ures / urne**
2nd plural	**ȝe / ye**	**eow / [ȝ]ou / ȝow / gu / you**	**eower / [ȝ]ower / gur / [e]our**
3rd plural (Old English line)	**heo / he**	**his / heo[m]**	**heore / her**
3rd plural (Old Norse line)	**þa / þei / þeo / þo**	**þem / þo**	**þeir**

Regional notes from Chapter 5: **hine** gave way to **him** south of the Thames by the early 14th century; the neuter dative **him** was largely replaced by *it* by the 15th century; **heyr** survived in some areas. The source's column layout was approximate. Rules for *thou* and *ye*: not given.

Verb endings (Chapters 6 and 7)

FEATURE	FORM	DIALECT
Present, 1st singular	**-e**	
Present, 2nd singular	**-(e)st**	
Present, 3rd singular	**-eþ**, variant **-es**	Northern **-es** also here
Present plural	**-eþ**	Southern
Present plural	**-en**	Midland, from about 1200
Present plural	**-es**	Northern
Infinitive	**-en**	
Present participle	**-ende / -ynge**	not assigned
Weak past	**-ed(e), -d(e), -t(e)**	
Strong past	stem vowel change, e.g. **binden** → **bound**	
Past participle	weak: past stem with **i- / y-**; strong: **i-** + **-en**	

Irregular verbs (Chapter 7)

VERB	PRESENT (1SG, 2SG, 3SG, PLURAL)	PAST (SINGULAR, PLURAL)
be (**been**)	**am, art, is, aren**	**was, weren**
have (**haven**)	**have, hast, haþ, haven**	**hadde, hadden**
do (**don**)	**do, dost, doþ / doth, doþ / don**	**didde, didden**
go (**gon**)	**go, gost, goþ, goþ / gon**	**wend / yede / yode**
will (**willen**)	**will, wilt, will, wollen**	**wolde, wolden**

VERB	PRESENT (1SG, 2SG, 3SG, PLURAL)	PAST (SINGULAR, PLURAL)
shall (**schulen**)	**schal, schalt, schal, schulen**	**scholde**
may (**mowen**)	**may, myghst, may, mowen**	**mighte, mighten**

The other modals (*can, dare, must, know, owe, need*) are in Chapter 7. Their rows were flagged as unclear in the source, so they are not repeated here.

Negation (Chapter 8)

ne alone, then **ne … not**, then **not** alone (15th century). Questions: not given.

> **Note on sources**
>
> This page contains only what Chapters 1 to 9 gave, with the same caveats: sources were Wikipedia and Wiktionary pages summarised by a page tool, three of the tables were garbled, and no grammar book was read. The layout and the wording of the "not given" cells are mine.