

Early Modern English: Linguistic Features

Match the beginnings and endings of the following quotes. They describe the linguistic characteristics of Early Modern English.

<p>"All Middle English long vowels underwent extensive alteration in passing into Modern English, ...</p>	<p>... the chief interest of this part of speech in the modern period is in the forms of the comparative and superlative degrees." (Baugh and Cable, 1993, p. 236)</p>
<p>"(In the Early Modern English period), the only inflections retained in the noun ...</p>	<p>... writers of the Elizabethan period had more options available to them in the use of auxiliaries that did writers of either Middle English or later Modern English." (Cable, 2002, p. 117)</p>
<p>"Because the adjective has already lost all its endings, so that it no longer expressed distinctions of gender, number and case, ...</p>	<p>... were those marking the plural and the possessive singular." (Baugh and Cable, 1993, p.235)</p>
<p>"The sixteenth century saw the establishment of the personal pronoun in the form that it has had ever since. ...</p>	<p>... but the short vowels, in accented syllables, remained comparatively stable." (Baugh and Cable, 1993, p. 245)</p>
<p>"In forming question, negatives and affirmative declarative sentences, ...</p>	<p>... In attaining this result three changes were involved: the disuse of <i>thou, thy, thee</i>; the substitution of <i>ye</i> for <i>you</i> as a nominative case; and the introduction of <i>its</i> as the possessive of <i>it</i>." (Baugh and Cable, 1993, p. 237)</p>
<p>"The Middle English tendency for strong verbs to become weak continued during the Renaissance...</p>	<p>... A calculation based upon the data available in the <i>Oxford Dictionary</i> gives a figure somewhat above 12,000. [...] About half of the total number have become a permanent part of the language." (Baugh and Cable, 1993, p. 227)</p>
<p>"In order to appreciate the importance of the Renaissance in enriching the English vocabulary it is worthwhile to form some idea of the number of words added at this time...</p>	<p>... A number of verbs that had been strong in Old English and that are now weak fluctuated between the two forms." (Cable, 2002, p. 116)</p>