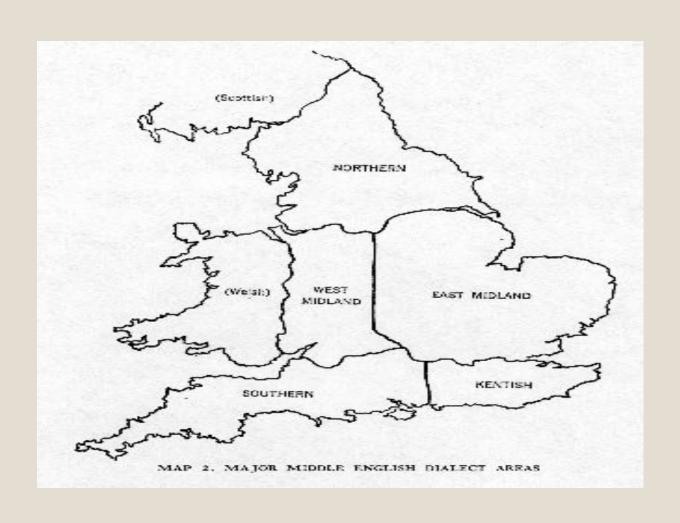
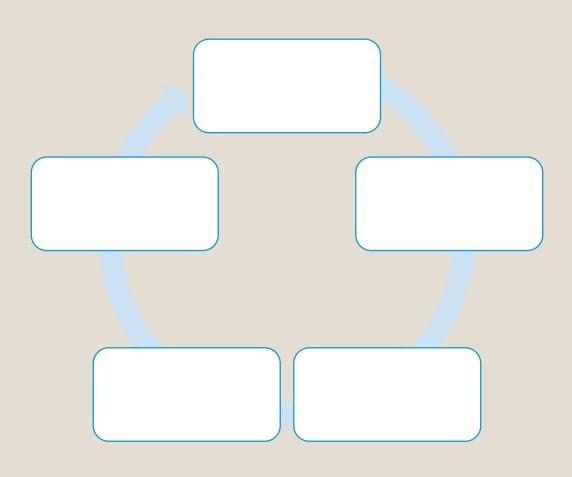


## The dialect division which evolved in Early ME was on the whole preserved in later periods



## In the 14th and 15th c. we find the same grouping of local dialects:



Kentish was originally spoken over the whole southeastern part of England, including London and Essex, but during the Middle English period its area was steadily diminished by the encroachment of the East Midland dialect

The Southern dialect of Middle English was spoken in the area west of Sussex and south and southwest of the Thames.

By contrast with these southern most dialects, Northern Middle English evolved rapidly: the inflectional systems of its nouns and verbs were already sharply reduced by 1300, and its syntax is also innovative (and thus more like that of Modern English).

The East-Midland and West-Midland dialects of Middle English are intermediate between the Northern and Southern/Kentish extremes.

The most important event in the changing linguistic situation was the rise of the London dialect as the prevalent written form of language.

The Early Middle English records made in London – beginning with the London Proclamation of 1258 – show that the dialect of London came from an East Saxon dialect, or, in terms of the Middle English division, from the south-western variety of the Southern dialect group. Later records show that the speech of London becomes more mixed, with East Midland features gradually prevailing over the Southern features

## Thank you for your attention!!! The work done by Assel Sarsenbekova