

Lecture 1.3

Old English Grammar. Morphology.

1. Old English Grammar.

1. Noun.
2. Pronoun.
3. Adjective.
4. Adverb.
5. Numeral.
6. *Verb*

OLD ENGLISH NOUN

LEXICO-GRAMMATICAL CATEGORIES

- The Old English noun had following grammatical categories – **gender, number, case.**
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Gender

- was a lexico-grammatical category. Every noun with all its forms belonged to one gender. In OE there existed several nouns, referring to different genders.
 - **-ere**: *fisca* – *fiscere* “fisherman”
 - **-estre**: family nouns: *spinestre* – “пряжа”
 - **-pa/ pu**: for abstract nouns:
 - gender was treated according to semantics of a noun – *mann*, *cwene*.
 - But some nouns were with **unjustified** gender forms:
 - *wif* (n) “wife” *wifman* “woman” (f)
 - *mægden* (n)
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Case

- The category of **case** was represented by 4 cases: Nominative, Genitive, Dative, Accusative.
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Morphological classification

- Nouns were divided into **several types of declensions of stems.**
 - There were strong and weak declensions.
 - They were distinguished according to the type of their stems.
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2.1 Strong Declension:

- a-stems (with their variants ja-stems and wa-stems)
 - o-stems (with their variants jo-stems and wo-stems)
 - i-stems
 - u-stems
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A-stems

- included masc. and neut. nouns.
 - 1/3 of OE nouns were Masc. a-stems.
 - The difference between the two genders is only seen in the nominative and accusative plural, where masculine nouns had the ending *-as*, whereas the ending of neut. noun depends on the number of syllable contained a short vowel + a consonant.
scīp (корабль), deor (олень)
 - A long syllable contains a long vowel + a consonant, or a short vowel + 2 consonants.
 - In monosyllabic words with a short root syllable the neuter nouns in the nominative and accusative plural had the ending *-u*.
Scipu → ships
 - In monosyllabic neuter words with a long root syllable in these cases had zero ending. In disyllabic nouns with a long vowel if had *-u-* ending.
 - The modern irregular plural forms *sheep, swine, gees* are traced to the neuter nouns of a-stem declension (they were used more often). There were two variants of a-stem :
 - ja-stems: nom. case, sg., masc. – ende; pl. -endas
 - wa-stems: nom. case, sg., masc. – cneo(w); pl. – cneo(w)
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O-stems:

- they are all feminine.
 - They were very numerous in OE.
 - The variants with *-j* and *-w* decline like pure o-stems except that *-w* appears before some endings, e.g.: Nom. sg. *sceadu*, the other cases *—sceadwe*.
Disyllabic o-stems, like a-stems, lost their second vowel in some case forms: Nom. sg. *ceaster*, the other cases *ceastre*.
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**Парадигма склонения существительных
с основой на -ō-**

падеж	женский род	
	ед. ч.	мн. ч.
И.	þearf	þearfa (need)
Р.	þearfe	þearfa
Д.	þearfe	þearfum
В.	þearfe	þearfa

I-stems and U-stems

- include nouns of different genders.
 - Masc. and Fem. u-stems decline like Fem. *duru* (NE door).
 - The masculine and neuter I-stems didn't much differ in their declension from the a-stems, because root vowel had undergone mutation.
 - Neuter. i-stems are declined like Neut. ja-stems.
 - Among Masc. i-stems only names of peoples regularly formed their pl. in the old way: Dene, Engle.
 - Fem. i-stems resembled o-stems.
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2.2 Weak Declension

- **N-stems:** they were very numerous. They included many Fem. (cirice, eorþe, heorte — church, earth, heart) and Masc. nouns (cnotta, steorra — knot, star) and only a few neuter (eaƷa — eye).
 - The modern irregular plural forms: oxen, oxetheren-are traced to this type of declension.
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Парадигма склонения существительных с основой на -п-

падеж	ед. ч.	мн. ч.
И.	папа	папап (name)
Р.	папап	папапа
Д.	папап	папап
В.	папап	папап

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- **R-stems:** are represented by a few masculine and feminine nouns, denoting family relationship: *fxder, bropor, modor, dohtor*
 - **s-stem** – a few neuter nouns, denoting cubs.
cild – жеребенок. cealf – теленок, lamb – ягненок.
 - In the singular they were declined like neuter a-stems, but in the pl. they had a specific inflection –**r**. E.g. cild – cildru
 - Sound –r appeared due to rhotacism. The only word in rhotacism in NE is **children**, but in OE such examples were abundant.
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- **Root stems:** they were nouns which never had any stem-building suffix, so the ending was added directly to the root. These nouns are the oldest type. In masc. and fem. nouns they are a small group.
 - m. föt, töp
 - f. gäs, mus
 - n. böc
 - The peculiar feature of root stem is that in three cases where the original ending contains it (in the Dat. sg., and Nom. pl.) the root vowel was fronted by palatal mutation: **föt** – **fæ̃t** (pl).
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**Парадигма склонения существительных
с корневой основой (Root Stems)**

падеж	мужской род		женский род	
	ед. ч.	мн. ч.	ед. ч.	мн. ч.
И. Р. Д. В.	tōḥ (tooth) tōḥes tēḥ tōḥ	tēḥ tōḥa tōḥum tēḥ	bōc (book) bōce bōce bōc	bēc bōca bōcum bēc

OLD ENGLISH PRONOUN

Types of pronouns in OE:

- ***Personal,***
 - ***demonstrative,***
 - ***interrogative,***
 - ***definite,***
 - ***indefinite,***
 - ***negative.***
 - Impersonal it
 - Reflexive
 - Reciprocal
 - Detaching
 - Universal
 - Conjunctive
 - Relative
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Personal pronouns

- had three personals,
 - three numbers (sg, dual, and pl. in 1 and 2 persons),
 - 2 numbers (sg. and pl. in 3 pers.),
 - 3 genders – masc. fem. neut.,
 - 4 cases: Nom., Gen., Dat., Acc.
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SINGULAR

1 st person		2 nd person	3 rd person		
			Masc.	Fem.	Neut.
Nom.	ic	þu	he	heo	hit
Gen.	min	þīn	his	hire	his
Dat.	me	þē	Him	hire	him
Acc.	me, mec	þē	Hine	hie	hit

DUAL

	1 st person	2 nd person
	wit	<i>Zit</i>
	uncer	incer
	unc	inc
	unc, uncit	inc, incit

PLURAL

1 st person		2 nd person	3 rd person
Nom.	we	ʒe	hie
Gen.	ure	eower	hiera
Dat.	us	eow	him
Acc.	us, usic	eow, eowic	hie

- The pronouns of 1 and 2 persons had suppletive forms, like the personal pronouns in other IE languages.
 - The pronouns of the 3rd person had developed from the demonstrative pronouns.
 - In PG the third person of personal pronouns did not exist.
 - In Latin there were no personal pronouns of the 3rd pers.
 - Their function was performed by the demonstr. pron.: Ille (that) – for masc., Illa (f), Illud (n.), Illi (pl.), Illæ (pl.f.)
 - Later on from this demonstrative pronoun personal pronouns of the 3rd person developed.
 - M. French: Elle – she, elles – they
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Demonstrative Pronouns

- There were two of them in OE: **se** – that, **þis** – this
 - They distinguished 3 genders in the sg. and had one form for all the genders in the pl.
 - OE demonst. pron. were declined like adjectives. They had 5 cases: N,G,D,A,Instr.
 - The declination of demonstr. pron. had some peculiar features: they took special pronominal endings in some case forms, that is endings which are not found in the noun declension: -er (Gen. pl.), -em (Dat.sg.).
 - The demonst. pron. of the masc. and fem. gender *se*, *seo* had suppletive forms in the oblique cases: *þe*, *þais*, *seo*, *þære*.
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- The pronouns **se, seo, þæt, þa** (that, these) are of special importance as they were used as a noun determiner with a weakened demonstrative meaning. Thus it was the source of the modern definite article, which developed from this OE dem. pron. in ME.
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Interrogative Pronouns:

- *hwa* (who) – fem., masc.; *hwæt* (what) – neut.
 - They had only sg. form. They were declined as dem. pron.
 - The neuter gender is characterised by having 5 cases.
 - The instrumental case of *hwa* developed into a separate interr. word *hwy* (why).
 - The interr. pron. *hwilc* (which) was declined as a strong adj-ve.
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Definite pronoun:

- *gehwa* (every),
 - *gehwilc* (each),
 - *ælc* (each),
 - *swilc* (such)
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Indefinite pronouns:

- sum, ænig – some, any.

Negative pronouns:

- were rebuilt from the indefinite one's by means of negative particle – ne:
ne + an = nan (none); ne + ænig = nenig
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As for the other types of pronouns

- they were as yet not fully developed in OE.
 - Thus, the **possessive pronouns** were later derived from the Gen. case of the pers. pron. of all persons and numbers: *his, þis*.
 - In irrelative function pers. and demonstrative pronouns were widely used either alone or together with a **special relative particle** *þe*.
 - The **reflexive function** was performed by the simple pers. pronoun *se*.
 - *se cyning hine wende* – The king went.
 - *Wit uns werian þo hton.* – We too intended to defend ourselves.
 - The oblique cases of personal pronouns in combination with pronominal adjective *self* could serve as reflexive pronoun, but for the most part *self* was used in OE simply to emphasize: *We hit ne selfe ne lufodon* – We ourselves did not love it.
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OLD ENGLISH ADJECTIVE

Old English ADJECTIVE

- Most historians agree that the number or adjectives in Old English is not very significant.
 - There are primary adjectives, dating back from the very old times and derivative adjectives made by adjective-forming suffixes from nouns.
 - The adjectives of those times are similar to our Slavic adjectives, that is, this part of speech agrees with the noun it modifies in number, gender and case.
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- Consequently, the adjectives have the same categories as the nouns do.
 - Besides, they have categories which are purely adjectival. The adjective in Old English had the following categories:
number - the singular and the plural;
gender - masculine, neuter and feminine;
case - 4/5 (nominative, genitive, dative accusative and partly instrumental)
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- ❑ **Besides, the adjectives had two declensions, strong and weak.**
 - ❑ **The category of gender unlike that of a noun was purely grammatical.**
 - ❑ **The adjective agreed with the noun it modified in all the categories (gender, number, case).**
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- In OE, like in other Germanic languages, there were two types of the adjective declensions: weak and strong.
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- ❑ **Strong decl.** was inherited from IE .
 - ❑ **Weak decl.** is a special Germanic feature. not found in other languages.
 - ❑ Unlike a noun, **an adjective did not belong to a certain type of declension.**
 - ❑ Every adj. could be declined according to strong or weak declension.
 - ❑ The choice of them depended upon a number of factors: the syntactic function of the degree of comparison, the presence of noun determiners, seldom having the meaning of the adjective.
 - ❑ The adj. was declined according to **the strong declension** when used predicatively and when used attributively – without any determiners:
 - ❑ He wæs swyfe spedig man. – He was a very rich man.
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Парадигма сильного склонения прилагательных

падеж	м. р.	ср. р.	ж. р.	мн. ч. (всех трех родов)
И.	hlād (loud)	hlād	hlād	hlāde, hlād, hlāda
Р.	hlādes	hlādes	hlādre	hlādra
Д.	hlādum	hlādum	hlādre	hlādum
В.	hlādne	hlād	hlāde	hlāde, hlād, hlāda

- **Weak declension** forms were used when the adj. was preceded by a demonstrative pronoun (they are associated with the meaning of definiteness):
 - Se spedyga man. – He is a rich man.
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- Some adj-s were always declined strong: eall (all), manig (many), oþor (other).
 - Others were always weak. These were adj-s in the comparative and superlative degrees.
 - The formal differences between declensions were similar to those of the noun declensions.
 - The endings of the strong declension mainly coincided with the endings of -a stems of nouns and of adj-s in the masc. and neutr., and of o-stems in the fem. Some adj-s in the strong declension of adj-s were similar to the endings of pronouns:
 - -um (Dat.sing.), -ne (Acc. sg. masc.), -ra (Gen. pl.), -re (Gen. AND Dat. sg., fem.).
 - Therefore, the strong declension of adj-s is sometimes called the pronominal declension. As for the weak declension, it used the same endings as m-stems of m-nouns, except that in the Gen. pl. the pronominal ending -ra was used instead of the weak ending -ena.
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- Like the adj-s in other languages most of OE adj-s distinguished between **three degrees of comparison: *positive, comparative and superlative.***
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- The **comparative degree** was formed by means of the suffix **-ra**; **the superlative suffix** **-est** had one more variant: **-ost**.
 - The suffix **-ra** developed from CG suffixes **-isa/osa** and developed into **-r**; the vowel **-i/o** was lost. The suffix **est/ost** developed from CG **-ist**.
 - Those adj-s, which originally formed their comparative and superlative degrees by means of the suffixes **-ira**, **-ist**, had the narrowed and fronted root vowel, as **-i** in the suffix caused palatal mutation. Later **-i** was lost or weakened to **-e**, but the mutation root vowel survived as an additional marker of the comparative or the superlative degrees.
 - The adj-s which originally formed their degrees of comparison by means of suffixes **-oro/ost**, had the forms without the vowel interchanges:
heard-heardra-heardost
 - There were adj-s with alternations: *blæcra- blacost*
It's a purely phonetic phenomena. Here we found the restoration of a back vowel.
 - OE adj-s had superlative forms of comparative and superlative degrees.
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OLD ENGLISH ADVERB

Old English ADVERB

- Some OE adverbs are **primary**, that is, they have not been derived from any other part of speech, while others are *secondary*, derived from some other part of speech.
 - Among the primary adverbs there are many pronominal words, such as *þa* 'then' *þonne* 'then', *þær* 'there' *þider* 'thither', *hwonne* 'when', *hwær* 'where', *hwider* 'whither', *hwonan* 'whence', *nu* 'now', *her* 'here', *hider* 'hither', *heonan* 'hence'. Here also belong the adverbs *sona* 'soon', *oft* 'often', *eft* 'again', *swa* 'so', etc.
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- Much more numerous are the **secondary** adverbs, derived from substantives or adjectives. Sometimes some case form of a substantive or an adjective becomes isolated from the declension system and becomes a separate word, the case ending becomes a derivative suffix or else it ceases to be a separate morpheme altogether.
 - Thus, the following adverbs originated from case forms of substantives: *hwilum* 'sometimes' (from the dative plural of the substantive *hwil* 'while'), as in: *ða onZan ic ... Da boc wendan on enZlisc ... hwilum word be worde, hwilum ad it be andZiete* 'then I began ... to translate this book into English ... sometimes word by word, sometimes meaning by meaning'.
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- An entire category of adverbs, those in **-e**, originated from the instrumental singular neuter, strong declension; the -e became a derivative suffix. Here belong such adverbs as *wide* 'widely', *deope* 'deeply', *fxste* 'fast', *hearde* 'hard', *freondlice* 'in a friendly way'.
 - For the eventual development of adverbs in English a specific circumstance proved to be significant. In OE there was an adjective suffix **-lic** (coming from a substantive *lic* 'body'), a number of adjectives were derived by means of this suffix: e.g. *luflic* 'loving', *freondlic* 'friendly'.
 - **-lice** might be interpreted as an adverb-forming suffix. This paved the way for deriving adverbs in **-lice** from adjectives which had no parallel variants in -lic. Thus, the adverb *bealdlice* "boldly" was derived from the adjective *beald* 'bold' though there was no adjective *bealdlic*.
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Degrees of Comparison

- A few adverbs, corresponding to adjectives with suppletive degrees of comparison, also derive their degrees of comparison by the suppletive method:

□	Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
□	wel 'well'	betre	best
□	yfele 'badly'	wiers, wyrs	wierst, wyrst
□	micele 'much'	mare	mæst
□	lytle 'little'	læsse	læst

OLD ENGLISH NUMERAL

Old English NUMERALS

□ **CARDINAL**

- Numerals from 1 to 3 are declined.
 - Numerals from 4 to 19 are usually invariable, if used as attributes to a substantive, but they are declined if used without a substantive. Numerals denoting tens have their genitive in **-es** or in **-a, -ra**, their dative in **-um**.
 - 1 —the numeral **an** is declined as a strong adjective
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- Numerals from 13 to 19 receive ending **-tiene**; numerals from 20 to 90 receive ending **-tiz**
 - Numbers consisting of tens and units are denoted in the following way: 22 *twa and twentig*, 48 *eahta and feowertig*.
 - The pronoun *sum* 'some' is sometimes used in a meaning close to the articles as in the sentence: *wæs sum broþor* '(there) was a (certain) brother'
 - Mostly, however, a substantive in an indefinite application is not accompanied by any determinative, as in the "sentence *he wæs swyþe spediZ man* 'he was a very rich man'.
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1- an	16 – siex <i>tiene</i>	100 — hundteontiZ,
2- twa	17 – siofontiene	hund, hundred
3- Preo	18 – eahtatiene	110—hundendlefantiZ
4 — feower	19 – niZontiene	120—hundtwelftiZ
5 —fif	20 – twentiZ	200—tu hund
6 — siex, six, syx	< tweZentiZ	300—Preo hund
7 — seofon, siofon,	30 – Pritig	1000—Pusend
8 — eahta	40 – feowertiZ	2000 — tu Pusendu
9 — niZon	50 – fiftiZ	
10 — tien, tyn, ten	60 – siex <i>tiZ</i> , six <i>tiZ</i>	
11— endlefan	70 – hundsio <i>tontiZ</i>	
12 —twelf	80 – hundeahtatiZ	
13 — þriotiene, -tyne	90 – hundniZontiZ	
14 — feowertiene		
15 — fiftiene		

□ **ORDINAL**

- The ordinal numerals, with the exception are declined as weak adjectives. The word *oper* –as a strong adjective. Numerals 5th and 6th receive ending –ta; numerals from 7 to 10 – *pa/Da*.
 - Numerals from 13 to 19 receive ending –*teoDa*; from 20 to 120 – *tiZoDa*
 - Numerals containing both tens and units are expressed in the following way: 22nd— *twa and twentiZoDa* or *oper eac twentiZum*;
 - 48th — *eahta and feortiZoDa* or *eahtoDa eac feowertiZum*.
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Old English Verb

Old English Verb

- **The system of OE verb was less developed than it is now**, it had fewer forms, and its categories were somewhat different from the similar categories in present day English.
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- Still **its paradigm was fairly complicated**, as all the verbs fell into numerous morphological classes and employed a variety of form building means.
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- The **form-building devices** were
 - gradation (vowel interchange),
 - the use of suffixes, inflections,
 - and suppletion.

Inflections, however, were also present when other ways were employed, so we can say that the ways of forming paradigmatic forms were - **inflections combined with vowel interchange or suppletion, or pure inflection.**

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- **All the paradigmatic forms of the verb were synthetic.**
 - There were also **lexical structures with non-finite forms of the verb rendering some grammatical meanings** (later developed into analytical forms).
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Categories of the Old English Verb.

- The verb in Old English has the following categories: **person**, **number**, **tense** and **mood**.
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- **Number** is not a specifically verbal category but rather a way of agreement of the predicate with the subject represented by the opposition of the singular and the plural. As dual number by that time was very seldom used, no corresponding form of the verb is found in Old English. The choice of singular or plural form depends on the number of the noun/pronoun subject of the sentence. This opposition is valid for all the verbs in all the other categorial forms.
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- The category of **person** is represented by all the three persons, though this opposition is neutralised in many positions.
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- **Present Tense Singular** has all the forms, whereas in plural the category is not shown. **Past tense singular** had only one form for the 1st and the 3rd person, and in the Imperative and Subjunctive mood the category of person is absent.
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- The category of **mood** was represented by the opposition of three moods - **Indicative - Subjunctive - Imperative.**
 - **The Indicative** mood represents the action as a real fact
 - **The Imperative** expresses order, or request to a second person. It may be used in the singular or in the plural:
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- as far as the ***Subjunctive*** is concerned, opinions differ. Some call it *Conjunctive Mood*, as it always is a relative not the absolute mood. Some call it *Optative* because in Old English optative meaning was much more frequent than it is in the present-day Subjunctive mood forms. It may be called *Conditional* or even *Oblique* but we must always bear in mind that this is a mood that renders the general meaning of unreality or supposition.
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- Some oppose the Indicative and the Imperative to the Subjunctive as **the moods of fact and the mood of fancy**. The action expressed by this mood form is somewhat shifted from reality, even though it might not contradict it altogether. Some mental attitude to what is being said in Subjunctive mood is usually implied -**condition, desire, obligation, supposition, perplexity, doubt, uncertainty or unreality**.
 - So it is used in **conditional sentences of unreal condition** - the unreality of condition made it clear that a verb in the indicative would be used, **the subclauses of purpose and concession, simple sentences expressing wishes**.
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- **The category of Tense** was represented by the opposition **past–nonpast (preterit - nonpreterit)**. The current form for the non-preterit is the **Present**. But **present time** reference is only one of the meanings rendered by this form. In general it seems to be a most universal form of the verb. It was used (and is used now) when seemingly universal truths are uttered, it is used in reference to moment of speech and a lengthy period including both previous and following this moment; they may be fairly lengthy. In Old English it was commonly used to denote **future**, as well. So, the major cases of the use of the present tense in various meanings
 - will be: the actual present, the "now", future time reference
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The structures that gave rise to analytical forms were:

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- **habban + P II**
 - Originally it meant that the subject owned a thing having a certain feature as a result of an action performed upon it. Then they acquired the meaning of result of an action
 - The combination of the verb ***beon/wesan*** with **Participle II** rendered the grammatical meaning of voice, yet had no status of an analytical verb form (on the same grounds, because the participle was changeable and agreed with the subject of the sentence)
 - The combination of ***beon/wesan*** with **Participle I** gave structures corresponding in meaning to the continuous form
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Morphological classification of Old English Verbs

- strong
 - weak
 - preterite-present
 - suppletive
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The strong verbs

- formed their stems by means of vowel gradation and by adding certain inflections and suffixes;
 - in some verbs gradation was accompanied by changes of consonants, but these were mainly due to the activity of assimilative phonetic processes of the period (assimilation before *t*, loss of consonants, rhotacism or Verner's Law).
 - There were four basic forms (stems) of the strong verbs, and the use of the stems was as follows:
 - I - the stems with this vowel are used in the infinitive, the present tense indicative and subjunctive, the imperative mood and participle I;
 - II - in the past tense singular, the 1st and the 3rd person
 - III - in the past tense plural, 2nd person singular and Past Subjunctive
 - IV - in the form of the Participle II.
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Схема первых пяти классов сильных глаголов

Класс	Осложнитель	Основные формы				MnE
		I	II	III	IV	
1	i	ri <u>ā</u> nan	rā <u>đ</u>	ri <u>don</u>	ri <u>den</u>	ride
2	u	ce <u>o</u> san	ce <u>as</u>	ce <u>uron</u>	ce <u>oren</u>	choose
3	сон. + согл.	he <u>l</u> pan	he <u>alp</u>	he <u>lpon</u>	he <u>lpen</u>	help
4	сон.	be <u>r</u> an	b <u>æ</u> r	b <u>æ</u> ron	b <u>ore</u> n	bear
5	шумн.	tre <u>d</u> an	tr <u>æ</u> đ	tr <u>æ</u> don	tr <u>ede</u> n	tread

The weak verbs

- derived their Past tense stem and that of Participle II by adding dental suffix *-d-* and *-t-*; normally they did not change their root vowels apart from the cases when assimilative changes split these sounds into diphthongs.
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Основные формы слабых глаголов третьего класса

habban — hæfde — hæfd

seczan — sæzde — sæzd

libban — lifde — lifd

the preterite-present forms

- ❑ **Preterite - Present** verbs were equal to the Present Tense forms of these verbs and were originally past-tense forms of the strong verbs, which had acquired the meaning of the present:
 - ❑ the Past Tense forms were built with the help of the dental suffix. They are past by form and present by meaning.
 - ❑ There were twice Preterite –Present verbs: “must” and “ought”
 - ❑ e.g: past – moste, in present – must
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Suppletive verbs

- are what their name implies - they formed their forms from different stems or had peculiarities in formation of their paradigm.
 - Indefinite: buan, don, willan
 - Past: bude, dyde, wolde
 - Part II: bun, gedone, wolde
 - Two **verbs** *beon/wesan* and *don* have other peculiarities of the paradigm.
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□ **NON-FINITE FORMS.**

□ In OE there were non-finite forms:
infinitive and participles I and II.

□ There was no gerund.

The OE infinitive

- was a *verbal noun by origin*. It was declinable and had a reduced case system (Nom. and Dative cases). In the Nominative cases the infinitive was unaffected (-an, ian). In the Dative case it was used with the preposition **to** and the ending **-anne, -enne**, in the function of an adverbial modifier of purpose, e.g.:
 - Nom. -- helpan
 - Dat. to – helpenne
 - Like the dative case of nouns the infinitive in this form was associated with the preposition **to** and could be used to indicate the direction or purpose of an action, and in the impersonal sentences:
 - *ic wilnode weorcfullice tolibanne da hwile cfe ic lifde* (when I lived I wanted to live a worthy life (virtuously))
 - The uninflected infinitive was used with verbs of person of an action willan, sculan, weorðan to render various grammatical meanings; these combinations served as the basis for analytical verb forms..
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The OE Participles.

- They were verbal adjectives by origin and were characterized by verbal and nominal categories.
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Participle I

- Participle I was derived from the present stem of the verb by means of the ending **-ende** and was declined as a weak adjective: *macian* - *maciende* - NE making. *writan* - *writende* (to write - writing), *sprecan* - *sprecende* (to speak - speaking).
 - This participle was active in meaning and expressed present time relevance or simultaneous with the tense of the finite verb processes and qualities. Like all nominal parts of speech, it had the categories of number, gender and case and was declined like a strong adjective.
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Participle II

- expressed actions and states resulting from past action and was passive in meaning with transitive verbs, and rendered only temporal meaning of the past with the intransitive.
 - Depending on the class of the verb, it was formed by vowel interchange (gradation) and the suffix *-en* (strong verbs) or the dental suffix *-d/t* (weak verbs).
 - Participle II was commonly marked by the prefix *Je-*, though may be found without it, too, especially when the verb had other word-building prefix - *writan* - *writen*, *Jewriten* (to write - written), *findan* - *founden* (to find - found), *endian* - *endod*, *Jeendod* (end - ended), *tellan* - *teald* (to tell - told),
-

- Participle II might be declined according to the strong and the weak declension, and the forms of the nominative case of all genders are as follows
- *(Je)numen* (take); *(Je)teald* (told):

strong declension: M <i>(Je)numen, (Je)teald</i> (sg) N <i>(Je)numen, (Je)teald</i> (sg) F <i>(Je)numen(u), (Je)teald</i> (sg)	<i>(Je)numene, (Je)tealde</i> (pl) - <i>(Je)numen(u), (Je)teald</i> (pl) - <i>(Je)numena, (Je)teald</i> (pl)
weak declension: M <i>(Je)numena, (Je)tealda</i> (sg) N <i>(Je)numene, (Je)tealde</i> (sg) F <i>(Je)numene, (Je)tealde</i> (sg)	<i>(Je)numenan, (Je)tealdan</i> (pl) - <i>(Je)numenan, (Je)tealdan</i> (pl) - <i>(Je)numenan, (Je)tealdan</i> (pl)