PREFACTORY NOTE

The original manuscript of Ben Jonson's *English Grammar* perished by fire in 1623. Some years later Jonson rewrote the Grammar, and three years after his death it was printed in the folio edition of his *Works* (London, 1640-1). The text, however, was marred by numerous misprints and blunders. In 1692, when a new edition of the *Works* was published, the Grammar, which had been based on Elizabethan authorities, was revised and made to conform to the linguistic usages of the end of the seventeenth century. Mr Percy Simpson, in his account of the *English Grammar* in *Ben Jonson* (II, 417-435), points out that all the editors of the work have failed to realize the difference between the two texts, and adds that "the confusion caused by this ignorance of the text of 1692 continues to this day. The only modern edition of the Grammar, that of Miss A. V. Waite in 1909, shows no knowledge of this phase of its history; and Sir Sidney Lee relies on a chapter as it was rewritten at the close of the seventeenth century, to prove, in the teeth of Elizabethan texts and Elizabethan printers, that the principles of punctuation in Jonson's day were essentially the same as they are in ours." The *English Grammar* appears in the latter portion of the second volume of the *Works* (1640), and is the second piece in a section containing Horace, his *Art of Poetrie. Made English by Ben. Ionson. Printed M.DC. XL. and Timber: or, Discoveries . . . . . London, Printed M. DC. XLI*. This section has separate signatures (*A*-K₄, *L*², *M*-R₄) and pagination (1-132).

In view of the confusion which has hitherto prevailed with regard to the text of the Grammar, it was thought that a
verbatim reprint (omitting the Latin notes) of the 1640 edition, with the variant readings of the 1692 edition would have a definite value to scholars. These are indicated in the text by a superior figure (e.g. grave\(^2\)) and are collected in the Appendix (pp. 79-90). Mere differences of spelling, except when of special significance, and of punctuation have not been recorded. The writer of this note desires to express his thanks and acknowledgments to Mr. Percy Simpson, whose recension of the Grammar will appear in his Ben Jonson: Edited by C. H. Herford and Percy Simpson (Oxford, Clarendon Press), three volumes of which have already been published.

STRICKLAND GIBSON
THE ENGLISH GRAMMAR.
MADE BY
BEN. JOHNSON.

For the benefit of all Strangers, out of his observation of the English Language now spoken, and in use.

Consuetudo, certissima loquendi Magistra, utendumque plane sermone, ut nummo, cui publica forma est. Quint.

Printed M.DC.XL.
THE PREFACE

The profit of Grammar is great to strangers who are to live in communion, and commerce with us; and, it is honourable to ourselves. For by it we communicate all our labours, studies, profits, without an interpreter.

Wee free our Language from the opinion of Rudenesse and Barbarisme, wherewith it is mistaken to be diseas'd; We shew the Copie of it, and Matchablenesse, with other tongues; we ripen the wits of our owne Children, and Youth sooner by it, and advance their knowledge.

Confusion of Language, a Curse.

Experience breedeth Art: Lacke of Experience, Chance.

Experience, Observation, Sense, Induction, are the fower Tryers of Arts. It is ridiculous to teach anything for undoubted Truth, that Sense, and Experience, can confute. So Zeno disputing of Quies, was confuted by Diogenes, rising up and walking.

In Grammer, not so much the Invention, as the Disposition is to be commended: yet we must remember, that the most excellent creatures are not ever borne perfect; to leave Beares, and Whelps, and other failings of Nature.
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Chapter I

OF GRAMMAR, AND THE PARTS

Grammar is the art of true, and well speaking a Language: the writing is but an Accident.

The Parts of Grammar are

Etymologie, the true notation of words.
Syntaxe, the right ordering of them.

A Word, is a part of speech, or note, whereby a thing is knowne, or called: and consisteth of one, or more Syllabes.

A Syllabe is a perfect sound in a word, and consisteth of one, or more Letters.

A Letter is an indivisible part of a Syllabe, whose Prosody, or right sounding is perceiv’d by the power; the Orthography, or right writing by the forme.

Prosodie, and Orthography, are not parts of Grammar, but diffus’d, like the blood, and spirits through the whole.
Chapter II

OF LETTERS, AND THEIR POWERS

In our Language we use these twentieth, and foure Letters.

\[
\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccc}
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccc}
\text{a} & \text{b} & \text{c} & \text{d} & \text{e} & \text{f} & \text{g} & \text{h} & \text{i} & \text{k} & \text{l} & \text{m} & \text{n} & \text{o} & \text{p} & \text{q} & \text{r} & \text{s} & \text{t} & \text{v} & \text{w} & \text{x} & \text{y} & \text{z} \\
\end{array}
\]

The great Letters serve to begin Sentences, with us, to lead proper names, and expresse numbers. The lesse make the fabricke of speech.

Our numeral Letters are,

\[
\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccc}
I & i & 1 \\
V & v & 5 \\
X & x & 10 \\
L & l & \text{for } 50 \\
C & c & 100 \\
D & d & 500 \\
M & m & 1000 \\
\end{array}
\]

All Letters are either Vowells, or Consonants: and, are principally knowne by their powers. The Figure is an Accident. A Vowell will be pronounced by it selfe: A Consonant, not without the helpe of a Vowell, either before, or after. The received Vowells in our tongue, are

a e i o u.

Consonants be either Mutes, and close the sound, as b c d g k p q t. Or, Halse Vowells, and open it, as f l m n r s x z.

6
H is rarely other than an aspiration in power, though a Letter in forme.
W and Y have shifting, and uncertaine seates, as shall be showne in their places.

Chapter III
OF THE VOWELS

All our Vowels are sounded doubtfully. In quantitie, (which is Time) long, or short. Or, in accent, (which is Tune) sharp, or, flat. Long in these words; and their like:
  Debating, congeiling, expiring, opposing, enduring.
Short, in these:
  Stomaching, severing, vanquishing, ransoming, picturing.
Sharp, in these:
  Hate, mete, bite, note, pule,
Flat, in these:
  Hat, met, bit, not, pule.

A
With us, in most words is pronounced lesse, then the French à, as in,
  art, âç, apple, ancient.
But, when it comes before l, in the end of a Syllabe, it obtaineth the full French sound, and is utter’d with the mouth, and throat wide open’d, the tongue bent backe from the teeth, as in:
  al, smal, gal, fal, tal, cal.
So in the Syllabes, where a consonant followeth the l, as in salt, malt, balme, calme.
E

Is pronounced with a meane opening the mouth, the
tongue turn'd to the inner roofe of the palate, and softly
striking the upper great teeth. It is a Letter of divers note
and use: and, either soundeth, or is silent. When it is the
last letter, and soundeth, the sound is sharp, as in the French
i. Example in mé, sté, agré, yé, sbé; in all, saving the Article,
thé.

Where it endeth, and soundeth obscure, and faintly, it
serves as an accent, to produce the vowel preceding: as in
máde, stémé, stripe, óre, cùre, which else would sound, mád,
stém, strip, ór, cùr.

It altereth the power of c. g. s, so plac'd, as in hence, which
else would sound benc. Swinge, to make it differ from swing.
Use, to distinguish it from us.

It is meere silent in words, where I is coupled with a con-
sonant in the end; as whistle, gritle, britle, fickle, thimble, &c.
Or after v consonant, or double s, as in

love, glove, move, redresse, crosse, losse.

Where it endeth a former Syllable, it soundeth longish, but
flat: as in
derive, prépare, résolve.

Except in derivatives, or Compounds of the sharp e, and
then it answers the primitive or simple in the first sound;
as

agreeing, of agree: fore-seeing, of fore-see: being, of bee.

Where it endeth a last Syllable, with one, or mo con-
sonants after it, it either soundeth flat, and full: as in
descent, intent, amend, offend, rest, best.

Or, it passeth away obscur'd, like the faint i, as in these,

written, gotten, open, sainth, divel, &c.
Which two letters e and i have such a neerenesse in our tongue, as often times they enterchange places: as in

enduce, for induce: endite, for indite: her, bir.

I

Is of a narrower sound then e, and uttered with a lesse opening of the mouth; the tongue brought backe to the palate, and striking the teeth next the cheeke-teeth. It is a letter of a double power. As a Vowell in the former, or single Syllabes, it hath sometimes the sharp accent; as in

binding, minding, pining, whitning,

wiving, thriving, mine, thine.

Or, all words of one Syllabe qualified by e. But, the flat in more, as in these, bill, bitter, giddy, little, incident, and the like. In the Derivatives of sharpe Primitives, it keepeth the sound, though it deliver over the Primitive consonant to the next Syllabe; as in

div'ning, requir'ing, repl'ning.

For, a consonant falling betweene two vowells in the word, will bee spell’d with the latter. In Syllabes, and words, compos’d of the same elements, it varieth the sound, now sharpe, now flat: as in

give, give, alive, live, drive, driven,

title, title.

But these, use of speaking, and acquaintance in reading, will teach, rather than rule.

I, in the other power, is meerely another Letter, and would aske to enjoy another character. For, where it leads the sounding vowell, and beginneth the Syllabe, it is ever a consonant: as in

James, John, jefl, jump, conjurer, perjur’d.
And before diphthongs: as jay, joy, juye, as, having the force of the Hebrews Jod, and the Italians Gi.

O

Is pronounced with a round mouth, the tongue drawne back to the root: and is a Letter of much change, and uncertainty with us.

In the long time it naturally soundeth sharp, and high: as in

chôsen, bôsen, bóly, fôly,
ôpen, ôver, nôte, thrôte.7

In the short time more flat, and a kin to u; as
côsen, dôsen, móther,
brôther, lôve, prôve.

In the diphthong, sometimes it soundeth out: as
ôught, sôught, nôught,
wrôught, mów, swôw.

But oftner upon the u, as in sound, bôund, bôw, nôw, thôu, cdw.

In the last syllabes before n and w, it frequently looseth: as in

persôn, actiôn, willôw, billôw.

It holds up, and is sharpe, when it ends the word, or Syllabe: as in

gô, frô, só, nó,
except in tô, the Preposition: Twô, the numerall. Dô, the verbe, and the compounds of it; as undô. and the Derivatives; as Dôing.

It varieth the sound in Syllabes of the same character, and proportion: as in

shôve, sôve; glôve, grôve,12

Which double sound it hath from the Latine: as

Voltus, vultus; vultis, voltis.
V

Is sounded with a narrower, and meane compasse, and some depression of the middle of the tongue, and is like our i, a letter of a double power. As a vowell, it soundeth thin and sharpe, as in use; thicke and flat, as in us.

It never endeth any word for the nakednesse, but yeeldeth to the termination of the diphthong ew, as in new, trew, knew, &c., or the qualifying e, as in sue, due; and the like.

When it leadeth a sounding vowell in the Syllabe, it is a consonant: as in save, reve, prove, love, &c. Which double force is not the unsteadfastnesse of our tongue, or incertaintie of our writing, but falne upon us from the Latine.

W

Is but the V geminated in the full sound, and though it have the seate of a consonant with us, the power is alwayes vowelish, even where it leades the vowell in any Syllabe: as if you marke it, pronounce the two uu like ou, quicke in passage, and these words:

ouine, ouant, ouood, ouast, souring, souram.

will sound, wine, want, wood, wast, swing, swam.

So put the aspiration afore, and these words:

houat, houich, houeele, houether,

Will be, what, which, wheeber, whether.

In the dipthongs there will be no doubt: as in draw, straw sow, know.

Nor in derivatives: as knowing, sowing, drawing.

Whether the double w is of necessitie used, rather then the single u, lest it might alter the sound, and be pronounced,

knowing, soving, drawing;

As in saving, haying.
Is also meer vowellish in our tongue, and hath only the power of an i, even where it obtaines the Seat of a consonant: as in young, younker.

Which the Dutch, whose Primitive it is, write Iunk, Iunker. And so might we write

iouth, ies, ioke, ionder, iard, ielke;
youth, yes, yoke, yonder, yard, yelke.

But that we choose y, to distinguish from j consonant. In the dipthong it sounds always i; as in

may, say, way, joy, toy, they.

And in the ends of words: as in

deny, reply, defy, cry.

Which sometimes are written by i, but qualified by e.

But where two ii are sounded, the first will be ever a y; as in derivatives:

denying, replying, defying.

Only in the words received by us from the Greeke, as syllabe, tyrant, and the like, it keepes the sound of the thin, and sharpe u, in some proportion; And this we had to say of the vowells.

Chapter IV

OF THE CONSONANTS

B

Hath the same sound with us, as it hath with the Latine, always one, and is utter’d with closing of the lips.
Is a letter, which our fore-fathers might very well have spar'd in our tongue: but since it hath obtained place, both in our writing, and language, we are not now to quarrell orthographie or custome; but to note the powers.

Before a, u, and o, it plainly sounds k, chi, or kappa; as in cable, coble, cudgell.

Or before the liquids, l and r; as in clod, crust.

Or, when it ends a former Syllabe before a consonant: as in acquaintance, acknowledgement, action.

In all which it sounds strong.

Before e, and i, it hath a weake sound, and hisseth, like s, as in certaine, center, civill, citizen, whence.

Or, before the dipthongs: as in cease, deceive.

Among the English-Saxons it obtain'd the weaker force of chi, or the Italians c; as in capel, canc, cild, cyrce.

Which were pronounced chapel, chance, child, church.

It is sounded with the top of the tongue, striking the upper teeth, and rebounding against the palate.

Hath the same sound, both before, and after a vowell with us, as it hath with the Latines: and is pronounce'd softly, the tongue a little affecting the teeth, but the nether teeth most.
F

Is a letter of two forces with us: and in them both sounded with the nether-lip rounded, and a kind of blowing out: but gentler in the one, then the other.
The more general sound is the softest; and expresseth the Greeke φ: as in

faith, field, feight, force.

Where it sounds ef.
The other is ευ, or vau, the digamma of Claudius: as in
cleft, of cleave; left, of leave.
The difference will best be found in the word of, which as a preposition sounds

ou, of him.3

As the adverb of distance,

off, farre off.

G

Is likewise of double force in our tongue, and is sounded with an impression made on the mid’st of the palate.
Before a, o, and u, strong; as in these,
gate, got, gut.

Or, before the aspirate h, or, liquids l and r; as in
ghost, glad, grant

Or in the ends of words: as in
long, song, ring, swing, eg4, leg, lug, dug.
Except the qualifying e follow; and then the sound is ever weake; as in

age, stage, hedge.
sledge, judge, drudge.

Before u, the force is double: as in
guile, guide, guest, guise,
Where it soundeth like the French gu. And in

\[ \text{guins, guerdon, languish, anguish.} \]

Where it speakes the Italian gu.

Likewise, before e and i, the powers are confus'd; and utter'd, now strong, now weake; as in

\[ \{\text{get, geld, give,}\} \text{long.} \]

\[ \{\text{gitterne, finger,}\} \text{weake.} \]

But this use must teach: the one sound being warranted to our letter, from the Greeke: the other from the Latine throughout.

Wee will leave H in this place; and come to

\[ \text{K} \]

Which is a letter the Latines never acknowledged, but only borrow'd in the word Kalendæ. They used gu for it. Wee sound it as the Greeke \( \chi \): and as a necessarie letter it precedes, and followes all vowells with us.

It goes before no consonants but \( n \); as in

\[ \{\text{knav, kne, knot, }&c\}. \]

And \( l \), with the quiet \( e \) after: as in

\[ \{\text{mickle, pick, trickle, fickle.}\} \]

Which were better written without the \( e \), if that which wee have received for orthographie, would yet be contented to be altered. But that is an emendation, rather to be wished, then hoped for, after so long a raigne of ill-custome amongst us.

It followeth the \( s \) in many words: as in

\[ \{\text{skape, skoure, skirt, skirmish, skrape, skuller.}\} \]

Which doe better so sound, then if written with \( e \).
L

Is a letter halfe-vowellish: which, though the Italians (especially the Florentines) abhorre, we keepe entire with the Latines, and so pronounce.
It melteth in the sounding, and is therefore call'd a liquid, the tongue striking the root of the palate gently. It's seldome doubled, but where the vowell sounds hard upon it: as in bell, bell, kill, shrill, trull, full.
And, even in these it is rather the haste, and superfluitie of the pen, that cannot stop it selfe upon the single l, then any necessitie we have to use it. For, the letter should be doubled only for a following Syllabe's sake: as in killing, beginning, begging, swimming.

M

Is the same with us in sound, as with the Latines. It is pronounc'd with a kind of humming inward, the lips clos'd. Open, and full in the beginning: obscure in the end: and meanly in the midd'lt.

N

Ringeth somewhat more in the lips and nose: the tongue striking back on the palate, and hath a threefold sound, shrill in the end: full in the beginning, and flat in the mid'lt.
They are Letters neere of kin, both with the Latines, and us.

O

Breaketh softly through the lips, and is a Letter of the same force with us, as with the Latines.
Q

Is a letter we might very well spare in our Alphabet, if we would but use the serviceable k as he should be, and restore him to the right of reputation, he had with our Fore-fathers. For, the English-Saxons knew not this halting Q with her waiting-woman u after her: but express

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{quaile} & \quad \text{kuaile}, \\
\text{quest} & \quad \text{kuest}, \\
\text{quick} & \quad \text{kuick}, \\
\text{quil} & \quad \text{kuil}.
\end{align*}
\]

Till custome under the excuse of expressing enfranchis’d words with us, intreated her into our Language, in

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{quality} & \quad \text{quantity}, \\
\text{quarrel} & \quad \text{quintescence}, \&c.
\end{align*}
\]

And hath now given her the best of k’s possessions.

R

Is the dogs letter, and hurreth in the sound: the tongue striking the inner palate, with a trembling about the teeth. It is sounded firme in the beginning of the words, and more liquid in the middle, and ends: as in

\[
\text{rare, riper}.
\]

And so in the Latine.

S

Is a most easie, and gentle Letter, and softly hisseth against the teeth in the prolation. It is called the Serpents Letter, and the chief of the consonants. It varieth the powers much in our pronunciation, as in the beginning of words
it hath the sound of weake e before vowells, dipthong, or consonant: as,
salt, say, small, sell, shriek, shift, soft, &c.
Sometime it inclineth to z; as in these,
muse, use, rose, nose, wise.
and the like: where the latter vowell serves for the marke,
or accent of the formers production.
So, after the halfe-vowells, or the obscure e; as in
bels, gems, wens, burs, chimes, rimes, games.
where the vowell sits hard, it is commonly doubled.

T
Is sounded with the tongue striking the upper teeth, and
hath one constant power, save where it precedeth; and
that followed by a vowell; as in
faction, action, generation, corruption.
Where it hath the force of s, or c.

X
Is rather an abbreviation, or way of short writing with us,
then a Letter. For, it hath the sound of k and s. It begins no
word with us, that I know, but ends many: as
ax, kex, six, fox, box.
which sound the same with these,
backs, knacks, knocks, locks, &c.

Z
Is a letter often heard amongst us, but seldom seen: bor-
row’d of the Greeks at first, being the same with ζ: and
soundeth a double ss. With us it hath obtained another sound; but in the end of words: as
  *muse, maze, nose, hose, gaze, as.*
Never in the beginning, save with rustick people, that have,*
  *zed, zay, zit, zo, zome.*
and the like, for
  *said, say, sit, so, some.*
Or in the body of words indenison'd; as
  *azure, zeale, zephyre, &c.*

\[H^19\]

Whether it be a Letter or no, hath beene much examined by
the Ancients, and by some, too much, of the Greeke partie
condemned, and throwne out of the alphabet, as an
aspirate meereely, and in request only before vowells in the
beginning of words, and after x, where it added a strong
Spirit, which the Welsh retaine after many consonants. But,
be it a Letter, or Spirit, we have great use of it in our tongue,
both before, and after vowells. And though I dare not say,
she is, (as I have heard one call her) the Queene mother of
Consonants: yet she is the life, and quickening of them.
What her powers are before vowells and dipthongs, will
appeare in
  *bal, beale, hill, bot, bow, bew, hoiday*²⁰, &cc.
In some it is written, but sounded without power: as
  *bost, bonest, humble*²¹;
Where the vowell is heard without the aspiration²²:
  *osi, onest,umble*²³.
After the vowell it sounds: as in *ab*, and *ob*.
Beside, it is coupled with divers consonants, where the force
varies, and is particularly to be examin'd.
Wee will begin with *Ch.*
Ch
Hath the force of the Greeke χ, or κ, in many words derived from the Greeke: as in charast, christian, chronicle, archangel, monarch. In mere English words, or fetched from the Latine, the force of the Italian c.
chaplain, chast, chest, chops, chin, chuf, churle.

Gh
Is only a piece of ill writing with us; if we could obtaine of custome to mend it, it were not the worse for our Language, or us: for the g sounds just nothing in trough, cough, might, night, &c. Only, the writer was at leisure to add a superfluous Letter, as there are too many in our pseudographie.

Ph & Rh
Are used only in Greeke infranchis'd words: as Philip, physick, rhetorick, Rhodes, &c.

Sh
Is meerely English, and hath the force of the Hebrew shin, or the French ch; as in shake, shed, shine, show, shrinke, rush, blush.

Th
Hath a double, and doubtfull sound, which must be found out by use of speaking; sometimes like the Greeke θ as in thief, thing, lengthen, strengthen, loveth, &c.
In others, like their ȝ, or the Spanish d: as this, that, then, thence, tho se, bathe, bequeath.

And in this consists the greatest difficultie of our alphabet, and true writing: since wee have lost the Saxon characters ȝ and þ that distinguished the

\[ \bar{e}, \bar{o}, \bar{u}, \bar{e}n, \bar{e}o \]

\[ \text{pick, pin, from pred, prive,} \]

Wh

Hath beene inquir’d of in w. And this for the Letters.

Chapter V

OF THE DIPHTHONGS

Dipthongs are the complexions, or couplings of vowells, when the two letters send forth a joynt sound, so as in one syllabe both sounds be heard: as in

\begin{align*}
Ai, \text{ or Ay,} \\
aide, maide, said, pay, day, way \\
Au, \text{ or Aw,} \\
audience, author, aunt, law, saw, draw. \\
Ea, \\
earle, pearle, meate, seate, sea, flea. \\
\end{align*}

To which adde yea, and plea; and you hâve at one view all our words of this termination.

\begin{align*}
Ei, \\
sleight, streight, weight, theirs, peint, feint. \\
\end{align*}
Ew, few, strew, dew, anew.
Oi, or Oy, point, joynt, soile, koile, joy, toy, boy.
OO, good, food, moode, brood, &c.
Ou, or Ow, rout, stout, bow, now, bow, low.
Vi, or Vy, buye, or buie; juice, or juyce.

These nine are all I would observe: for to mention more, were but to perplex the reader. The Oa, and Ee, will be better supplied in our orthographie by the accenting e in the end: as in brode, lode, cote, bole, quene, sene.

Neither is the double ee to be thought on, but in derivatives: as trees, sees, and the like: where it is as two syllabes. And for eo, it is found but in three words in our tongue, yeoman, people, jeopards.

Which were truer written yé-man, péple, jépard,
And thus much shall suffice for the diphthongs.

The triphthong is of a complexion, rather to be fear'd then lov'd: and would fright the young grammarian to see him. I therefore let him passe, and make haste to the notion.

Chapter VI
OF THE SYLLABES

A Syllabe is a part of a word, that may of it selfe make a perfect sound; and is sometimes of one only letter, sometimes of more.
Of one, as in every first vowell in these words:
   a. abated.
   c. eclipsed.
   i. imagin'd.
   o. omitted.
   u. usurped.

A syllabe of more letters is made either of vowells only, or of consonants joyned with vowells.

Of vowells only, as the dipthongs.
   ai, in Aiton\(^2\), ayding.
   au, in austere, audients
   ea, in easy, eating
   ei, in eirie of hawkes.
   ew, in ever, &c., and in the triphong yea.

Of the vowells mixt; sometimes but with one consonant, as to: sometimes two, as try: sometimes three, as best: or foure, as nests: or five, as stumps: other-while sixe, as the latter syllabe in restraints: at the most they can have but seven\(^3\), as strengths. Some syllabes, as
   the, then, there, that,
   with, and which,
are often compendiously, and shortly written: as
   ye ye ye ye ye
   with with

which, whoso list may use: but orthographie commands it not. A man may forbeare it, without danger of falling into premonoire.

Here order would require to speake of the quantitie of syllabes, their speciall prerogative among the Latines and
Greekes: whereof so much as is constant, and derived from nature, hath been handled already. The other, which growes by position, and placing of letters, as yet (not through default of our tongue, being able enough to receive it, but our owne carelesnesse, being negligent to give it) is ruled by no art. The principall cause whereof seemeth to be this: because our verses and rythmes (as it is almost with all other people, whose language is spoken at this day) are naturall, and such whereof Aristotle speake:th, ἐκ τῶν ἀυτοσχέδων αὐτῶν, that is, made of a naturall, and voluntarie composition, without regard to the quantitie of syllabes. This would ask a larger time and field, than is here given, for the examination: but since I am assigned to this province, that it is the lot of my age, after thirty yeares conversation with men, to be elementarius senex: I will promise and obtaine so much of my selfe, as to give, in the heele of the booke, some spurre and incitement to that which I so reasonably seeke. Not that I would have the vulgar, and practis'd way of making, abolish'd and abdicated, (being both sweet and delightfull, and much taking the eare) but, to the end our tongue may be made equall to those of the renowned countries, Italy and Greece, touching this particular. And as for the difficultie, that shall never withdraw, or put me off, from the attempt: for, neither is any excellent thing done with ease, nor the compassing of this any whit to be despaires: especially when Quintilian hath observ'd to me, by this naturall rythme, that we have the other artificiall, as it were by certaine markes, and footing, was first traced, and found out. And the Grecians themselves before Homer, as the Romans likewise before Livius Andronicus, had no other meters. Thus much therefore shall serve to have spoken concerning the parts of a word, in a letter, and a syllable.
It followeth to speake of the common affections, which unto the Latines, Greekes, and Hebrewes, are two; the accent, and notation. And first

Chapter VII

OF THE ACCENT

The accent (which unto them was a tuning of the voyce, in lifting it up, or letting it downe) hath not yet obtained with us any signe; which notwithstanding were most needful to be added, not wheresoever the force of an accent lieth, but where for want of one, the word is in danger to be mistuned: as in

*abased, excessive, besotted,*  
*obtaine, ungodly, surrender.*

But the use of it will be seen much better by collation of words, that according unto the divers place of their accent, are diversely pronounce'd, and have divers significations. Such are the words following, with their like; as

*abased, excessive, besotted,*  
*diff, differ; desert, desert; present, present; refuse, refuse; object, object; incense, incense; convert, convert; torment, torment, &c.*

In originall nounes adjective, or substantive, derived according to the rule of the writer of analogie, the accent is intreated to the first: as in

*fatherliness, motherliness,*  
*persuasive, haldresser.*

Likewise, in the adverbs:

*brotherly, sisterly.*

All nounes dissyllabick, simple in the first; as

*boulese, honer, credit,*  
*silver, suety.*

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All nouns trisyllabick, in the first:
  countenance, jeopardye, &c.
All nouns compounded in the first, of how many syllabes soever they be: as
tennis-court-keeper, chimney-sweeper.
Words simple in able, draw the accent to the first, though they be of foure syllabes: as
  sociable, tolerable.
When they be compounded, they keepe the same accent: as
  insociable, intolerable.
But in the way of comparison, it altereth thus: some men are sociable, some insociable; some tolerable, some intolerable. For, the accent sits on the syllabe that puts difference: as sincerity, insincerity.
Nounes ending in tion, or sion, are accented in antepenultimâ: as
  condition, infusion, &c.
In ty, à Latinis, in antepenultimâ: as
  verity, charity, simplicity.
In ence, in antepenultimâ: as
  pestilence, abstinence, sustenance, consequence.
All verbs dissyllabes, ending in er, el, ry, and ish, accent in prima: as
  cover, cancel, carry, bury,
  levy, ravish, &c.
Verbes made of nounes follow the accent of the nounes: as to blanket, to basquet.
All verbs coming from the Latine, either of the supine, or otherwise; hold the accent, as it is found in the first person present of those Latine verbs: as from
  animo, animate; celebrate, celebrate.
Except words compound of facio; as liquefico, liquefui.
And of statuo
    constituo, constitute.
All variations of verbs hold the accent in the same place, as the theme,
   I animate; thou animast, &c.
And thus much shall serve to have opened the fontaine of orthographie. Now let us come to the notation of a word.

Chapter VIII

THE NOTATION OF A WORD

Is, when the originall thereof is sought out, and consisteth in two things; the kind and the figure.
The kind is to know, whether the word bee a primitive, or derivative: as
   man, love,
are primitives:
   manly, lover,
are derivatives.
The figure is to know, whether the word bee simple, or compounded: as
   learned, say, are simple:
   unlearned, gain-say, are compounded.
In which kind of composition, our English tongue is above all other very hardy; and happy, joyning together, after a most eloquent manner, sundry words of every kind of speech: as
   mil-horse, lip-wise, self-love,
   twy-light, there-about,
not-with-standing, by-cause, cut-purse, never-the-lesse.

These are the common affections of a word: his divers sorts now follow. A word is of number, or without number. Of number, that word is termed to be, which signifieth a number singular, or plurall. Singular, which expresseth one only thing: as

- tree, bookes, teachers.

Againe, a word of number is finite, or infinite. Finite, which varieth his number with certaine ends: as

- man, run, horse.

Infinite, which varieth not: as

- true, strong, running.

Moreover, a word of number is a noune, or a verbe. But, here it were fit, we did first number our words, or parts of speech, of which our language consists.

Chapter IX

OF THE PARTS OF SPEECH

In our English speech we number the same parts with the Latines.

- Nounes, Adverbe,
- Pronounes, Conjunction,
- Verbes, Proposition,
- Participle, Interjection.

Only, we adde a ninth, which is the article: and that is two-fold,

Finite, as the. Infinite, as a.

The finite is set before nounes appellatives: as

- the horse, the tree,
- the earth, or specially
- the nature of the earth.
Proper names, and pronouns refuse articles, but for emphasis sake: as

the Henry of Henries,
the only Hee of the towne.
Where hee stands for a noun, and signifies man.
The infinite hath a power of declaring, and designing uncertaine, or infinite things: as

a man, a house.

This article a answers to the Germaine ein, or the French, or Italian articles, deriv'd from one, not numerall, but prepositive: as

a house, ein hause.
un maison.
una casa.

The is put to both numbers, and answers to the Dutch article, der, die, das.
Save, that it admits no inflexion.

Chapter X

OF THE NOUENE

All nouns are words of number, singular, or plurall.
They are common, proper, personall.
And are all substantive or adjective.
Their accidents are, gender, case, declension.
Of the genders there are sixe. First, the masculine, which comprehendeth all males, or what is understood under a masculine species: as angels, men, starres: and (by prosopœia) the moneth's, winds, almost all the planets.
Second, the feminine, which compriseth women, and femal species:

i'lands, countries, cities.

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And some rivers with us: as

*Severne, Avon, &c.*

Third, the neuter, or feined gender: whose notion conceives neither *sexe*; under which are compriz’d all inanimate things; a ship excepted: of whom we say, *shee sayles well*, though the name be *Hercules*, or *Henry*, the Prince. As Terence called his comedie *Eunuchus, per vocabulum artis.*

Fourth, the promiscuous, or epicene, which understands both kindes: especially when we cannot make the difference: as, when we call them *horses*, and *dogges*, in the masculine, though there be *bitches*, and *mares* amongst them. So to fowles for the most part, we use the feminine, as of *eagles, bawkes*; we say, *shee flies well*; and call them *geese, ducks, and doves*, which they flye at.²

Fift, the common, or rather doubtfull gender, wee use often, and with elegance: as in

*cosin, gossip, friend, neighbour, enemie, servant, theefe, &c.*, when they may be of either *sexe.*³

Sixt, is the common of three genders: by which a noun is divided into substantive and adjective. For a substantive is a noun of one only gender, or (at the most) of two. And an adjective is a noun of three genders, being always infinite.

## Chapter XI

**OF THE DIMINUTION OF NOUNES**

The common affection of nounes is diminution. A diminutive is a noun, noting the diminution of his primitive. The diminution of substances hath these foure divers terminations:

*Ell. part, parcell; cocke, cockrell.*

*Et. capon, caponet; poke, poket; baron, baronet.*
Ock, hill, hillock; bull, bullock.
Ing, goose, gosling; duck, duckling.
So from the adjective, deare, darling.
Many diminutives there are, which rather be abusions of speech, then any proper English words. And such for the most part are mens, and womens names; names, which are spoken in a kind of flatterie, especially among familiar friends and lovers: as
Richard, Dick; William, Will;
Margery, Madge; Mary, Mal.
Diminution of adjectives is in this one end, ish: as
white, whitish; green, greenish.
After which manner certain adjectives of likenesse are also formed from their substantives: as
divel, divelish; theefe, theevishe;
coult, coultish; elf, elvishe.
Some nounes steale the forme of diminution, which neither in signification shew it, nor can derive it from a primitive: as
gibbet, doublet, peevishe.

Chapter XII
OF COMPARISONS
These then are the common affections, both of substantives, and adjectives: there follow certaine other, not generall to them both, but proper and peculiar to each one. The proper affection therefore of adjectives is comparison; of which, after the positive, there be two degrees reckoned, namely, the comparative, and the superlative.
The comparative is a degree declared by the positive, with this adverbe more; as

\[\textit{wiser, more wise}.\]

The superlative is declared by the positive, with this adverbe most: as

\[\textit{wisest, most wise}.\]

Both which degrees are formed of the positive: the comparative, by putting to er: the superlative by putting to est: as in these examples:

- learned, learnedest, learnedest;
- simple, simpler, simplest;
- trew, trewer, trewest;
- black, blacker, blackest.

From this generall rule a few speciall words are excepted: as

- good, better, best;
- ill, worse, worst;
- little, lesse, leaft;
- much, more, most.

Many words have no comparison; as

- reverend, puissant;
- victorious, renowned.

Other have both degrees; but lack ethe positive: as

- former, formost.

Some are formed of adverbs: as

- wisely, wiselier, wiselieest;
- justly, justlier, justlieest.

Certaine comparisons, forme out of themselves: as

- lesse, lesser;
- worse, worser.
Chapter XIII

OF THE FIRST DECLENSION

And thus much concerning the proper affection of adjectives: the proper affection of substantives followeth: and that consisteth in declining.

A declension is the varying of a noun substantive into divers terminations. Where besides the absolute, there is, as it were a genitive case, made in the singular number by putting to s.

Of declensions there be two kindes: the first maketh the plurall of the singular, by adding thereunto 1 s, as tree, trees; thing, things; steeple, steeples.

So with s, by reason of the neere affinitie of these two letters, whereof we have spoken before: parke, parkes; bucke, buckes; dwarfe, dwarfs; path, pathes.

And in this first declension, the genitive plurall is all one with the plurall absolute.3

Sing. \{father, father\}  Plu. \{fathers, fathers\}

3General exceptions: Nounes ending in z, s, sh, g, and ch, in the declining take to the genitive singular i, and to the plurall e; as

Sing. \{Prince, Princes\}  Plu. \{Princes, Princes\}

so rose, bush, age, breech, &c. Which distinctions, not observed, brought in first the monslrous syntaxe of the pronoune, his, joyning with a noun, betokening a possessor; as, the prince
his house; for the princes house. Many words ending in dip-thongs, or vowells, take neither z nor s, but only change their dipthongs or vowells, retaining their last consonant: as

mouse, mice or meece;  
louse, lyce or leece;  
goose, gece; foot, feet;  
tooth, teeth.

Exception of number: Some nounes of the first declension lacke the plurall: as

rest, gold, silver, bread.

Other the singular: as

riches, goods,

Many being in their principall signification adjectives, are here declined, and in the plurall stand instead of substantives: as

other, others; one, ones;  
bundred, hundreds; thousand, thousands;  
necessarie, necessaries: and such like.

Chapter XIII

OF THE SECOND DECLENSION

The second declension formeth the plurall from the singular, by putting to n; which notwithstanding it have not so many nounes, as hath the former, yet lacketh not his difficultie, by reason of sundry exceptions, that cannot easily be reduced to one generall head. Of this former are, ox, oxen, hose, hose.

Exceptions. Man, and woman, by a contraction, make men and women, or wemen, in stead of manen and womenen. Cow
makes *kine*, or *keene*: *brother*, *for bretheren*, *hath brithern*, and *brethern*: *child* formeth the plurall by adding *r* besides the root; for we say not *children*, which according to the rule given before, is the right formation, but *childern*, because that sound is more pleasant to the eares. Here the genitive plurall is made by adding *s* unto the absoleute: as

Sing. \{childe, childes\}  Plur. \{childern, childerns\}

Exceptions from both declensions: Some nounes hâve the plurall of both declensions: as

*house, houses, houisen;*  
*eie, eyes, eyen;*  
*shoo, shooes, shooen.*

Chapter XV

OF PRONOUNES

A few irregular nounes, varying from the generall precepts, are commonly termed pronounes: whereof the first foure, in stead of the genitive have an accusative case: as

\{I, Me\}  \{We, Thou\}  \{You\}

Hee, shee, that, all three make in the plurall, *they, them*. Foure possessives: *my, or myne*. Plurall, *our, ours; thy, thine*. Plurall *your, yours; his, hers*, both in the plurall making, *their, theirs*.

As many demonstratives. *This, plural, these. That, plural, those: Yonne, or yonder, same.*

Three interrogatives, whereof one requiring both genitive, and accusative, and taken for a substantive: *who? whose?*
The other two infinite, and adjectively used, what, whether.
Two articles in gender, and number infinite, which the Latines lacke: a, the.
One relative, which: one other signifying a reciprocation, self: plurall, selves.
Composition of pronounes is more common:
  my-self, our-selves.
  thy-self, your-selves.
  him-self, her-self, it-self,
  Plural, them-selves.
This same, that same, yonne same, yonder same, self same.

Chapter XVI
OF A VERBE

Hitherto we have declared the whole etymologie of nounes: which in easinesse, and shortnesse, is much to be preferred before the Latines and the Grecians. It remaineth with like brevitie, if it may be, to prosecute the etymologie of a verbe. A verbe is a word of number, which hath both tyme, and person. Tyme is the difference of a verbe, by the present, past, and future, or to come. A verbe finite therefore hath three only tymes, and those alwayes imperfect.
The first is the present; as
  amo, love.
The second is the tyme past; as
  amabam, loved.
The third is the future; as
  Ama, amato: love, love.
The other tymes both imperfect; as
  amem, amarem, amabo.
And also perfect; as
  amavi, amaverim, amaveram, amavissem, amaero.
Wee use to expresse by a syntaxe, as shall be seen in the proper place.
The future is made of the present, and is the same always with it.
Of this future ariseth a verbe infinite, keeping the same termination: as likewise of the present, and the tyme past, are formed the participle present, by adding of ing; as
  love, loving.
The other is all one with the tyme past.
The passive is expressed by a syntaxe, like the tymes going before, as hereafter shall appeare.
A person is the speciall difference of a verball number, whereof the present, and the tyme past, have in every number three. The second and third person singular of the present are made of the first, by adding est and eth; which last is sometime shortned into z or s.
The tyme past is varied, by adding in like manner in the second person singular est: and making the third like unto the first.
The future hath but only two persons; the second, and the third, ending both alike.
The persons plurall, keepe the termination of the first person singular. In former times, till about the reigne of King Henry the eighth, they were wont to be formed, by adding en: thus,
  loven, sayen, complainen.
But now (whatsoever is the cause) it hath quite growne out of use, and that other so generally prevailed, that I dare not
presume to set this a-foot againe. Albeit, (to tell you my opinion) I am perswaded, that the lacke hereof well consid-
ered will be found a great blemish to our tongue. For,
seeing tyme and person be, as it were, the right, and left-hand
of a verbe; what can the mayming bring else, but a lame-
ness to the whole body?
And by reason of these two differences, a verbe is divided
two manner of wayes.
First, in respect of persons, it is called personall, or im-
personall.
Personall, which is varied by three persons: as
love, loves!, loveth.
Impersonall, which onely hath the third person: as
behooveth, yrketh.
Secondly, in considération of the tymes, we terme it active,
or neuter:
Active, whose participle past may be joyned with the verbe
am: as,

I am loved, thou art hated.
Neuter, which cannot be so coupled: as
pertaine, dye, live.
This therefore is the generall forming of a verbe, which
must to every speciall one hereafter be applied.

Chapter XVII
OF THE FIRST CONJUGATION
The varying of a verbe by persons, and times, both finite,
and infinite, is termed a conjugation. Whereof there bee
two sorts. The first fetcheth the time past from the present, by adding ed: and is thus varied

Pr. love, loves, loveth. Pl. love, love, love.
Pa. loved, loved, loved. Pl. loved, loved, loved.
Fu. love, love. Pl. love, love.

Inf. love.
Part. pr. loving.
Part. past. loved.

Verbes are oft-times shortned: as
sayes, ses!; would, woud;
should, sboud; holpe, hope.¹

But, this is more common in the leaving out of e: as
loved’st, for lovedest;
rubbed, rub’d; tookest, took’st.

Exception of the tyme past, for ed, have t: as
licked, lick’t; leaved, left;
gaped, gap’t; blushed, blush’t.²

Where verbes ending with d, for avoiding the concourse of too many³ consonants, doe cast it away: as
lend, lent; spend, spent; gyrd, gyrt.

Make, by a rare contraction is here turned into made. Many verbes in the time past, vary not at all from the present, such are cast, hurt, cost, burst, &c.

Chapter XVIII
OF THE SECOND CONJUGATION

And so much for the first conjugation; being indeed the most usuall forming of a verbe, and thereby also the common inne to lodge every strange, and strange guest. That which followeth for any thing, I can find (though I have
with some diligence searched after it), intertaineth none, but
natural, and home-borne words, which though in number
they be not many, a hundred and twenty, or thereabouts;
yet in variation are so divers, and uncertaine, that they need
much the stampe of some good logick, to beat them into
proportion. We have set downe that, that in our judgement
agreeeth best with reason, and good order. Which, notwith-
standing, if it seeme to any to be too rough hewed, let him
plane it out more smoothly, and I shall not only not envy
it, but, in the behalfe of my countrey, most heartily thanke
him for so great a benefit, hoping that I shall be thought
sufficiently to have done my part, if in towling this bell, I
may draw others to a deeper consideration of the matter:
for touching my selfe, I must needs confesse, that after much
painfull churning, this only would come, which here we
have devised.

The second conjugation therefore turneth the present into
the time past, by the only change of his letters, namely, of
vowells alone, or consonants also.
Verbes changing vowells only, have no certaine termination
of the participle past, but derive it as well from the present,
as the time past, and that otherwhile differing from either,
as the examples following do declare.
The change of vowells is, either of simple vowells, or of
dipthongs; whereof the first goeth by the order of vowells,
which we also will observe.

An a is turned into oo.
Pres. shake, shakespeare. Pl. shake, shake, shake.
Past. shooke, shooke, shooke. Pl. shooke, shooke
shooke.
Fut. shake, shake. Pl. shake, shake.
This forme doe the verbs take, wake, forsake, and hang, follow, but hang, in the time past maketh hung; not, hangen.

Hereof the verb, am is a speciall exception, being thus varyed

Pr. am, art, is. Pl. are, are, are; or be, be, be, of the unused word bee, bëëst, bëëth, in the singular.

Past. was, wast, was; or were, wert, were. Pl. were, were, were.

Fut. be, be. Plur. be, be.

Inf. be.

Part. pr. being.

Part. past. been.

Ea maketh, first, e short:

Pr. leade. Past. ledde. Part. pa. ledde.

The rest of the times and persons, both singular, and plurall in this, and the other verbs that follow, because they jumpe with the former examples, and rules, in every point, we have chosen rather to omit, than to thrust in needless words.

Such are the verbs, eate, beate, (both making participles past: besides ette, and bette; eaten, and beaten), spread, shead, dreade, sweate, shreade, treade.

Then a, or o, indifferently,

Pr. breake.

Past. brake, or broke.

Par. pa. broke, or broken.

Hither belong, speake, sweare, teare, cleave, weare, sheale, beare, sheare, weave. So, gett, and helpe: but halpe is seldome used, save with the poets.
i is changed into a.

Pr. give.
Past. gave.
Par. pa. given.

So, bid, and sit.

And here sometimes i is turned into a and o both.

Pr. winne.
Past. wanne, or wonne.
Par. pa. wonne.

Of this sort are fling, ring, wring, sing, sting, stick, spinne, strick, drinke, sinke, spring, begin, stinke, shrinke, swing, swimme.

Secondly, long i into e.

Pr. reede.
Past. read.
Par. pa. read.

Also feed, meet, breed, bleed, speed.

Then into o.

Pr. seeth.
Past. sodde.
Par. pa. sodde, or sodden.

Lastly, it makes, aw.

Pr. see.
Past. saw.
Par. Pa. seene.

O hath a.

Pr. come.
Past. came.
Par. pa. came.

And here it may besides keepe his proper vowell.

Pr. runne.
Past. ranne or runne.
Par. pa. runne.
oo maketh o.

Pr.       choose.
Pa.       chose.
Par. pa.  chosen.

And one more, shoote, shotte; in the participle past, shott, or shotten.

Some pronounce the verbs by the dipthong, ew, chewse, shewte; and that is Scottish-like.

Chapter XIX
OF THE THIRD CONJUGATION

The change of dipthongs is of ai, and y, or aw, and ow. All which are changed into ew.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ai.} & \\
\text{Pr.} & \text{slay.} \\
\text{Pa.} & \text{slew.} \\
\text{Par. pa.} & \text{slaine.} \\
\text{y.} & \\
\text{Pr.} & \text{fly.} \\
\text{Pa.} & \text{flew.} \\
\text{Par. pa.} & \text{flyne}^2 \text{ or flowne.} \\
\text{aw.} & \\
\text{Pr.} & \text{draw.} \\
\text{Pa.} & \text{drew.} \\
\text{Par. pa.} & \text{drawne.} \\
\text{ow.} & \\
\text{Pr.} & \text{know.} \\
\text{Pa.} & \text{knew.} \\
\text{Par. pa.} & \text{knowne.} \\
\end{align*}
\]

This forme commeth oftener, then the three former: snow, grow, throw, blow, crow.

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Secondly, y is particularly turned, sometimes into the vowells i and o.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{i.} & \quad \text{Pr.} & \text{byte.} \\
& \quad \text{Pa.} & \text{bitte.} \\
& \quad \text{Par. pa.} & \text{bitte, or bitten.}
\end{align*}
\]

Likewise, byde, quyte, cbyde, stride, slyde.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{o.} & \quad \text{Pr.} & \text{byght.} \\
& \quad \text{Pa.} & \text{boght.} \\
& \quad \text{Par. pa.} & \text{boght.}
\end{align*}
\]

So, shine, strive, thrive.

And as y severally frameth either; so may it joynly have them both.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Pr.} & \quad \text{ryse.} \\
\text{Past.} & \quad \text{rise, or rose.} \\
\text{Par. pa.} & \quad \text{rise, or risen.}
\end{align*}
\]

To this kind pertaine: smyte, wryte, byde, ryde, clyme, dryve, clyve.

Sometimes, into the diphongs, ai, and ou.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ai.} & \quad \text{Pr.} & \text{lye.} \\
& \quad \text{Pa.} & \text{lay.} \\
& \quad \text{Par. pa.} & \text{lyne, or layne.}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ou.} & \quad \text{Pr.} & \text{fynd.} \\
& \quad \text{Pa.} & \text{found.} \\
& \quad \text{Par. pa.} & \text{found.}
\end{align*}
\]

So bynde, grynde, wynde, fyght.

Last of all, aw and ow, doe both make e.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{aw.} & \quad \text{Pr.} & \text{fall.} \\
& \quad \text{Past.} & \text{fell.} \\
& \quad \text{Par. pa.} & \text{fallen.}
\end{align*}
\]

Such is the verbe fraught: which Chaucer, in the *Man of Lawes Tale*:

*This merchants have done, freight their ships new.*
Exceptions of the time past.
Some that are of the first conjugation, only have in the participle past, besides their own, the form of the second, and the third: as

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{bend} & , \text{bewed} , \text{and bewne} . \\
\text{mow} & , \text{mowed} , \text{and mowen} . \\
\text{load} & , \text{loaded} , \text{and loaden} .
\end{align*}
\]

Chapter XX

OF THE FOURTH CONJUGATION

Verbs that convey the time past for the present, by the change both of vowels and consonants, following the terminations of the first conjugation, end in \( d \), or \( t \).

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Pr.} & \quad \text{stand} . \\
\text{Pa.} & \quad \text{stood} .
\end{align*}
\]

\( ^2 \) Such are these words,

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Pr.} & \quad \text{wolde} , \text{wolt} , \text{wolle} . \\
\text{Pa.} & \quad \text{wolde} , \text{or woulde} , \text{wouldest} , \text{would} . \\
\text{Fut.} & \quad \text{wolle} , \text{woll} .
\end{align*}
\]

The infinite times are not used.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Pr.} & \quad \{ \text{can} , \text{canst} , \text{can} . \\
\text{Pa.} & \quad \{ \text{cold} , \text{or could} . \\
\text{Pr.} & \quad \{ \text{sholde} , \text{sholt} , \text{sholl} . \\
\text{Pa.} & \quad \{ \text{sholde} , \text{or shoulde} .
\end{align*}
\]
The other times of either verbe are lacking.

Pr.  { heare.  
Pa.  { beard.  
Pr.  { sell.  
Pa.  { sold.  

So, tell, told.

Of the other sort are these, and such like.

Pr.  { seele.  
Pa.  { felt.  

So, creepe, sleepe, weep, keepe, swepe, meene.

Pr.  { teach.  
Pa.  { taught.  

To this forme belong: thinke, retch, seake, reach, catch, bring, worke; and buy and owe, which make, bought and ought.

Pr.  { dare, darest, dare.  
Pa.  { durst, durst, durst.  
Pr.  { may, mayst, may.  
Pa.  { might, mightest, might.  

These two verbs want the other times.

A generall exception from the former conjugations. Cer­taine verbs have the forme of either conjugation: as hang, hanged, and hung.
reach, reach't, and rought.

So, cleave, sheare, sling, clyme, cetch, &c.

Chapter XXI

OF ADVERBES

Thus much shall suffice for the etymologie of words, that have number, both in a noun, and a verbe: whereof the former is but short, and easie: the other longer, and wrapped
with a great deale more difficultie. Let us now proceed to
the etymologie of words without number.
A word without number is that, which without his principal signification noteth not any number. Whereof there be two kindes, an adverbe, and a conjunction.
An adverbe is a word without number, that is joyned to another word: as

\[
\text{well-learned,}\ \\
\text{bee fighteth valiantly,}\ \\
\text{bee disputeth very subtilely.}
\]

So that an adverbe is as it were an adjective of nounes, verbes; yea, and adverbs also themselves.
Adverbs are either of quantitie, or qualitie. Of quantitie: as enough\(^1\), too-much, altogether.
Adverbs of qualitie be of divers sorts:
First, of number: as once, twice, thrice.
Secondly, of time: as today, yesterday, then, by and by, ever, when.
Thirdly of place: as here, there, where, yonder.
Fourthly, in affirmation, or negation: as I, yes, indeed, no, not, nay.
Fiftly, in wishing, calling, and exhorting:
Wishing: as, O, yf.
Calling: as, ho, sirrah.
Exhorting: as, so, so; there, there.
Sixtly in similitude, and likenesse: as so, even so; likewise, even as.
To this place pertaine adverbs\(^2\) of qualitie whatsoever, being formed from nounes, for the most part, by adding ly: as just, justly; true, truly; strong, strongly; name, namely.
Here also adjectives, as well positive, as compared stand for adverbs:

When he least weeneth, soonest shall be fall.

Interjections, commonly so termed, are in right adverbs, and therefore may justly lay title to this roome. Such are these, that follow, with their like: as

ah, alas, wo, fie, tush, ha, ha, he.

st, a note of silence; Rr, that serveth to set dogges together by the eares; Hrr, to chase birds away.

Prepositions are also a peculiar kind of adverbs, and ought to be referred hither.

Prepositions are separable, or inseparable.

Separable are for the most part of time, and place: as

among, according, without,
afore, after, before, behind,
under, upon, beneath, over,
against, besides, meere.

Inseparable prepositions are they, which signifie nothing, if they be not compounded with some other word: as

re, un, in release, unlearned.

Chapter XXII

OF CONJUNCTIONS

A conjunction is a word without number, knitting divers speeches together: and is declaring, or reasoning. Declaring, which uttereth the parts of a sentence: and that againe is gathering, or separating. Gathering, whereby the parts are affirmed to be true together, which is coupling, or conditioning. Coupling, when the parts are severally affirmed: as

and, also, neither.
Conditioning, by which the part following dependeth, as true, upon the part going before; as if, unlesse, except.

A separating conjunction is that, whereby the parts (as being not true together) are separated; and is severing, or sundring.

Severing, when the parts are separated only in a certaine respect, or reason: as but, although, notwithstanding.

Sundring, when the parts are separated indeed, and truly, so as more then one cannot be true: as either, whither, or.

Reasoning conjunctions are those which conclude one of the parts by the other, whereof some render a reason: and some doe inferre.

Rendring are such, as yeeld the cause of a thing going before: as for, because.

Inferring, by which a thing that commeth after, is concluded by the former: as therefore, wherefore, so that, insomuch that.
Chapter I

OF APOSTROPHUS

As yet we have handled Etymologie, and all the parts thereof. Let us come to the consideration of the Syntaxe. Syntaxe is the second part of Grammar, that teacheth the construction of words; whereunto Apostrophus, an affection of words coupled, and joyned together, doth belong. Apostrophus is the rejecting of a vowell from the beginning, or ending of a word. The note whereof, though it many times, through the negligence of writers and printers, is quite omitted, yet by right should, and of the learned sort hath his signe and marke, which is such a Semi-circle placed in the top.
In the end a vowel may be cast away, when the word next following beginneth with another: as

Th' outward man decayeth:
So th' inward man getteth strength.
If ye' utter such words of pure love, and friendship,
What then may wee looke for, if ye' once begin to hate?

Gower. lib. r. de confess. Amant:
If thou' art of his company, tell forth, my sonne.
It is time to' awake from sleepe.

Vowells suffer also this Apostrophus before the consonant b.

Chaucer in the 3. Booke of Troilus:

For of Fortunes sharpe adversitie,
The worst kind of infortune is this:
A man to' have beene in prosperitie,
And it to remember when it passed is.

The first kind then is common with the Greekes; but that which followeth, is proper to us, which though it bee not of any, that I know, either in writing, or printing, usually express'd: yet considering that in our common speech, nothing is more familiar, (upon the which all precepts are grounded, and to the which they ought to be referred) who can justly blame me, if, as neere as I can, I follow Natures call.

This rejecting therefore, is both in vowells, and consonants, going before,

Gower, lib. 4:

There is no fire, there is no sparke,
There is no dore, which may charke.

Who answered, that he was not privy to it, and in excuse seem'd to be very sore displeased with the matter, that his men of warre had done it without his commandement, or consent.
Chapter II
OF THE SYNTAXE OF ONE NOUNE WITH ANOTHER

Syntaxe appertaineth, both to words of number, and without number, where the want, and superfluity of any part of speech are two generall, and common exceptions. Of the former kind of Syntaxe is that of a noune, and verbe. The Syntaxe of a noune, with a noune, is in number, and gender: as

Esau could not obtaine his fathers blessing, though he sought it with teares.

Jesabel was a wicked woman, for she slew the Lords Prophets.

An Idol is no god, for it is made with hands.

In all these examples yee see Esau, and hee; Jesabel, and shee; Idol, and it, to agree in the singular number. The first example also in the masculine gender: the second in the feminine: the third, in the neuter. And in this construction (as also throughout the whole English Syntaxe) order, and the placing of words is one especiall thing to be observed. So that when a substantive, and an adjective, are immediately joyned together, the adjective must goe before: as

Plato shut Poets out of his Common-wealth, as effeminate Writers, unprofitable members, and enemies to vertue.

When two substantives come together, whereof one is the name of a possessor, the other of a thing possessed; then hath the name of a possessor the former place, and in the genitive:

All mans righteousnesse is like a defiled cloth.
Gower. lib. 1:

An Owle flieth by night,
Out of all other birds sight.

But if the thing possess'd goe before, then doth the preposition of, come betwene:

Ignorance is the mother of errour.

Gower. lib:

So that it proveth well therefore
The strength of man is some lore.

Which preposition may be coupled with the thing possessed, being in the genitive.

Nort. in Arsan:

A road made into Scanderbech's Countrey by the Duke of Mysia's men; for the Dukes men of Mysia.

Here the absolute serveth sometimes in stead of a genitive:

All trouble is light, which is endured for righteousnesse sake.

Otherwise, two substantives are joined together by apposition; Sir Thomas More in King Richards Storie: George Duke of Clarence, was a Prince at all points fortunate. Where if both be the names of possessors, the latter shall be in the genitive.

Foxe in the 2. Volume of Actis and Monuments:

King Henry the Eight, married with the Lady Katherine his Brother, Prince Arthurs wife.

The general exceptions:

The substantive is often lacking. Sir Thomas More:

Sometime without small things, greater cannot stand.

Chaucer:

For some folke woll be wonne for riches,
And some folke for strokes, and some folke for gentlenesse.
Likewise the adjective:

*It is hard in prosperitie to preserve true religion, true godliness; and true humilitie.*

Lidgate, lib. 8. speaking of Constantine:

*That whilome had the divination As chiefe Monarch, chiefe Prince, and chiefe President Over all the world, from East to Occident.*

But the more notable lacke of the adjectives is in the want of the relative:

*In the things, which we least mistrust, the greatest danger doth often lurke.*

Gower, lib. 2:

*For thy the wise-men ne demen The things after that they semen. But, after that, which they know, and finde.*

Ps. 118. 22: *The stone, the builders refused. for, which the builders refused.*

And here besides the common wanting of a substantive, whereof we spake before; there is another more speciall, and proper to the absolute, and the genitive.

Chaucer in the 3. booke of Fame:

*This is the mother of tydings, As the Sea is mother of Wells, and is mother of Springs. Rebecca clothed Jacob with garments of his brothers.*

Superfluity also of nounes is much used:

*Sir Tho. More, whose death King Edward (although he commanded it) when he wist it was done, pitiously bewailed it, and sorrowfully repented.*

Chaucer in his Prologue to the Man of Lawes tale:

*Such law, as a man yeveth another wight, He should himself use it by right.*
Gower, l. r:

For, whoso woll another blame,
Hee seeketh oft his owne shame.

Speciall exceptions, and first of number. Two singulars are put for our plurall:
All Authority, and Custome of men, exalted against the word of God, must yeeld themselves prisoners.

Gower: In thine aspect are all alich,
The poore man, and eke the rich.

The second person plurall is for reverence sake to one singular thing:

Gower, lib. r:

O good Father deare,
Why make ye this heavie cheare.

Where also after a verbe plurall, the singular of the noun is retained: I know you are a discreet, and faithfull man, and therefore am come to aske your advice.

Exceptions of genders.
The Articles hee, and it, are used in each others gender.

Sir Tho. More:
The south wind sometime swelleth of himselfe before a tempest.

Gower of the Earth:
And for thy men it delve, and ditch,
And earen it, with strength of plough:
Where it hath of himselfe enough,
So that his need is leaft.

It, also followeth for the feminine: Gower, lib. 4:
He swore it should nought be let,
That, if she have a daughter bore,
That it ne should be forlore.
Chapter III

OF THE SYNTAX OF A PRONOUNE WITH A NOUNE

The Articles a and the, are joyned to substantives common never to proper names of men: William Lambert in The Perambulation of Kent:

The cause only, and not the death maketh a Martyr.

Yet, with a proper name used by a Metaphor, or borrowed manner of speech, both Articles may be coupled:

Who so avoucheth the manifest, and knowne truth, ought not therefore to be called a Goliah, that is a monster, and impudent fellow, as he was.

Jewell against Harding:

You have adventured your selfe to be the noble David, to conquer this Giant.

Nort. in Arsæn: And if ever it were necessarie, now it is, when many an Athanasius, many an Atticus, many a noble Prince, and godly personage lyeth prostrate at your feet for succour.

Where this Metaphor is expounded. So, when the proper name is used to note ones parentage, which kind of nounes the Grammarians call Patronimicks: Nort. in Gabriells Oration to Scanderbech:

For you know well enough the wiles of the Ottomans. Perkin Warbeck, a stranger borne, fained himselfe to be a Plantaginet.

When a substantive, and an adjective are joyned together, these articles are put before the adjective:

A good conscience is a continuall feast.
Gower, lib. i:

For false semblant hath evermore
Of his counsell in companie,
The darke untrue Hypocrisie.

Which construction in the article, A, notwithstanding some adjectives will not admit:

Sir Tho. More:
Such a Serpent is ambition, and desire of vain-glory.

Chaucer:
Under a Shepheard false, and negligent,
The Wolfe bath many a Sheepe, and Lamb to rent.

Moreover, both these articles are joyned to any cases of the Latines, the vocative only excepted: as

A man saith. The strength of a man.
I sent to a man. I hurt a man.
I was sued by a man.

Likewise: The Apostle testifieth; The zeal of the Apostle;
Give eare to the Apostle; Follow the Apostle; Depart not from the Apostle.

So that in these two pronounes the whole construction almost of the Latines is contained. The, agreeeth to any number: A, only to the singular, save when it is joyned with those adjectives, which doe of necessitie require a plurall:

The Conscience is a thousand witnesses.

Lidgate, lib. i:

Though for a season they sit in high cheares,
Their fame shall fade within a few yeares.

A, goeth before words beginning with consonants, and before all vowells, (Diphthongs, whose first letter is y, or w, excepted) it is turn'd into An:
Sir Tho. More:

For men use to write an evill turne in marble stone;
but a good turne they write in the dust.

Gower, lib. 1:

For all shall dye; and all shall passe,
As well a Lyon, as an Asse.

So may it be also before h.

Sir Tho. More:

What mischiefe worketh the proud enterprize of an high heart.

A, hath also the force of governing before a noun.

Sir Tho. More:

And the Protector had layd to her for manner sake,
that she was a Councell with the Lord Hastings
to destroy him.

Chaucer 2, booke of Troylus:

And on bis way fast homeward he sped,
And Troylus be found alone in bed.

Likewise, before the participle present, An, hath the force of a Gerund:

Nort. in Arsan:

But there is some great tempest a brewing towards us.

Lidgate, lib. 7:

The King was slaine; and ye did assent
In a Forrešt an hunting, when that he went.

The article, The, joyned with the adjective of a noun proper may follow, after the substantive:

Chaucer:

——Their Chaunticleer the faire
Was wont, and eke his Wives to repaire.
Otherwise it varieth from the common rule. Againe, this article by a Synecdoche doth restraine a generall, and common name to some certaine and speciall one:

Gower in his Prologue:

The Apostle writeth unto us all,
And saith, that upon us his fall,
Th' end of the world, for Paul.

So by the Philosopher, Aristotle. By the Poet, among the Grecians, Homer; with the Latines, Virgill, is understood. This, and that, being demonstratives: and what, the interrogative, are taken for substantives:

Sir John Cheeke, in his Oration to the Rebells:

Ye rise for Religion: What Religion taught you that?

Chaucer in the Reves Tale:

And this is very sooth, as I you tell.

Ascham, in his Discourse of the Affaires of Germanie. A wonderfull folly in a great man himselfe, and some piece of miserie in a whole Common-wealth, where fools chiefly, and flatterers, may speake freely what they will; and good men shall commonly be shent, if they speake what they should.

What, also for an adverbe of partition:

Lambert: But now, in our memorie, what by decay of the haven, and what by overthrow of Religious Houses, and losse of Calice, it is brought in manner to miserable nakednesse, and decay.

Chaucer 3, booke of Troilus:

Then wot I well, shee might never faile
For to beene holpen, what at your instance?
What at your other friends governance.

That, is used for a relative.
Sir John Cheeke: Sedition is an Aposteame, which, when it breaketh inwardly, putteth the State in great danger of recovery; and corrupteth the whole Common-wealth, with the rotten furie, that it hath putrefied with. For, with which.

They, and those, are sometimes taken, as it were, for articles.

Fox 2. Volume of Acts:

That no kind of disquietnesse should be procured against them of Bern, and Zurick.

Gower, hb. 2:

My brother hath us all sold
To them of Rome.—

The pronoune These, hath a rare use being taken for an adjective of similitude: It is, neither the part of an honest man to tell these tales: nor if a wise man to receive them.

Lidgate, lib. 5:

Lo, how these Princes proud, and retchlesse,
Have shamefull ends, which cannot live in peace.

Him, and Them, be used reciprocally for the compounds, himselfe, themselves:

Fox:

The Garrison desired, that they might depart with bagge, and baggage.

Chaucer in the Squires Tale:

So deepe in graine be dyeâ bis colours,
Right, as a Serpent bideth him under flowers.

His, their, and theirs, have also a strange use; that is to say, being possessives, they serve in stead of primitives:

Chaucer:

And shortly so farre forth this thing went,
That my will, was his wills instrument,
Which in Latine were a solecisme; for there we should not say, *suae voluntatis*, but *voluntatis ipsius*.

Pronounes have not the articles *a*, and *the*, going before which, the relative, *selfe*, and *same*, only excepted: The same lewd cancel Carle, practiseth nothing, but how he may overcome, and oppresse the Faith of Christ, for the which, you, as you know have determined to labour and travell continually.

The possessives, *my*, *thy*, *our*, *your*, and *their*, goe before words: as, *my land*: *thy goods*; and so in the rest: *myne*, *thyne*, *ours*, *yours*, *hers*, and *theirs*, follow, as it were, in the genitive case: as *these lands are mine*, *thine*, &c.

*His*, doth indifferently goe before, or follow after: as, *his house is a faire one*; and, *this house is his*.

Chapter IIII

OF THE SYNTAXE OF ADJECTIVES

Adjectives of qualitie are coupled with pronounes accusative cases:

Chaucer:

> And he was wise, hardy, secret, and rich,
> Of these three points, has none him lych.

Certaine adjectives include a partition: From the head doth life and motion flow to the rest of the members.

The comparative agreeth to the parts compared, by adding this preposition, *than*.

Chaucer, 3. book of Fame:

> What did this Æolus, but he
> Took out his blacke trumpe of brasse,
> That blacker than the Divell was.

The superlative is joyned to the parts compared by this preposition, of:
Gower, lib. 1:

Pride is of every misse the prick:
Pride is the worst vice of all wick.

Jewell:

The friendship of truth is best of all.

Oftentimes both degrees are expressed by these two adverbs, more, and most: as, more excellent, most excellent. Whereof the latter seemeth to have his proper place in those that are spoken in a certaine kind of excellencie, but yet without comparison: Heclor was a most valiant man; that is, inter fortissimos.

Furthermore, these adverbs, more, and most, are added to the comparative, and superlative degrees themselves, which should before the positive:

Sir Tho. More,

Forasmuch as she saw the Cardinall more readier to depart, then the remuant; For, not only the high dignitie of the Civill Magistrate, but the most basest handy-crafts are holy, when they are directed to the honour of God.

And, this is a certaine kind of English atticisme, or eloquent phrase of speech, imitating the manner of the most ancients, and finest Grecians, who, for more emphasis, and vehemencies sake used to speake.

Positives are also joyned with the prepositio, of, like the superlative:

Elias was the only man of all the Prophets that was left alive.

Gower, lib. 4:

The first point of sloutb I call Lachesse, and is the chiefe of all.
Chapter V

OF THE SYNTAXE OF A VERB WITH A NOUNE

Hitherto we have declared the Syntaxe of a noun: The Syntaxe of a verbe followeth, being either of verbe with a noun; or, of one verbe with another. The Syntaxe of a verbe with a noun is in number, and person: as

I am content. You are mis-inform'd.

Chaucer 2. booke of Fame:

For, as flame is but lighted smoke;
Right so is sound ayr ybroke.

I my selfe, and your selves, agree unto the first person: you, thou, it, thy selfe, your selves, to the second: All other nounes and pronounes (that are of any person) to the third: Againe I, we, thou, be, she, they, who, doe ever governe: unlesse it be in the verbe, am, that requireth the like case after it, as is before it, mee, us, thee, ber, them, him, whom, are govern'd of the verbe. The rest, which are absolute, may either governe, or bee governed.

A verbe impersonall in Latine is here expressed by an English impersonall, with this article, it, going before: as, oportet, it behoveth: dece, it becommeth. Generall exceptions:
The person governing is oft understood by that went before: True Religion glorifieth them that honour it; and is a target unto them that are a buckler unto it.

Chaucer:

Womens counsells brought us first to woe,
And made Adam from Paradise to goe.
But this is more notable, and also more common in the future; wherein for the most part we never expresse any person, not so much as at the first:

Feare God. Honour the King.

Likewise the verbe is understood by some other going before:

Nort. in Ars an:

When the danger is most great, natural strength most feeble, and divine ayde most needfull.

Certaine pronounes, governed of the verbe, doe here abound. Sir Tho. More: And this I say, although they were not abused, as now they be, and so long have beene, that I feare me ever they will be.

Chaucer, 3. booke of Fame:

And as I wondred me, ywis
Upon this house.

Idem in Thisbe:

She rist her up with a full dreary heart:
And in cave with dreadfull fate she start.

Special exceptions.

Nouns signifying a multitude, though they be of the singular number, require a verbe plurall.

Lidgate, lib. 2:

And wise men rehearse in sentence
Where folke be drunken, there is no resistance.

This exception is in other nouns also very common; especially when the verbe is joyned to an adverbe, or conjunction: It is preposterous to execute a man, before he have beene condemned.

Gower, lib. 1:

Although a man be wise himselfe,
Yet is the wisdome more of twelve.
Chaucer:

Therefore I read you this counsell take,
Forsake sinne, ere sinne you forsake.

In this exception of number, the verbe sometime agreeth not with the governing noune of the plurall number, as it should, but with the noune governed: as, 

Riches is a thing oft-times more burtfull, iben profitable to the owners. After which manner the Latines also speake: omnia pontus erat.
The other speciall exception is not in use.

Chapter VI

OF THE SYNTAXE OF A VERBE WITH A VERBE

When two verbes meet together, whereof one is governed by the other, the latter is put in the infinite, and that with this signe to, comming betwenee; as Good men ought to joyne together in good things.

But, will, doe, may, can, shall, dare, (when it is in Transitive) must, and lett, when it signifieth a sufferance, receive not the signe:

Gower:

To God no man may be fellow.

This signe set before an infinite, not govern’d of a verbe, changeth it into the nature of a noune.

Nort. in Arsan:

To winne is the benefit of Fortune: but to keepe is the power of wisdome.

Generall exceptions.
The verbe governing is understood. Nort. in Arsan: For if the head, which is the life, and stay of the body, betray the members
must not the members also needs betray one another; and so the whole body, and head goe altogether to utter wreck, and destruction? The other generall exception is wanting.

The speciall exception. Two verbes, have, and am, require alwayes a participle past without any signe: as, I am pleased. Thou art hated. Save when they import a necessitie, or conveniencie of doing any thing: In which case they are very eloquently joyned to the infinite, the signe comming betweene: By the example of Herod, all Princes are to take heed how they give eare to flatterers.

Lidgate, lib. i:

Truth, and falsnesse in what they have done,
May no while assemble in one person.

And here those times, which in Etymologie we remembred to be wanting, are set forth by the Syntaxe of verbes joyned together. The Syntaxe of imperfect times in this manner: The presents by the infinite, and the verbe, may, or can, as for, Amen, Amarem: I may love: I might love. And againe, I can love: I could love.

The futures are declared by the infinite, and the verbe, shall, or will: as, amabo: I shall, or, will love.

Amavero addeth thereunto, have, taking the nature of two divers times; that is, of the future, and the time past:

I shall have loved: or,

I will have loved.

The perfect times are expressed by the verbe, have, as,

Amavi, Amaveram.

I have loved. I had loved.

Amaverim, and Amavissem adde might unto the former verbe: as,

I might have loved.
The infinite past, is also made by adding, have: as,
   Amavisse, to have loved.

Verbes passive are made of the participle past, and, am, the verbe. Amor, and Amabar, by the only putting to of the verbe: as,
   Amor, I am loved.
   Amabar, I was loved.

Amer and Amarer, have it governed of the verbe may, or can: as,
   Amer, I may be loved: or, I can be loved.
   Amarer, I might be loved, or, I could be loved.

In Amabor, it is governed of shall, or, will: as, I shall, or, will be loved.

Chapter VII
OF THE SYNTAXE OF ADVERBES

This therefore is the Syntaxe of words, having number, there remaineth that of words without number, which standeth in adverbs, or conjunctions. Adverbes are taken one for the other; that is to say, adverbes of likenesse, for adverbes of time. As he spake those words, he gave up the ghost. Gower, lib. i:

   Anone, as he was meike, and tame.
   He found towards his God the same.

The like is to be seene in adverbes of time, and place, used in each others stead, as among the Latines, and the Grecians. Nort. in Arsan:

   Let us not be ashamed to follow the counsell, and example of our enemies, where it may doe us good.

Adverbes stand in stead of relatives:
Lidgate, lib. I:
And little worth is fairenesse in certaine
In a person, where no vertue is seene.

Nor. to the Northerne Rebells:
Few women storme against the marriage of Priests,
but such as have beene Priests harlots, or faine
would be.

Chaucer in his Ballad:
But great God disposeth,
And maketh casuall by his Providence
Such things as fraile man purposeth. For, those
things, which.

Certaine adverbs in the Syntaxe of a substantive, and an
adjective meeting together, cause, a, the article to follow the
adjective.

Sir John Cheeke:
O! with what spite was sundred so noble a body,
from so godly a mind.

Jewell:
It is too light a labour to strive for names.

Chaucer:
Thou art at ease, and bold thee well therein.
As great a praise is to keepe well, as win.

Adjectives compared, when they are used adverbially,
may have the article the, going before.

Jewell: The more enlarged is your libertie, the lesse cause have
you to complaine.

Adverbs are wanting. Sir Tho. More: And how farre be they
off that would helpe, as God send grace, they hurt not; for, that
they hurt not.

Often-times they are used without any necessitie, for greater
vehemencie sake; as, then-afterward, againe, once more.
Gower:

He saw also the bowes spread
Above all earth, in which were
The kinde of all birds there.

Prepositions are joyned with the accusative cases of Pronounes:

Sir Thomas More: I exhort, and require you, for the love that you have borne to me; and, for the love that I have borne to you; and for the love, that our Lord beareth to us all.

Gower. lib. i :

For Lucifer, with them that fell,
Bare Pride with him into Hell.

They may also be coupled with the possessives: Myne, thyne, ours, yours, bis, hers, theirs.

Nort. to the Rebells: Thine you, her Majestie, and the wisest of the Realme, have no care of their owne soules, that have charge both of their owne, and yours?

These prepositions follow sometimes the nouns they are coupled with: God hath made Princes, their Subjects guides, to direct them in the way, which they have to walke in.

But, ward, or wards; and, toward, or, towards, have the same syntaxe, that versus, and adversus, have with the Latines: that is, the latter comming after the noun, which it governeth, and the other contrarily: Nort. in Paul Angells Oration to Scanderbech: For, his heart being uncleane to God-ward and spitefull towards men, doth always imagine mischief.

Lidgate, lib. 7:

And south-ward runneth to Caucasus,
And folk of Scythie, that bene laborious.

Now, as before in two articles, a, and the, the whole construction of the Latines, was contain’d: so their whole rectio is by prepositions neere-hand declared: where the
préposition of, hath the force of the genitive; *to*, of the Dative; 
*from*, *of*, *in*, *by*, and such like of the ablative: as, *the praise of 
God*. Be thankfull to *God*. Take the cock of *the hoope*. I was 
saved from *you*, by *you*, in *your house*.

Prepositions matched with the participle present, supply 
the place of gerundes: as, *In loving*, *of loving*, *by loving*, *with 
loving*, *from loving*, &c.

Prepositions doe also governe adverbs.

Lidgate, lib. 9:

Sent from above, as shee did understand.

Generall exceptions: Divers prepositions are very often 
wanting, whereof it shall be sufficient to give a taste in those, 
that above the rest, are most worthy to be noted.

*Of*, in an adjective of partition: Lidgate, lib. 5:

His Lieges eche one being of one assent
To live, and dye with him in his intent.

The preposition, *touching*, *concerning*, or some such like doth 
often want, after the manner of the Hebrew *Lamed*:

Gower:

The privities of mans heart
They speaken, and sound in his eare,
As though they loude windes were.

Riches, and inheritance, they be given by Gods providence, to whom 
of his wisdome bee thinketh good: For, *touching*, *riches*, and in-
heritance: or some such like preposition.

*If*, is somewhat strangely lacking: Nort. in Arsan: *Unwise 
are they*, that end their matters with, *Had I wis!.*

Lidgate, lib. 1:

For, *ne were not this prudent ordinance.*

Some, to obey, and *above to gye 
Destroyed were all worldly Policie.*

The superfluitie of prepositions is more rare:
Chapter VIII
OF THE SYNTAXE OF CONJUNCTIONS

The Syntaxe of conjunctions is in order only; *Neither*, *and*, *either*, are placed in the beginning of words: *Nor*, *and* or *or*, coming after. Sir Thomas More: *Hee* can be no *Sanctuaryman*, that hath *neither* discretion to desire it, *nor* malice to deserve it.

Sir John Cheeke: *Either* by ambition you seck Lordliness, much unfit for you; or by covetousnesse, ye be unsatiabke, a thing likely enough in you: or else by folly, ye be not content with your estate, a fancie to be pluckt out of you.

Lidgate, hb. 2:

*Wrong, clyming up of states, and degrees,*
*Either by murder, or by false treasons*
*Askeeth a fall, for their finall guerdons.*

Here, for *nor* in the latter member, *ne* is sometime used: Lambert: *But the Archbishop set himselfe against it, affirming plainly, that hee neither could, ne would suffer it.*

The like Syntaxe is also to be marked in *so*, and *as*, used comparatively: for, when the comparison is in quantitie, *then so* goeth before, and *as* followeth. Ascham: *He hateth himselfe, and hasteth his owne hurt, that is content to heare none so gladly, as either a foole, or a flatterer.*
Gower, lib. i:

Men wisht in thilk time none
So fare a wight, as she was one.

Sometime for so, as commeth in. Chaucer, lib. 5: Troil:

And said, I am, albeit to you no joy,
As gentle a man, as any wight in Troy.

But if the comparison be in qualitie, then it is contrary:

Gower:

For, as the fish, if it be dry
Mote in default of water dye:
Right so, without ayre, or live,
No man, ne beast, might thrive.

And, in the beginning of a sentence, serveth in stead of an admiration: And, what a notable signe of patience was it in Job, not to murmure against the Lord?

Chaucer 3. booke of Fame:

What, quoth shee, and be ye wood!
And, wene ye for to doe good,
And, for to have of that no fame?

Conjunctions of divers sorts are taken one for another: as, But, a severing conjunction, for a conditioning.

Chaucer in the Man of Lawes Tale:

But it were with the ilk eyen of his minde,
With which men seen’ after they ben blinde.

Sir Thomas More: Which, neither can they have, but you give it: neither can you give it, if ye agree not.

The selfe-same syntaxe as in And, the coupling conjunction; The Lord Berners in the preface to his translation of Froisart: What knowledge should we have of ancient things past, and historie were not.
Sir John Cheeke: Yee have waxed greedie now upon Cities, and have attempted mightie spoiles to glut up, and you could your wasting hunger.

On the other side, for, a cause-renderer, hath sometime the force of a severing one.

Lidgate, lib. 3:

But it may fall a Drewry in his right,
To outrage a Giant for all his great might.

Here the two generall exceptions are termed, Asyndeton, and Polysyndeton. Asyndeton, when the conjunction wanteth:

The Universities of Christendome are the eyes, the lights, the leaven, the salt, the seasoning of the world.

Gower:

To whom her heart cannot beale,
Turne it to woe, turne it to weale.

Here the sundring conjunction, or, is lacking; and in the former example, and, the coupler.

Polysyndeton is in doubling the conjunction more then it need to be:

Gower, lib. 4:

So, whether that he frieze, or sweat,
Or 'tte be in, or 'tte be out,
Hee will be idle all about.

Chapter IX

OF THE DISTINCTION OF SENTENCES

All the parts of Syntaxe have already beene declared. There resteth one generall affection ofthe whole, dispersed thorow every member thereof, as the bloud is thorow the body;
and consists in the breathing, when we pronounce any sentence; for, whereas our breath is by nature so short, that we cannot continue without a stay to speak long together; it was thought necessarie, as well for the speakers ease, as for the plainer deliverance of the things spoken, to invent this means, whereby men pausing a pretty while, the whole speech might never the worse be understood.

These distinctions are, either of a perfect, or imperfect sentence. The distinctions of an imperfect sentence are two, a sub-distinction, and a Comma.

A sub-distinction is a meane breathing, when the word serveth indifferently, both to the parts of the sentence going before, and following after, and is marked thus (;)

A Comma is a distinction of an imperfect sentence, wherein with somewhat a longer breath, the sentence following; and is noted with this shorter semicircle (,).

Hither pertaineth a Parenthesis, wherein two comma's include a sentence:

Jewell: Certaine falshoods (by meane of good utterance) have sometime more likelyhood of truth, then truth it selfe.

Gower, lib. i:

Division. (The Gospel faith)
One house upon another faith.

Chaucer 3. booke of Fame:
For time, ylost (this know ye)
By no way may recovered be.

These imperfect distinctions in the Syntaxe of a substantive, and an adjective give the former place to the substantive:

Ascham: Thus the poore Gentleman suffered griefe; great for the paine; but greater for the spite.
Gower, lib. 2. Speaking of the envious person:

Though he a man see vertuous,
And full of good condition,
Thereof maketh be no mention.

The distinction of a perfect sentence hath a more full stay, and doth rest the spirit, which is a Pause, or a Period.

A Pause is a distinction of a sentence, though perfect in itself, yet joined to another, being marked with two pricks. (:) .

A period is the distinction of a sentence, in all respects perfect, and is marked with one full prick, over against the lower part of the last letter, thus (.).

If a sentence be with an interrogation, we use this note (?).  
Sir John Cheeke: Who can persuade, where treason is above reason; and might ruleth right; and it is bad for lawfull, whatsoever is lustfull; and Commotioners are better then Commissioners; and common woe is named Commonwealth?

Chaucer, 2. booke of Fame:

Loe, is it not a great miscbance,
To let a foole have governance,
Of things, that be cannot demayne?

Lidgate, lib. 1:

For, if wives be found variable,
Where shall husbands find other stable?

If it be pronounced with an admiration, then thus (!)

Sir Tho. More:

O Lord God, the blindnesse of our mortall nature!

Chaucer, 1. booke of Fame:

Alas! what harme doth apparence,
When it is false in existence!
These distinctions (whereof the first is commonly neglected) as they best agree with nature: so come they nearest to the ancient states of sentences among the Romans, and the Grecians. An example of all four to make the matter plain, let us take out of that excellent Oration of Sir John Cheeke, against the Rebells, whereof before we have made so often mention: When common order of the law can take no place in unruly, and disobedient subjects: and all men will of wilfulnesse resist with rage, and thinke their owne vio-

lence, to be the best justice: then be wise Magis-

trates compelled by necessitie, to seeke an extreme remedy, where meane salves helpe not, and bring in the Mar-
tiall Law where none other law serveth

* *

THE END
CHAPTER III  Of the Vowels

A
1. all, small, gall, fall, tall, call.

E
2. Or after u consonant as in love, glove, move.
3. divel [om.]
4. her, hir [om.]

I
5. title, title [om.]

O
6. uncertain
7. bosen, folly, note, thrôte [om.]
   cōsen, dōsen [om.]
8. In the diphthong sometimes the o is sounded;
9. But u oftner;
10. In the last syllables, before n and w, it frequently looseth its sound
11. It keeps its sound, and is sharp . . .
12. It sometimes varieth the sound . . . as in prove, strive; glove, grove.

V

13. ew as in new, knew . . . sue, due, true . . .
14. leadeth ] followeth
15. reve ] give
16. . . . Latin. When it begins a word or syllable (a vowel following it) it always has the force of a consonant; as Jade, Jove, Judge, &c.

W

17. bow'itch, bow'eel

Y

18. But . . . consonant ] But that we choose y for distinction sake, as we usually difference to lye or feign, from to lie along, &c.
19. by e; as, justifie, &c.
20. tyrant

CHAPTER IV Of the Consonants

C

1. action [om.]
2. Or, before diphthongs, whose first vowel is e or i; as in cease, deceive, ceiling.

F

3. ou, of, speaking of a person or thing

80
4. *eg* [om.]
5. *guin* [om.]

6. *mickle* [om.]
7. It followeth the *s*, in some words; as in *skirt, skirmish*.

8. It's always doubled, at the end of words of one syllable; as in . . .
9. And, even in these custom rather than necessity obliges us to use a double *l*. For the *consonant* should be doubled only for the sake of an additional syllable at the end of a word, beginning with a *vowel*; as in . . .

10. *O]P*
11. *he]it*
12. *Shrik* [om.]
13. *rimes]names*
14. save it precedeth *I*; and that again followed by another *vowel*; as in . . .
X

15. For, it hath the sound of c and s; or k and s.
16. ke[om.]
17. Which sound like these,

Z

18. Is a letter often heard amongst us, but seldom seen: borrow'd of the Greeks at first, being the same with ζ; and soundeth in the middle as double ss, tho' in the end of many English words (where 'tis only properly used) it seems to sound as s; as in maze, gaze; And on the contrary, words writ with s sound like z; as Muse, nose, hose, as.

Never in the beginning, save with the West-Country People, that have, zed, zay, zit, zo, zome, And the like; for Said, say, sit, so, some.

Or in the body of words indenison'd, i.e. derived from the Greek, and commonly us'd as English; as, azure, zeal, zephyre, &c.

H

19. Whether it be a Letter or no, hath been much examined by the Ancients, and by some of the Greek Party too much condemned, and thrown out of the Alphabet as an Aspirate meerly, and in request only before Vowels in the beginning of words. The Welsh retain it still after many Consonants. But, be it a Letter or Spirit, we have great use of it in our Tongue, both before, and after Vowels. And though I dare not say, she is, (as I have heard one call her)
the Queen-mother of Consonants: yet she is the life, and quickening of c, g, p, s, t, w; as also r when derived from the aspirate Greek ρ; as, Cheat, Ghost, Alphabet, shape, that, what, Rhapsody, of which more hereafter. What her Powers . . . .

20. heiday
21. humble [om.]
22. Aspiration; as
23. umble [om.]

CHAPTER V Of the Diphthongs

Ei

1. peint, feint [om.]
   Oi, or Oy

2. coil
   Vi, or Vy

3. buye, or buie ] puissance, or puyssance
4. by . . . . séne [om.]
5. jeopardy
6. jepardy

CHAPTER VI Of the Syllabes

1. letter, which is always a Vowel: sometimes of more . . .
2. Aiton [om.]
3. seven ] eight
4. Rhyme
5. footings, first traced

83
CHAPTER VII  Of the Accent
1. differ ] defer
2. others intolerable

CHAPTER VIII  The Notation of a Word
1. because
2. The divers
3. Tree, book, teacher. Plural, when it expresseth more things than one; as, trees, books, teachers.
4. man, men; run, runs; horse, horses
5. true, strong, &c., both in the Singular and Plural

CHAPTER IX  Of the Parts of Speech
1. Only we add a Ninth, which is the Article: And that is two fold;
   Finite, i.e. relating to both Numbers; as, The.
   Infinitive, relating only to the Singular; as, A.
   The Finite is set before Nouns Appellatives; as,
   The Horse, the Horses;
   The Tree, the Trees.
2. the earth . . . earth [om.]
3. but for ] except for
4. A man, A house: not A men, A houses
   Un Maison. French
   Una Casa. Italian

CHAPTER X  Of the Noun
1. Prosopopeia
2. fly at, not distinguishing the Sex
3. Servant, Thief, &c., including both Sexes
4. The Sixth is

CHAPTER XI Of the Diminution of Nounes

1. Devil, devilish
2. Colt, coltish

CHAPTER XII Of Comparisons

1. Wiser, or more wise
2. Wisest, or most wise
3. Ill or bad, worse, worst
4. Others

CHAPTER XIII Of the First Declension

1. thereto
2. absolute; as
3. General Exceptions

To the Genitive Cases of all Nouns denoting a Possessor, is added 's with an Apostrophe, thereby to avoid the gross Syntax of the Pronoun his joining with a Noun; as, The Emperor's Court, The General's Valour; not The Emperor his Court, &c. Many Monosyllables containing a Diphthong, never take s in the Plural Number, but only change their Diphthongs, retaining their last Consonant, or one of like force; as,

Mouse, Mice; Louse, Lice;
Goose, Geese; Foot, Feet;
Tooth, Teeth.
CHAPTER XIII  Of the Second Declension

1. bose, bosen [om.]
2. or wemen [om.]
3. or keene [om.]
4. for Bretheren, hath Brethren
5. Here the Genitive Plural (denoting the Possessor) is made by adding ’s unto the Absolute; as,
   Sing. \[Child\] Plur. \{Children, Children’s.

6. Exceptions from both Declensions. Some Nouns (according to the different Dialects of several Parts of the Country) have the Plural of both Declensions; as,
   House, Houses, and Housen.
   Eye, Eyes, and Eyen.
   Shoe, Shooes, and Shooen.

CHAPTER XV  Of Pronounes

1. As many Demonstratives ] The Demonstratives

CHAPTER XVI  Of a Verbe

1. z. or [om.]

CHAPTER XVII  Of the First Conjugation

1. Sayest, saist; would, wou’d should, shou’d; holpe, ho’pe
2. for ed, have d or t; as,
   Licked, lick’d; leaved, left,
   Gaped, gap’d; blushd, blusbd.
3. Some verbs ending in d, for avoiding the concourse of too many . . .
CHAPTER XVIII  Of the Second Conjugation

1. _Ea_ casteth away _a_, and maketh _e_ short
2. _shed_ [om.]
3. _shrede_ [om.]
4. but _helpe_ . . . Poëts [om.]
5. Secondly, Verbs that have _ee_, lose one; as
   Pr.    Feed
   Past.  Fed
   Par. pa. Fed
   Also _meet, breed, bleed, speed_
   Or change them into _o_; as, Pr. _Seeth_ . . .
6. Lastly, into _au_; as,

CHAPTER XIX  Of the Third Conjugation

1. _ay, y_ . . .
2. _flyne_ [om.]
3. This last Form cometh oftner than the three former; as,
   _snow, grow, throw, blow, crow_.
   Secondly, some Verbs in _ite_ or _ide_, lose _e_; as,
   { Pr. _Bite._
     Past.  _Bit._  
     Par. pa.  _Bit, or bitten_
   Likewise, _hide, quite make bid, quit._
   So _Shine, strive, thrive_, change _i_ into _o_ in the Time Past; as, _Shone, strove, throve._
   And, as _i_ severally frameth either _e_ or _o_; so may it jointly have them both.
   Pr.    _Rise._
   Past.  _Rise, or rose._
   Par. pa.  _Rise, or risen._
To this kind pertain, *smite, write, hide, ride, climb, drive, chi.de, stride, slide;* which make *smit, writ, bid, rid, climb, drive, chid, strid, slid;* or *smote, wrote, bode, rode, clomb, drave, chod, strid, slid.*

Thirdly, *i* is sometimes changed into the *Diphthongs* *ay* and *ou;* as

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pr.</th>
<th>Lie.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ay.</td>
<td>Past.</td>
<td>Lay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Par. pa.</td>
<td>Lien or lain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pr.</td>
<td>Find.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ou.</td>
<td>Past.</td>
<td>Found.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Par. pa.</td>
<td>Found.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

So, *bind, grind, wind, fight,* make *bound, ground, wound, fought.* Last of all . . . .

4. *e* 

5. *o*

CHAPTER XX  Of the Fourth Conjugation

1. Such are these words,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pr.</th>
<th>Will, wilt, will.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pa.</td>
<td>Would, wouldest, would.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fut.</td>
<td>Will, will.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The *Infinite Times* are not used.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pr.</th>
<th>Can, canst, can.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pa.</td>
<td><em>Cold, or could.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fut.</td>
<td>Shall, shalt, shall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pa.</td>
<td>Should.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*An old English word, for which now we commonly use shall.*
2. Reach . . . rought [om.]
3. climb, catch, &c.

CHAPTER XXI Of Adverbes
1. Of Quantity; Enough . . .
2. pertain all Adverbs
3. weeneth ] thinketh.
4. away birds

THE SECOND BOOKE
CHAPTER I Of Apostrophus
1. y'
2. thou'rt
3. t'

CHAPTER II Of the Syntaxe of one Noun with another
1. yee ] you
2. for, the Men of the Duke of Mysia
3. sake; i.e. for the sake of Righteousness
4. Prince Arthur's, Wife
5. stand i.e. Greater things, &c.
   The Verb is also often wanting.
6. Gentleness: Where, woll be won once express'd, serves for the three Parts of the Sentence.
7. our ] one

CHAPTER III Of the Syntaxe of a Pronoun with a Noun
1. Participle present, A, An have . . .
2. is fall
3. Religious House
4. nor of a wise
5. going before; the Relatives, which, self, and same . . .

CHAPTER III Of the Syntaxe of Adjectives
1. which should be before . . .
2. so to speak

CHAPTER V Of the Syntaxe of a Verb with a Noun
1. of a Verb

CHAPTER IX Of the Distinction of Sentences
1. The distinctions of an imperfect Sentence are two, a Comma, and a Semicolon.
2. A Comma is a mean breathing . . .
3. marked thus (,)
4. A Semicolon is a distinction of an imperfect Sentence . . .
5. the Sentence following is included; and is noted thus (;).
6. These Distinctions, as they best agree . . .

FINIS
N.B.

This reprint of Ben Jonson's *Grammar* is composed in the Poliphilus roman type, and the Blado italic. Complete alphabets of both types in the sizes at present cut 10, 13 and 16 point, 18 and 24-point roman capitals only, are added for the information of printers and publishers.

For the due composition of certain kinds of antiquarian printing, certain obsolete sorts and ligatures have been cut for the 16 point size. These are also added to the specimen alphabets which follow.

**THE TYPES**

10 point

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ÆŒQU Quq Qu& £ fi ff fi ffla st fi ffiffi

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ÆŒ&QUQu fiSfiffi&Bi! ffiffflffi

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzîece ., : ;!*"()[]—

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghifklmnopqrstuvwxyzcece ., : ;!"'

1234567890 i234$6j8go
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91
18 point

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
NOPQRSTUVWXYZ ÆŒ
1234567890

24 point

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
KLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
STUWXYZ

93
A SPECIMEN OF
THE POLIPHILUS & BLADO TYPES

13 point Poliphilus

The activities of Aldus as a scholar and a publisher have perhaps overshadowed his merit as a printer and we have contented ourselves with recognising the importance of his usage of the first italic, 1501. It should be noted however that from the time of his establishment as a printer until his death he never employed types which were immediately based on the Jenson model. Whether or not the Aldine letters are an improvement upon those of his illustrious predecessor is a matter of taste, but it will at least be agreed that they differ in such important respects as in the set and cut of serif. The type of this present announcement is a "Monotype" reproduction of the famous letter used in the Poliphilus of 1499, and it may be in place to emphasize its producer’s claim to credit for a design beautiful in itself and of greater influence than Jenson’s. To our eyes it possesses a much more “present day” feeling than is conveyed in the letters of the earlier master. It symbolises which it was used added to the prestige of the new letter. It was copied in France (either by Tory or Garamond or Henri Estienne, or by all three). In 1540 it made its reappearance in Venice cast from French punches with an added note of elegance which eventually carried the letter all over Italy and finally conquered the Jensonian model.

10 point Poliphilus

13 point Blado

indeed the great achievement of Aldus as a publisher. He wrought a remarkable change in publishing; he began by issuing very handsome folios in comparatively small editions like the Poliphilus which is practically the last example. The next year he determined to print octavos in small type, and to achieve a large circulation. The type of the Poliphilus equally marks a new epoch in typography. The fame of the publisher and of the work in

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JONSON, Ben, 1573?–1637.

The English grammar made by Ben Jonson.