

Shakespeare THE EVOLUTION OF Macbeth Juliet THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE Donne

English is by far the most important language in today's modern world. It has become vital in international relations: economics, science, technology and communications. It is spoken by millions of people while many millions more all over the world are trying to learn how to dominate this useful tool.

However, students of English encounter many strange and curious aspects about this language. Why is English the way it is? Why does English spelling have no relationship between writing and pronunciation? Why is its grammar so different? Why are some words easy to recognize while others are completely different? Do these words have the same origin? Clearly not.

This work focuses on answering these fascinating questions. The history of the British Isles is followed from prehistoric times, from the Celts and Romans to the Anglo-Saxons and Normans up to modern influences. From these unique historical circumstances comes a comparative study of Old English, Middle English and Modern English through diverse texts such as the Bible, *Beowulf*, Chaucer, Shakespeare and others where gradual changes in vocabulary, grammar and syntax are analysed as English evolves into the dynamic language it is today.

For this reason, if we want to better understand the processes, the origins, the singularities and peculiarities in the development of English, it is necessary to understand the language itself as a living thing in constant evolution.

