

PART 1

After you have answered the questions above, observe some additional data below.

Data B

Reconstructed IE	Germanic			late Common Ger. OE, Old Norse and Gothic
	pre-Verner	post-Verner		
*pot-/ *pet-/ *pt (L. <i>patere</i> 'be open')	*fáþmas	*fáþmaz	*fáþmaz	OE <i>fæþm</i> 'fathom', ON <i>faðmr</i>
*petrā, f. *pt- (Gr <i>pterón</i> , L <i>penna</i> 'wing')	*féþrō	*féþrō	*féþro	<i>feþer</i> 'feather', ON. <i>fjoðr</i>
*kosolos (L <i>corulus</i> 'nut')	*hásalas	*hásalaz	*hásalaz	OE <i>hæsel</i> 'hasel', ON. <i>hasl</i> (r lost)
?	*dáγas	*dáγaz	*dáγaz	OE <i>dæg</i> 'day', ON. <i>dagr</i> , Goth. <i>dags</i>
?	*wáyjas	*wáyjaz	*wáyjaz	OE <i>wecg</i> 'wedge', ON <i>weggr</i> (<óg> = ǣg)
*wegh- (L <i>vehĕre</i> 'pull, drag')	*wéγas	*weγaz	*wéγaz	OE <i>weg</i> 'way', ON <i>vegr</i> , Go <i>wigs</i>
*ped-	*féteras	*féteraz	*féteraz	OE <i>feter</i> 'bond, fetter', ON <i>fjoṭurr</i>
*porkos (L <i>porcus</i> 'pig', Gr <i>pórkos</i>)	*fárxas	*fárxaz	*fárxaz	OE <i>fearh</i> 'farrow, litter of pigs'
*ste- (Slavonic <i>stena</i> 'rock')	*stáinas	*stáinaz	*stáinaz	OE <i>stān</i> 'stone', ON <i>steinn</i> (< *steinr), Go <i>stáins</i>
?	*fáram	*fáram	*fára	OE <i>fær</i> 'fare, passage money', ON <i>far</i>
?	*hándum/-us	*hándum/-uz	*hándu/-uz	OE <i>hand</i> 'hand', ON <i>hǫnd</i> , Go <i>handus</i>
*dont-/ *dent-/ *dnt-	*tánþus/ *túnþus	*tánþuz/ *túnþuz	*tánþuz/ *túnþuz	OE <i>tōþ</i> , ON <i>tǫnn</i> , Go <i>tunþus</i>
?	*lándam	*lándam	*lánda	OE <i>land</i> 'land', ON <i>land</i> , Go <i>land</i>
?	*háuvuðam	*háuvuðam	*háuvuða	OE <i>hēafod</i> 'head', ON <i>haufuð</i> , Go <i>haubiþ</i> , MoG <i>Haupt</i> 'main'
*ker-	*xértōn	*xértōn	*xérto	OE <i>heorte</i> 'heart', ON <i>hjarta</i> , Go <i>haírtō</i>
? (L <i>lingua</i> < <i>dinguā</i>)	*túnġōn	*túnġōn	*túnġo	OE <i>tunge</i> 'tongue', ON <i>tunga</i> , Go <i>tuggō</i> (<gg> = ŋg)
*pātér	*fapér	*fáðēr	*fáðer	OE <i>fæder</i> 'father', ON <i>faðir</i> , Go <i>fadar</i> (intervocalic <d> = ð)

?	*dúmbas	*dúmbaz	*dúmbaz	OE dumb ‘mute’, ON dumbur, Go dumbas
?	*úfnam	*úfnam	*úfna	OE of(e)n ‘oven’, ON ofn, MoG Ofen o:fən
*népō(t)-	*néfōn	*néfōn	*néfo	OE nefa (MoE <i>nephew</i> nevju:), MoG Neffe nefa
	*béraiþ	*béraið	*béraið	OE bere ‘bear’, 3 rd pers. sing. pres. subj.’
	*bæriþ	*bærið	*bærið	OE bære ‘bear’, 3 rd pers. sing. past. subj.’
	*wŕþúnþ	*wŕðúnþ	*wúrðunþ	OE wurdon ‘become’ (cf. Part 1)
*ausón- (L auris < *ausis)	*ausón	*auzón	*áuzōn	OE ēare ‘ear’, ON eyra, OHG ôra (MoG Ohre)
*dhautós	*daupás	*dauðás	*dáuðas	OE dēad ‘dead’, ON dauðr, Go dauþs
*dháutus	*dáuþus	*dáuþuz	*dáuþuz	OE dēap ‘death’, ON dauðr, Go dauþus

Questions and problems

6. Observe the pre-Verner state of affairs in Common Germanic: based on the data which consonants can be found word-finally in this reconstructed state of the language (give a list)? What happened to these consonants in the post-Verner period? (do not take into account the attested data from the various languages!)
7. Concentrate now on the late Common Germanic period. Some of the consonants in the post-Verner period underwent further changes. List these consonants and explain what the change is. Can you reconstruct a further state intermediate between the loss of ***m** and ***n**? Why was the infinitive ***n** not lost? Assuming that everything was lost that ought to have been lost, which word-final consonants remained in late Common Germanic on the right edge of the word in this batch of data? Can you capture this class with a feature, i.e. is this a natural class that remained?
8. Try to reformulate Verner’s Law in view of Data B. Which phonological feature does the rule have to make reference to for it to ‘work’ properly? Conflate Data A and B now: which consonants were affected (list them) and in what way (i.e. which feature of theirs changed)?
9. How can you account for the defective distribution of affected consonants in Data B (only a subclass of the ones encountered in Data A can occur)? Try to account for this defectiveness of distribution in terms of features (which class of consonants is missing; this seems to be a legacy of Indo-European), i.e. which consonants are allowed word-finally?

10. Go back to Data B and compare the various forms of *bear* and *become*: what happened to CGer δ and in which position (as shown by OE)?
11. There is a change characteristic of the North-West Germanic division and is not found in the Eastern branch, Gothic:⁴ observe the ON data for a start. What happened to late Common Germanic *z and what is the name of this process? What happened to this word-final consonant in West-Germanic (as witnessed by OE)? Comment of the underlined consonant in OE word *fader* from this perspective: what is problematic about it and how can you explain it away?
12. Look again at the following data and the highlighted fricatives.

*dhautós	*daupás	*dauðás	*dáuðas	OE <i>dēad</i> ‘dead’, ON <i>dauðr</i> , Go <i>daups</i>
*dháutus	*dáuþuz	*dáuþuz	*dáuþuz	OE <i>dēap</i> ‘death’, ON <i>dauðr</i> , Go <i>daupus</i>

Compare *dáuðas/*dáuþuz to ON *dauðr*. What is the problem here? How can you explain that both *dáuðas/*dáuþuz come down as ON *dauðr*? (this is not because δ voiced s to z in ON; the problem lies in Germanic). What would expect *dáuðas to have yielded in ON?

13. Compare the four principal parts of the strong verb ‘choose’ in Gothic to the same OE verb (go back to Data A): *kiusan*, *kaus*, *kusum*, *kusans*. Should Verner’s Law have an impact on all the Germanic language? How can you explain that Gothic seems to contradict this (the explanation is not a phonological one)? What should the expected four forms of ‘choose’ be in Gothic?
14. Go to Data A and B again. There is a further change affecting CGerm *ð. What are the dialectal extensions of this change (East, West, North Germanic; use the ON word for ‘father’ for comparison)?
15. Observe carefully the pronunciation of the various OE strong verbs in Data A and those data in Data B. What is the conditioning factor determining the pronunciation of the fricatives? What are the two possible variants for a given class of fricatives? (Set up a natural class whose pronunciation depends on the environment)
16. If you compare the distribution of fricatives in early (post-Verner) and late (post-stress shift) Common Germanic to that of OE what is the crucial difference between the two distributions? In which language was the pronunciation of fricatives unpredictable? Which rule is responsible for the altered state of affairs in OE?
17. How can you explain OE *tēon*? In a certain respect the distribution of h in OE starts to resemble the one encountered in MoE. The parallel is not perfect, however; explain the difference (and similarity) between the two languages as regards the distribution of this segment.

⁴ There is also some external justification for the postulation of this North-Western Germanic change affecting *z. Consider the following data: IE **peldis/-os* > Common Germanic **feltiz/-az* > North-Western Germanic **feltir*/**filtir* > OE *felt* ‘felt = stuff of wool woven into a thick substance’, MoG *filz* (cf. Hu *filc*). The Western Germanic word was borrowed into mediaeval Latin as *filtrum* which gives Old French *filtre* (a variant of which is OF *feltre* > MoFr *feutre*) which was borrowed into ME. So, *felt* and *filter* are cognates and doublets.

18. Compare the distribution of fricatives in Common Germanic, OE and Modern English. With respect to the distribution of fricatives which language is more like the other (and why): Common Germanic and OE, OE or MoE or Common Germanic and MoE?
19. Recall the distribution of fricatives in OE. This regularity predicts that in a certain position MoE should be unable to have voiced fricatives: which position is this? This diachronic expectation is not borne out, however; which fricatives can occur in a diachronically ‘unjustified’ position and from which source?
20. Based on what you have concluded on the workings of Verner’s Law, determine the place of stress in the following endings of IE origin in Common Germanic:
1. genitive singular of a-stem nouns: ***oso** (> OE -es > MoE ’s)
 2. present indicative singular 2nd person: ***isi** (eg *dēmst* < *dēmis(t)*)
 3. present indicative singular 3rd person: ***ipi** (e.g. *dēmþ* < *dēmiþ*)
 4. present indicative plural 3rd person: ***anþi** (e.g. *dēmaph*)
21. Based on what you have concluded on the distribution of fricatives in OE fill in the missing three forms of the following OE ‘strong’ verbs (based on the verbs in Data A, you can supply the missing vowels; if the vowel is unpredictable on the basis of the presented data it is also supplied for you). All verbs originally contain an intervocalic consonant (CVCV).

INF	PRET SG	PRET PL	PAST PPL
1. glīdan ‘glide’			
2. sćrīfan ‘decree’			
3. wrēon ‘cover’			
4. sēoþan ‘seethe, boil’			
5. rēocan ‘smoke’			
6. sćēotan ‘shoot’			
7. flēon ‘flee’			
8. cweþan ‘say’	æ	ǣ	e
9. wesān ‘be’	æ	ǣ	-
10. lēān ‘blame’	ō		
11. slēān ‘slay’	ō	ō	a

23. On the basis of what you have discovered give the place of stress (with an acute mark over the appropriate vowel) in the following words in Common Germanic and determine their late Common Germanic forms (after Verner’s Law had applied and stress shift and the loss of the appropriate consonants). You will have to start with the OE data (and work backwards remembering all the developments. The first one has been supplied for you.

1. IE ***stātis** > pre-Verner ***stap̄is** > post-Verner (+ stress shift) ***stād̄iz** > late Common Germanic ***stað̄i** > OE **stede** ‘place’ (cf. *instead*; MoG *Stadt*).
2. IE ***dheusom** > ***deusam** > > > OE **dēor** ‘deer, antler’
3. Common Germanic ***skaiþis** > > > OE **scāþ** ‘sheath = case for a blade’
4. IE ***letrom** > ***leþram** > > > OE **leþer** ‘leather’

5. IE *wedhrom > *weðram > > > OE *weder* ‘weather’
6. IE *bhrāter > *brōþar > > > OE *brōþor* ‘brother’
7. Common Germanic *broþam > > > OE *broþ* ‘broth’
8. IE *māter > *mōþer > > > OE *mōdor* ‘mother’

24. MoE *drive* corresponds to MoG *treiben* ‘do, act’. Find this Common Germanic word in Data A and compare it to the Germanic words in Data B for MoG *Neffe*, *Ofen* (Data B) and *heben* (Data A). Based on this MoG **b** can only stem from which Common Germanic source?

25. You are presented below with a number of words from IE and their direct descendants in a number of related languages. Your task is to discuss the possible placing of stress in IE and its more conservative daughter languages (e.g. Greek and Sanskrit). Of course, the original place of stress (for our purposes) can only be recovered from the Germanic data. So, first compare the Germanic forms to their IE counterparts (you will have to remember all of the rules you have discussed above!) and then assume that very early Germanic in fact continues the IE place of stress, which then is reflected in Sanskrit and Greek (in its IE form).

So: SHOW stress with an acute mark over the vowel for IE and (if required) for Sanskrit/Greek. In some examples, you will have no chance of deciphering the place of original stress because the Germanic languages will have no proof for this (in such cases, explain *why* you cannot decide).

- a) IE **mizdho-* ‘pay’ > Gr *misthos* (μισθος), OE *mēd* (**z** lost with compensatory lengthening), OHG *mieta* (MoG *Miete*)
- b) IE **medhu-* ‘honey-wine’ > Gr *methu* (μεθυ), OE *medu* ‘mead, honey-wine’, OHG *metu* (MoG *Met*)
- c) IE **mṛ̥tis-* ‘thought’ > Sanskrit *matis*, Gothic *ga-munds* ‘memory’, OE *gemynd*, OHG *gimunt*
- d) IE **yuw̥n̥kos* ‘young animal’ > Gothic *juggs* (< **juwungas*) (NB: gg = ƿgg), OE *geong* (MoE *young*), MoG. *jung*
- e) IE *(s)*uper(i)* ‘over’ > Sanskrit *upari*, Gr *huper* (ὑπερ), L *super*, OE *ofer*, OHG *uber* (MoG *über*)

26. Look again at the CGerm personal ending *-anþi* and its OE reflex *-ap*. By now it should be obvious why CGerm ‘thorn’ is still <þ> in OE. What happened to **n**? Can you find similar examples for this loss? Why is it *-ap* rather than *-āþ*?

27. Observe the Gothic word *fadar* ‘father’ with intervocalic <d> pronounced ð (you may want to compare it to the various forms for ‘choose’ (*kisan*, *kaus*, *kusum*, *kusans*): does *fadar*, after all, show the effects of Verner’s Law? How is this possible?