

Linguistics module

Topic 2 Historical Linguistics

Topic Overview: In this topic students are introduced to the history and development of languages. The topic looks at language groupings and how languages change over time.

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| Key Skills | Being Creative Communicating Managing Information and Thinking Working with Others Problem-solving |
| Expected time | Two hours (not including extra resources) |
| Self-assessment (check with students at the end of the topic) | I can name the branches of the Proto Indo European Language tree I can list common languages that are related to each other I can find patterns in words and deduce which languages are related to each other I can explain why and how language change occurs I can pick out some similarities and differences across Old, Middle and Modern English |

Task 2.1 Description: Students learn about the origin of common European languages and the various branches of the Proto Indo-European language tree

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| Learning Intentions | Students will be familiar with the Proto Indo-European Language tree and its various language branches. Students will be able to recognise which languages belong to the same language family tree Students will be able to use the comparative method to find similarities in words across different but related languages |
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| Resources | <p>Intro to Historical Linguistics PowerPoint</p> <p>Worksheet 2.1 Common words in Proto Indo European (PIE) Languages and Solution</p> <p>Worksheet 2.1.1 Indo European Language Family Worksheet and Solution</p> |
| Task Outline | <p>Pre Activity – Students are asked to consider a few questions about languages and answer them individually/in pairs.</p> <p>Teacher shares a PPT with students introducing the topic.</p> <p>Main Activity 1 – Worksheet 2.1 (Common Words in PIE Languages)</p> <p>Main Activity 2 – Worksheet 2.1.1 (Indo-European Language Families)</p> |

Task 2.2 Description: Students learn about language change and how the English language has developed

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| Learning Intentions | <p>Students will be able to explain why and how language change occurs.</p> <p>Students will be able to recognise the development of the English language from Old, Middle and Modern times.</p> <p>Students will be able to pick out words that are the same or similar across Old, Middle and Modern English.</p> |
| Resources | <p>PPT Intro to Historical Linguistics (continuation)</p> <p>Worksheet 2.2 Lord's Prayer in Old, Middle and Modern English text</p> <p>YouTube clips of the Lord's Prayer in Old and Middle English and others e.g Beowulf and the Canterbury Tales (in the slides)</p> |
| Task Outline | <p>Pre-Task - Give students a few questions or words about the English language</p> <p>Main Activity 1 - Play the YouTube clip with Old English / Bewulf and ask students to note down what they think it sounds like and what they think it is of. (Only play audio, don't show the video). 2nd clip of the Canterbury Tales for an example of Middle English.</p> |

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Main Activity 2- Show them the Lord's Prayer in Old, Middle and Modern English (Worksheet 2.2) and students answer the questions there.

Task 2.3 Description: The students will analyse an AILO text with Old English.

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| Learning Intentions | Students will be able to pick out pronouns in Old English Students will be able to note the differences from Old English to modern English |
| Resources | Student Puzzle: Ye Olde English puzzle (and solution) All puzzles mentioned in this module are at: https://ailo.adaptcentre.ie/tymodpuzzles/ |
| Task Outline | This task can be completed in pairs in class. Students are given this All Ireland Linguistics Olympiad (AILO) puzzle on Old English. They must work out how the sentence structure in Old English works, in particular with the use of pronouns. |

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| Extra Resources | <p>Indo European Language Families Quizlet study set on Historical Linguistics – self study/learning/activities. TYLinguistics PIE</p> <p>Quizlet live for group work and AFL (Go to www.quizlet.com, and search for tylinguistics)</p> <p>Kahoot Quiz - Historical Linguistics Kahoot</p> <p>Duolingo App - free to download on Apple/Android. Lots of languages from the languages covered in this lesson.</p> <p>Liberation Philology - https://www.libphil.ca/old-norse.php Download the app for a small fee. Languages includes ancient languages e.g Old Norse, Sanskrit and modern languages e.g Welsh</p> <p>We encourage every school and student to take part in the 2022/23 All Ireland Linguistics Olympiad (AILO). The preliminary round is held in your own school at the end of January with the National Final in Dublin City University in March 2023. Register at https://ailo.adaptcentre.ie/enter/ and try other puzzles at https://ailo.adaptcentre.ie/puzzles/.</p> |
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