**Early Modern English Worksheet II**

**I. Adjectives and Adverbs**

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The loss of the adjective endings caused them to disappear.

**2.**

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lovely, kind, frank

**3.**

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fine, free, just

**4.**

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In many of Shakespeare’s works he uses adverbs without -ly.

**II. Prepositions**

As the inflection of English nouns disappeared, prepositions became more important as grammatical signals and their number increased.

1. Prepositions have been created from phrases (e.g., *because of* from *by cause of*), adapted from inflectional forms (e.g., *during* from the archaic *to dure*), or borrowed from other languages (e.g., *per* from Latin). Consult a dictionary and describe the origin of the following prepositions. The first preposition’s origin is given as an example.

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| --- | --- |
| amidst | > ME amide + es > OE on midden ‘in the middle’ (Tip: Read the answer as: from ME amide + es, which was from OE on midden, meaning ‘in the middle’) |
| among | OE gemang meaning ‘assemblage or mingling’ |
| between |  OE betweonum from a Germanic word related to ‘two’ |
| despite | latin despectus meaning ‘looking down on’ |
| down | OE adune meaning ‘downward’ |
| Instead of | ME in stead originally two words |
| near | OE nearer meaning ‘close by’ |
| past | OE passed meaning ‘done with, over, existing no more’ |
| pending | French pendant meaning ‘hanging’ |
| plus | latin plus meaning ‘more’ |
| since | OE synnes meaning ‘after’ |
| via | latin via meaning ‘by way of’ |

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1. The idiomatic/agreed upon use prepositions has changed somewhat since the early Modern period. What expressions would current English prefer in place of the italicized prepositions in the following quotations?

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|  | where |
|  | with |
|  | also |

**III. Subject and Complements**

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| Omission of the subject in a main clause when it can be predicted from the context. Rarely used in PDE except in special styles, such as that appropriate to short messages or as in this sentence.  |
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| omission of conjunction. In PDE we would say ‘the watchman sat there on horseback *and* spoke’. |
|  |
| word order with putting the subject first and adding an extra pronoun that is not needed in PDE. in PDE we would say ‘what is the heavy sound’. |
|  |
| including the subjects’ names and a pronoun. In PDE we would say ‘they fasted’ and omit the names of Moses and Elias. |
|  |
| unneeded pronoun. In PDE we would say ‘she went out to play’. |