



Verb Recognition & Classification

M&R §§131–134

Recognizing person

weak¹ *fremman*

ic fremme

þū fremest

hē fremep

wē fremmap

ic fremede

þū fremedest

hē fremede

wē fremedon

fremed

strong¹ *wrītan*

ic wrīte

þū wrītest

hē wrīteþ

wē wrītaþ

ic wrāt

þū write

hē wrāt

wē writon

writen

...and use the subject!

Recognizing number

weak¹ *fremman*

ic fremme

þū fremest

hē fremep

wē fremmap

ic fremede

þū fremedest

hē fremede

wē fremedon

fremed

strong¹ *writan*

ic wriete

þū writest

hē wrietep

wē writap

ic wrāt

þū write

hē wrāt

wē writon

writen

subjunctive: singular *-e*, plural *-en*

...and **use the subject!**

Recognizing tense

weak¹ *fremman*

ic fremme

þū fremest

hē fremep

wē fremmaþ

ic fremede

þū fremedest

hē fremede

wē fremedon

fremed

strong¹ *wrītan*

ic wrīte

þū wrītest

hē wrīteþ

wē wrītaþ

ic wrāt

þū write

hē wrāt

wē writon

writen

...and memorize which verbs are **preterite-present**,
as these will have *-on* for plurals of either tense.

Recognizing verb category and class

- from the infinitive:
 - *-rian* nearly always weak¹
 - *-ian* always weak²
 - *-an*: if recognition symbols are present, usually strong; else weak^{1/3} (for exceptions, see M&R §133)
- from any preterite/past participle:
 - *-d-* or *-t-* following the stem weak (or preterite-present); strong or irregular if absent
- from any strong preterite or past participle:
 - reconstruct using vowel gradation

Anomalies

- preterite-present verbs:
 - *-on* in present as well as preterite plural
- weak presents:
 - impossible to reconstruct infinitive from preterite
 - impossible to recognize verb class from infinitive
- irregulars generally:
 - sometimes 2sg ends in *-Ct*, not *-st*

Parsing preterites

- Sume men wæron þe **sægdon** þæt hine wulfas ābiton and fræton.
- Ualentiniānus **ofslōh** Maximum and **feng** tō rice.
- Þū **alȳsdest** þīne sāwla mid þære mynegunge.
- Wē **budon** ðē þæs þe wē sylfe brūcað.
- Wel þū **cwæde**.
- Ic **mærsode** ðē ofer eorðan.
- Ic **geseah** mīnes folces geswinc on Ēgypta lande, and heora hrēam ic **gehȳrde**.