

# PRONOUNS

# Groups

- ▣ Personal
- ▣ Demonstrative
- ▣ Interrogative
- ▣ Indefinite

# Morphological categories

- Person
- Number (singular, dual and plural)
- Case
- Gender (in the 3rd person singular)

Personal pronouns of the 1st person followed a suppletive paradigm

(in Russian and Latin:

я-меня, ego- mihi)

# Declension of Personal Pronouns in OE

PERSON	CASE / NUMBER	SINGULAR			DUAL	PLURAL
1 <sup>st</sup>	Nom.	ic			wit	wē
	Gen.	mīn			uncer	ūre, ūser
	Dat.	mē			unc	ūs
	Acc.	mec, mē			uncit	ūsic, ūs
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nom.	þū			ʒit	ʒē
	Gen.	þin			incer	ēower
	Dat.	þē			inc	ēow
	Acc.	þēc, þē			incit, inc	ēowic, ēow
		SINGULAR			PLURAL	
3 <sup>rd</sup>		M	F	N	ALL GENDERS	
	Nom.	hē	hēo, hīo	hit	hīe, hī hȳ, hēo	
	Gen.	his	hire, hierē	his	hire, heora, hiera, hyra	
	Dat.	him	hire, hierē	him	him, heom	
	Acc.	hine	hīe, hī, hȳ	hit	hīe, hī, hȳ, hēo	

# Personal Pronouns in ME and NE

PERSON	CASE	ME			Early NE		
		SINGULAR		PLURAL	SINGULAR	PLURAL	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Nom.	Ich/I			we	I	we
	Obj.	me			us	me	us
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nom.	thou/thow			ye	thow/ye	you/ ye
	Obj.	thee			you	thee/you	you
3 <sup>rd</sup>		M	F	N		M F N	
	Nom.	he	he/she	hit/it	hie/they	he she it	they
	Obj.	him	hire/her e	hit/it	hem/them	him her it	them

# Demonstrative Pronouns in OE

CASE	SINGULAR			PLURAL
	M	F	N	
Nom.	sē, se	sēo	þæt	þā
Gen.	þæs	þære	þæs	þāra, þæra
Dat,	þæm, þām	þære	þæm, þām	þām, þæm
Acc.	þone	þā	þæt	þā
Instr.	þȳ, þon	þære	þy, þon	þæm, þām

# Demonstrative Pronouns in ME and NE

Middle English		New English	
<b>SINGULAR</b>	<b>PLURAL</b>	<b>SINGULAR</b>	<b>PLURAL</b>
that	tho/thos	that	those
<b>The definite article the</b>			
this	thise / thes(e)	this	these

# Indefinite and Negative Pronouns

- Simple pronouns - 'sum' (NE 'some'), 'an' and 'āniz' (NE 'one, any'); 'nān' (NE 'none'); 'æPer' (NE 'any of two'); 'zehwa' (NE 'every')
- Compound pronouns - adding the noun 'ping' to simple pronouns: 'nānpin3' (NE 'nothing')
- 'āniz' - in interrogative, negative, and conditional sentences
- 'sum' - in affirmative sentences



# Interrogative Pronouns

- ▣ 'hwā' (Masc. and Fem.) - NE 'who'
- ▣ 'hwæt' (Neut.) - NE 'what'
- ▣ 'hwylc' - NE 'which'
- ▣ the Instrumental case of 'hwæt' - 'hwỹ' (NE 'why')

# Possessive Pronouns

Developed from the Genitive case of personal pronouns: *mīn*, *þīn*, *his*, *hire*, *ēower*

Person	ME		Early NE	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>myn(e)/my</i>	<i>our(e) / ours</i>	<i>my/mine</i>	<i>our, ours</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>thyn(e) / thy</i>	<i>your(e) / yours</i>	<i>thy / your / thine</i> <i>yours</i>	<i>your / yours</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>M F N</i> <i>his her(e)</i>	<i>his her(e) / their(e)</i>	<i>M F N</i> <i>his her his/its</i> <i>his hers his/its</i>	<i>their / theirs</i>

# Relative Pronouns

- ▣ **þāt**
- ▣ **sē, þāt, seo, sǣ**
- ▣ **that**
- ▣ **which**
- ▣ **whom and whose**
- ▣ **who**