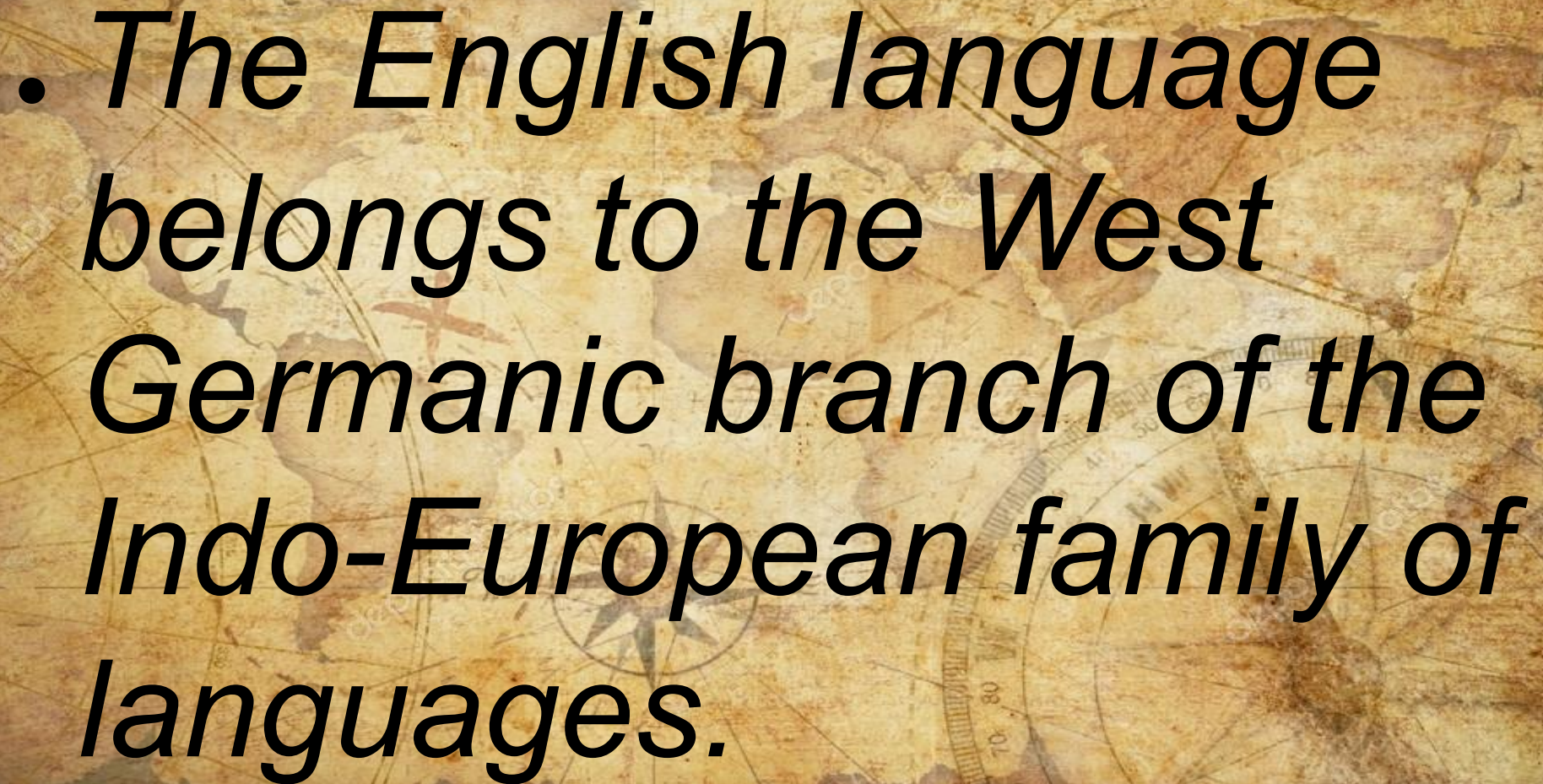


A paperclip is positioned at the top center of a rectangular piece of paper. The paper is surrounded by other pieces of aged, yellowed paper with faint, illegible handwritten text. The background is a textured, brownish surface.

*PERIODS OF
THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE*

- 
- *The English language belongs to the West Germanic branch of the Indo-European family of languages.*

• **The history of the English language has traditionally been divided into three main periods:**

• *Old English (450-1100 AD)*

• *Middle English (1100-circa 1500 AD)*

• *Modern English (since 1500)*

OLD ENGLISH

- *The invading Germanic tribes spoke similar languages, which in Britain developed into what we now call Old English.*
- *Old English did not sound or look like English today. Native English speakers now would have great difficulty understanding Old English.*
- *But, about half of the most commonly used words in Modern English have Old English roots. For example, the words be, strong, water derive from Old English.*

~~MIDDLE ENGLISH~~

In 1066 William the Conqueror, conquered England. The new conquerors and French words were added. It was the language of great poet still be difficult for native English

the Duke of Normandy, invaded and brought with them a kind of French. This language called Middle English. Chaucer(1340-1400), but it would speakers to understand today.

EARLY MODERN ENGLISH

Towards the end of Middle English, a sudden and distinct change in pronunciation started, with vowels being pronounced shorter and shorter.

From the 16th century the British had contact with many peoples from around the world.

This meant that many new words and phrases entered the language. Spelling and grammar became

fixed, and dialect of London became the standard.

In 1604 the first English dictionary was published.

JESUS CHRIST

ARGUMENTS

OBSERVATIONS

At the End of every CHAPTER.

COMPILED BY

THE REV. MR. OSTERVOLD, PASTOR of 'DORSETT,' and one of the Ministers of
THE CHURCH of 'NICHOLAS' in BRISTOL.

TRANSLATED BY THE DEBTS OF, AND RECOMMENDED BY
THE SOCIETY FOR PROPAGATING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

MANCHESTER:
PRINTED AND SOLD BY G. SWISSELLS 1774.

LATE MODERN ENGLISH

The main difference between Early Modern English and Late English is vocabulary.

Late Modern English has many more words, arising from two principal factors:

firstly, the Industrial Revolution and technology created a need for new words;

secondly, the British Empire at its height covered one quarter of the earth's surface and the English

language adopted foreign words from many countries.

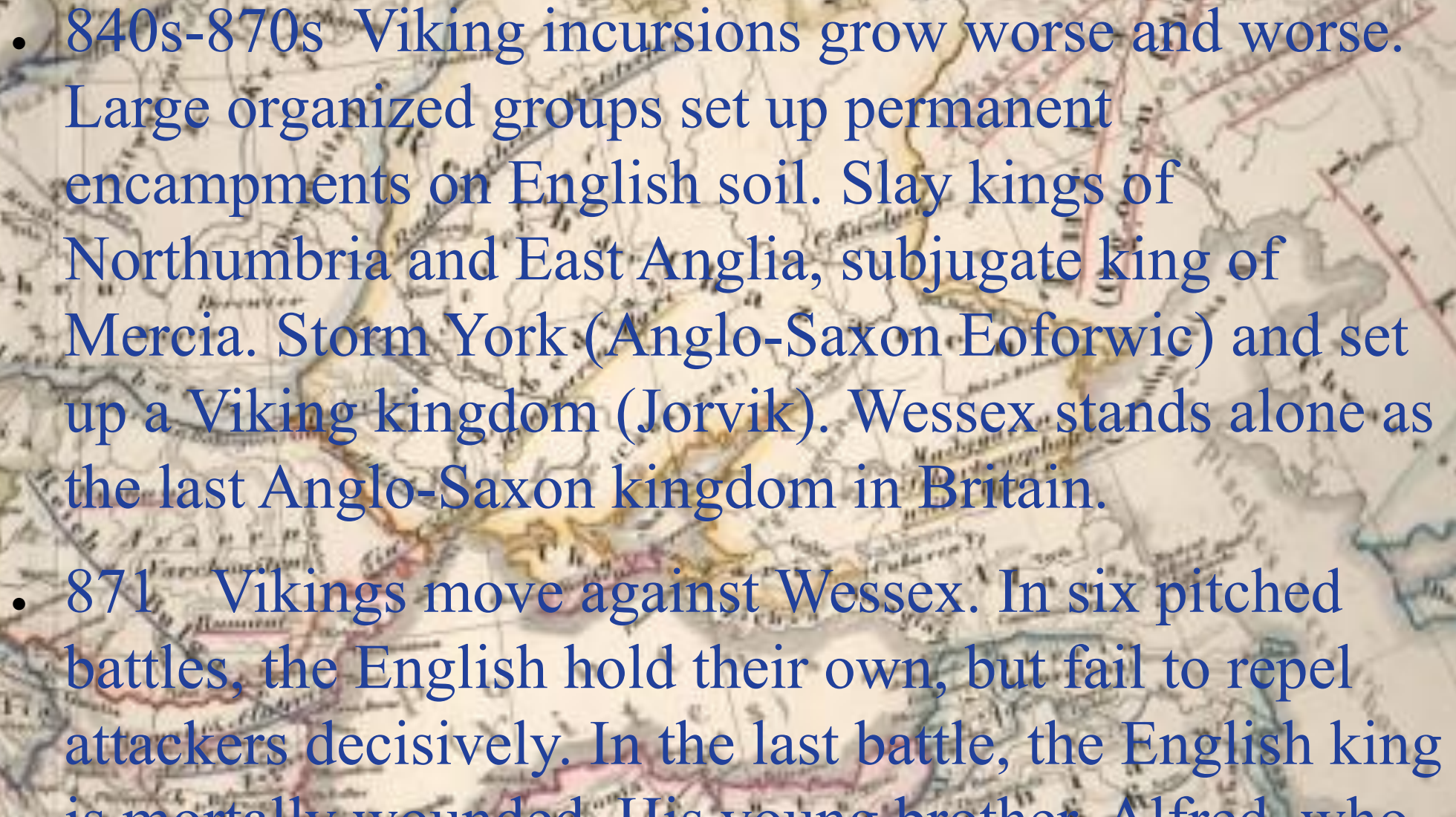
. CHRONOLOGY OF ENGLISH PERIODS

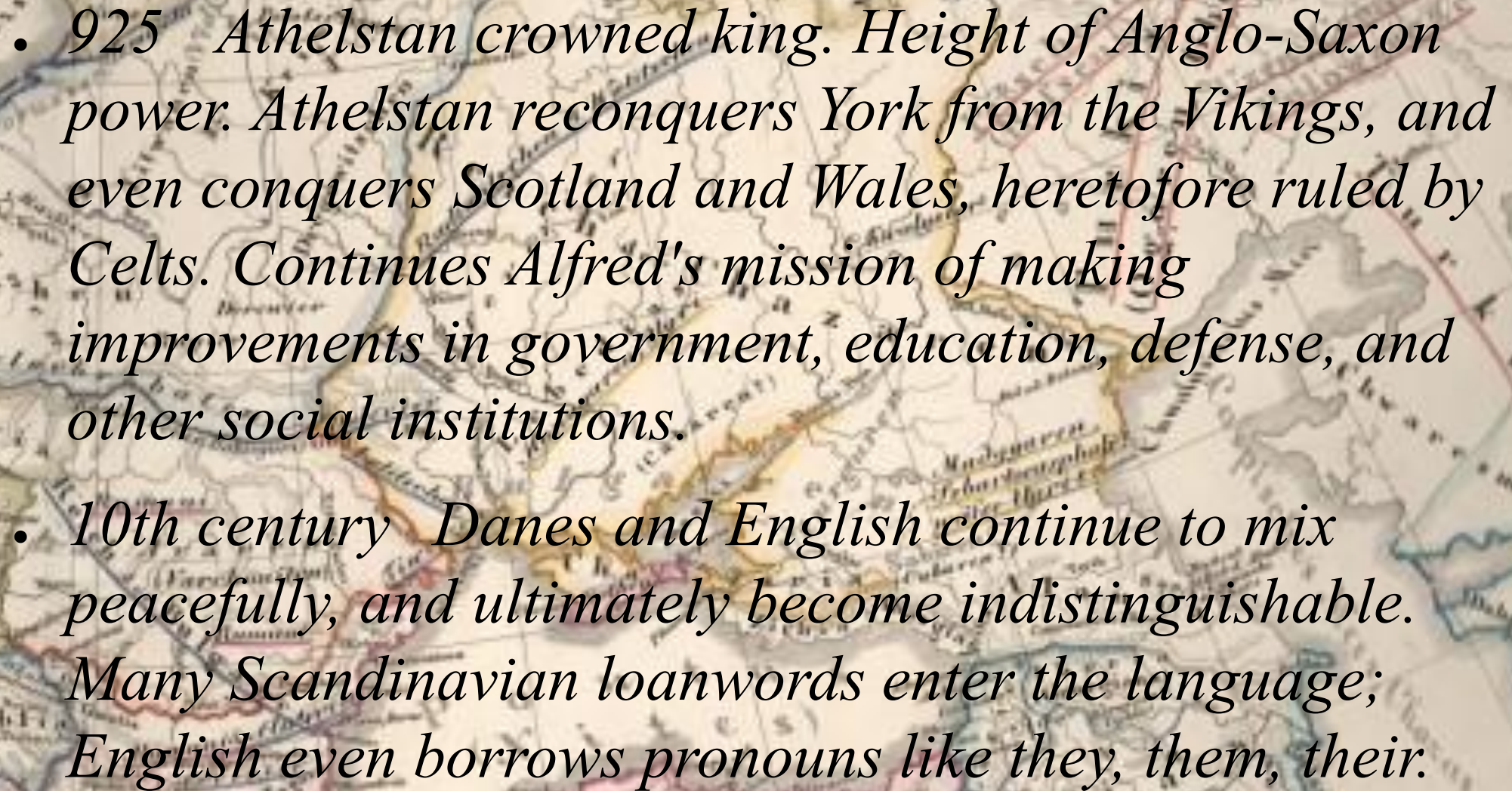


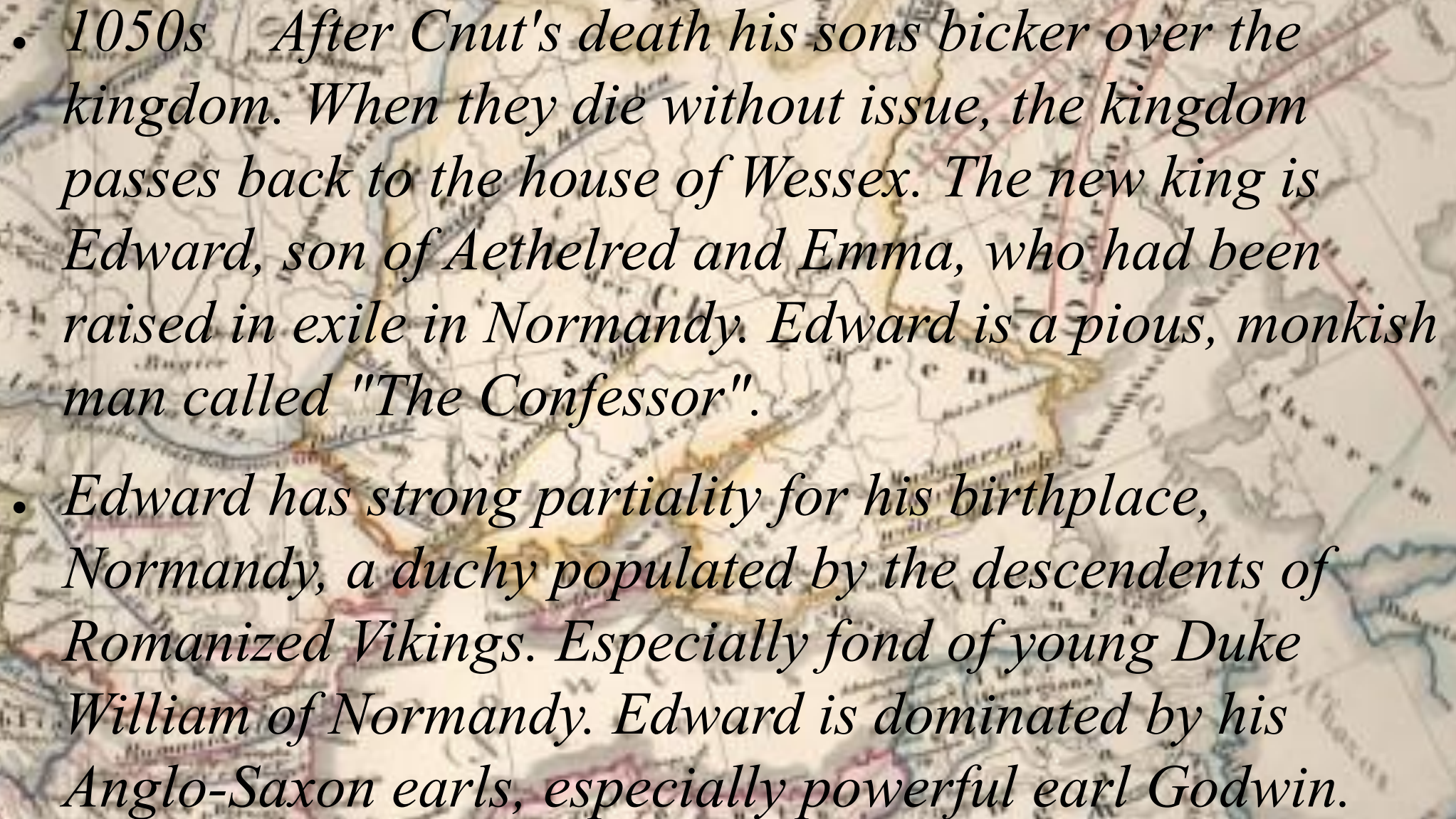


- **THE OLD ENGLISH, OR ANGLO-SAXON PERIOD**
(600-1100)

- *ca. 600 Christianity introduced among Anglo-Saxons by St. Augustine, missionary from Rome. Irish missionaries also spread Celtic form of Christianity to mainland Britain.*
- *600-800 Rise of three great kingdoms politically unifying large areas: Northumbria, Mercia, Wessex. Supremacy passes from one kingdom to another in that order*

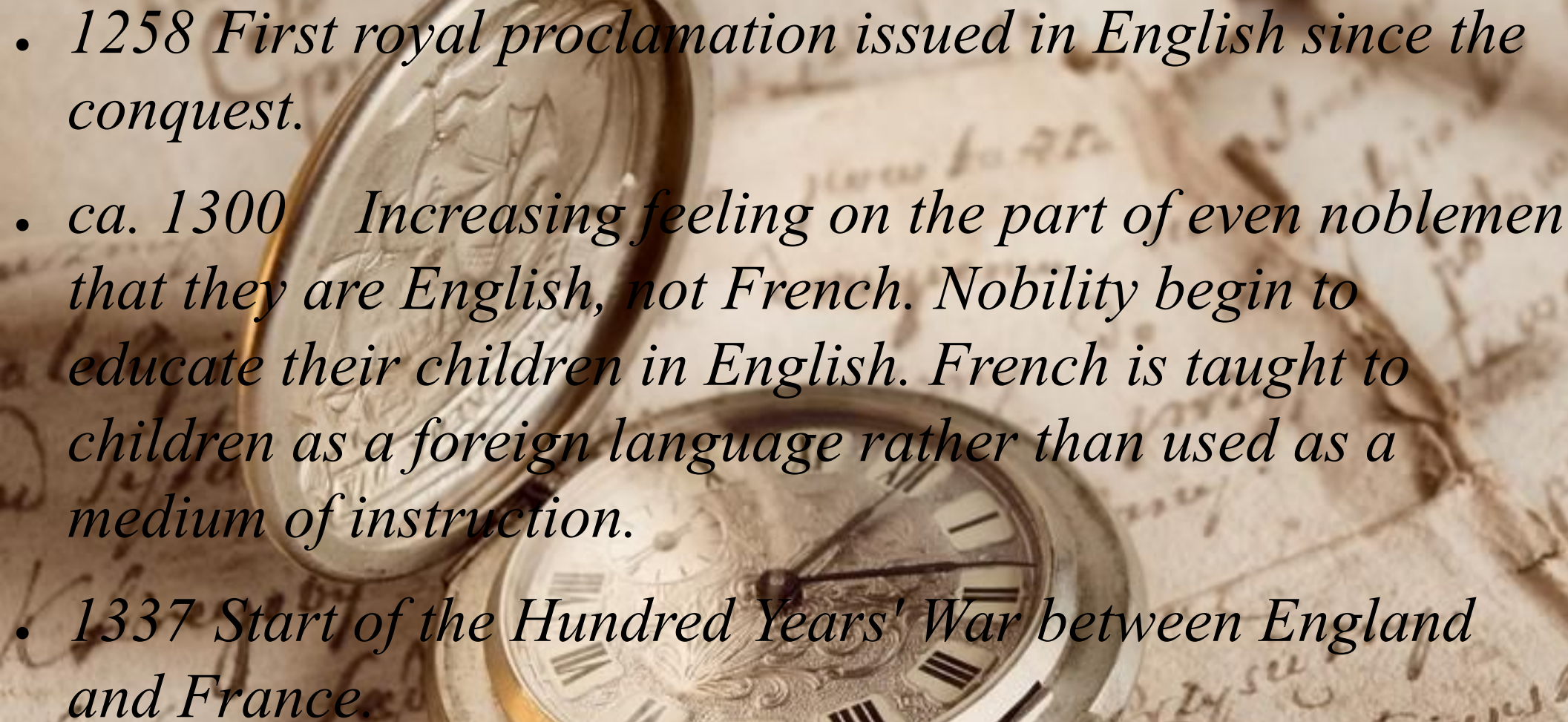
- 
- 840s-870s Viking incursions grow worse and worse. Large organized groups set up permanent encampments on English soil. Slay kings of Northumbria and East Anglia, subjugate king of Mercia. Storm York (Anglo-Saxon Eoforwic) and set up a Viking kingdom (Jorvik). Wessex stands alone as the last Anglo-Saxon kingdom in Britain.
 - 871 Vikings move against Wessex. In six pitched battles, the English hold their own, but fail to repel attackers decisively. In the last battle, the English king is mortally wounded. His young brother Alfred, who

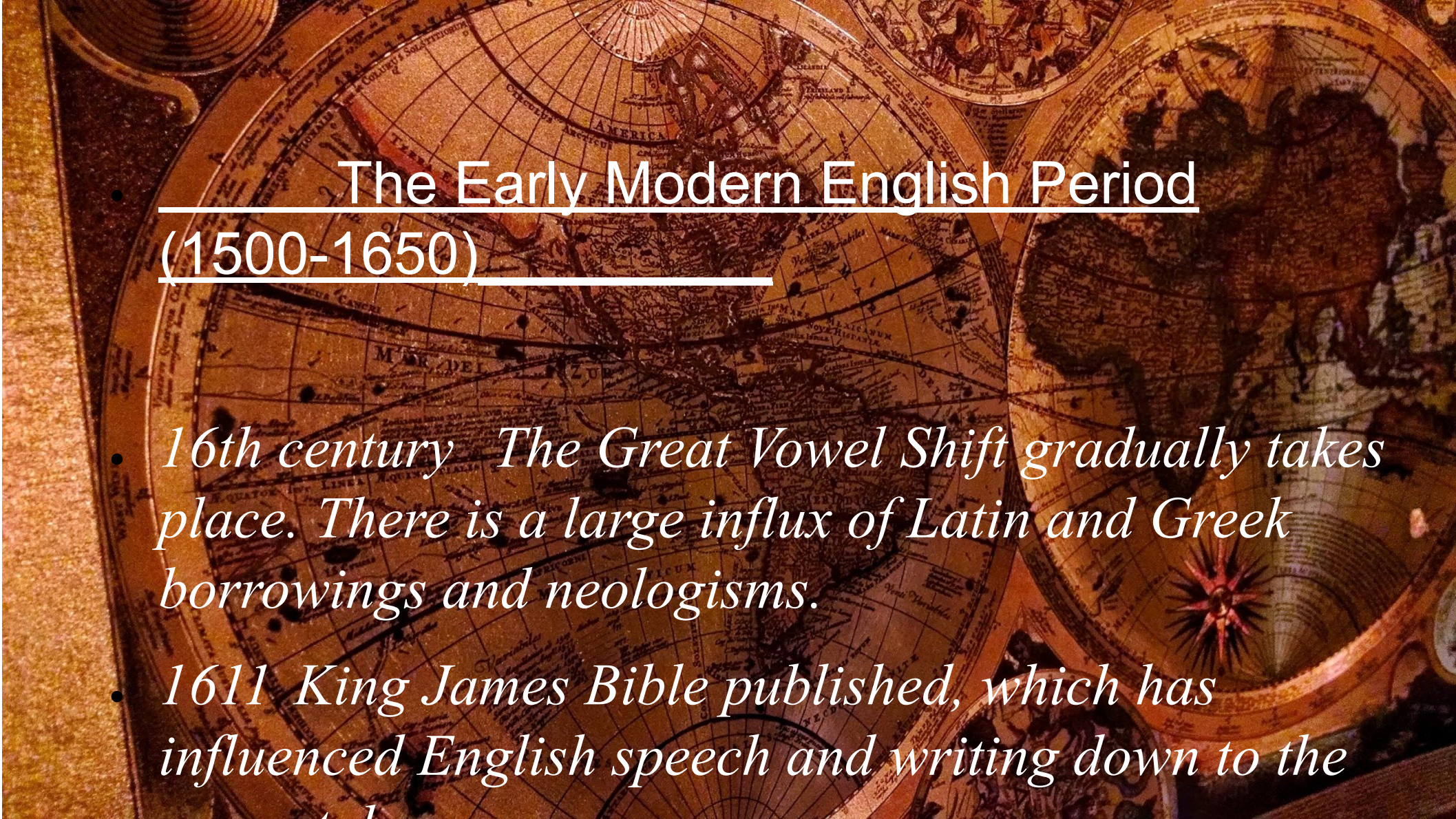
- 
- A background map of the British Isles, showing the outlines of Great Britain and Ireland. The map is in a historical style with various colors and labels, though the text is the primary focus.
- *925 Athelstan crowned king. Height of Anglo-Saxon power. Athelstan reconquers York from the Vikings, and even conquers Scotland and Wales, heretofore ruled by Celts. Continues Alfred's mission of making improvements in government, education, defense, and other social institutions.*
 - *10th century Danes and English continue to mix peacefully, and ultimately become indistinguishable. Many Scandinavian loanwords enter the language; English even borrows pronouns like they, them, their.*

- 
- A background map of medieval Europe, showing various kingdoms, rivers, and coastlines. The map is in a sepia or aged tone, with some areas highlighted in yellow and red. The text is overlaid on this map.
- *1050s After Cnut's death his sons bicker over the kingdom. When they die without issue, the kingdom passes back to the house of Wessex. The new king is Edward, son of Aethelred and Emma, who had been raised in exile in Normandy. Edward is a pious, monkish man called "The Confessor".*
 - *Edward has strong partiality for his birthplace, Normandy, a duchy populated by the descendents of Romanized Vikings. Especially fond of young Duke William of Normandy. Edward is dominated by his Anglo-Saxon earls, especially powerful earl Godwin.*

• THE MIDDLE ENGLISH PERIOD (1100-1500)

- 1066-1075 William crushes uprisings of Anglo-Saxon earls and peasants with a brutal hand; in Mercia and Northumberland, uses (literal) scorched earth policy, decimating population and laying waste the countryside. Anglo-Saxon earls and freemen deprived of property; many enslaved. William distributes property and titles to Normans (and some English)*

- 
- *1258 First royal proclamation issued in English since the conquest.*
 - *ca. 1300 Increasing feeling on the part of even noblemen that they are English, not French. Nobility begin to educate their children in English. French is taught to children as a foreign language rather than used as a medium of instruction.*
 - *1337 Start of the Hundred Years' War between England and France.*

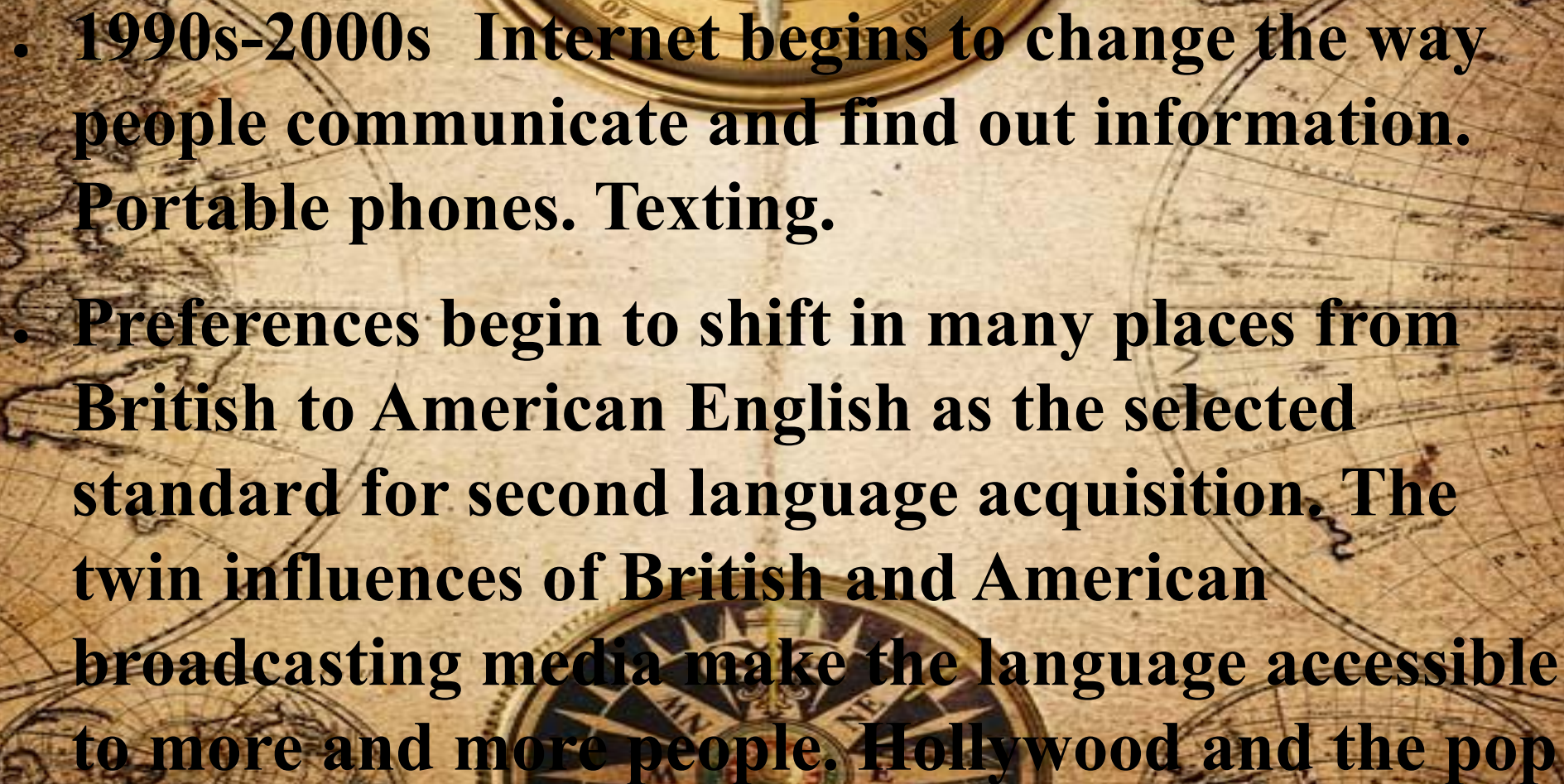


The Early Modern English Period (1500-1650)

- *16th century The Great Vowel Shift gradually takes place. There is a large influx of Latin and Greek borrowings and neologisms.*
- *1611 King James Bible published, which has influenced English speech and writing down to the*

The Present-Day English Period (1650-present)

- 1650-ca. 1800 Classical period of English literature. Large numbers of essays, plays, poetry. The English novel emerges in 18th century.
- 1650 on The sciences develop: Astronomy, Physics, Natural History (which later splits into Geology and Biology), Medicine, beginnings of Chemistry. The fashion for borrowing Latin and Greek words, and coining new words with Latin and Greek morphemes, rages unabated. Elaborate syntax matches elaborate vocabulary (e.g. writings of Samuel Johnson).

- 
- **1990s-2000s Internet begins to change the way people communicate and find out information. Portable phones. Texting.**
 - **Preferences begin to shift in many places from British to American English as the selected standard for second language acquisition. The twin influences of British and American broadcasting media make the language accessible to more and more people. Hollywood and the pop**