

Me: Questions
You: Answers
It: Language Change

1. Our period of interest in language on this course begins in 1700. What were the main events that took place before then to shape English?
2. In the 17th and 18th centuries, English lexis expanded because of trade and science. What types of words were borrowed and coined?
3. Technology often changes language. How has language changed as a result of:
 - The printing press?
 - The telegraph?
 - Electronic communication (email/social networking/texting)?
4. The 18th C was the century of prescriptivism. What were the main elements? Why did it happen?
5. How is the language of science different from, say, the science of food?
6. When we discover a new process or product, what are the ways in which we can form new words?
7. Why do people use slang?
8. Why were these two texts significant: King James Bible and Dr J's Dictionary?
9. What do these terms mean (and why am I asking?): *affixation, back formation, inflection*
10. What do these three words tell us about the history and usage of English Language?:

ask – question - interrogate