

Grammatical Milestones and Linguistic History

English Grammar · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Who published 'The English Grammar' in 1640, which is widely considered the first grammar book written in English by an Englishman?

- A) Ben Jonson
- B) John Milton
- C) William Bullokar
- D) Robert Lowth

2. In 1586, William Bullokar published the first comprehensive English grammar book. What was its title?

- A) A Treatise on Syntax
- B) Bref Grammar for English
- C) The King's English
- D) Elements of Speech

3. Which 18th-century grammarian wrote 'A Short Introduction to English Grammar' (1762), a work that significantly influenced prescriptive grammar rules for centuries?

- A) Samuel Johnson
- B) Noah Webster
- C) Robert Lowth
- D) Lindley Murray

4. What was the first dictionary to include etymologies and consistent grammatical guidance, published by Samuel Johnson in 1755?

- A) The Oxford English Dictionary
- B) A Dictionary of the English Language
- C) The Universal Etymological English Dictionary
- D) The American Dictionary of the English Language

5. Which language provided the grammatical foundation for Old English, which underwent a radical simplification following the Norman Conquest in 1066?

- A) Old Norse
- B) Latin
- C) Proto-Germanic
- D) Old French

6. In 1828, Noah Webster published his landmark dictionary, which was the first to formalize distinctive features of which variety of English?

- A) Australian English
- B) American English
- C) Hiberno-English
- D) Indian English

7. The first descriptive grammar of the English language, written in Latin by William Lily and John Colet in 1549, was known by what name?

- A) The Eton Latin Grammar
- B) The Royal Grammar
- C) Lily's Grammar
- D) The Westminster Syntax

8. Which grammatical innovation, introduced into the English language during the Early Modern period, replaced the older 'thou/thee' second-person singular pronouns?

- A) The shift to 'you' as a universal pronoun
- B) The introduction of 'ye' as a singular
- C) The abandonment of formal verb conjugations
- D) The creation of the passive voice