

Chapter 9

Develop your understanding 9.1

- 1 146 characters are in the overall sentence, but consideration can be given to spaces, which can be omitted when crossing lines. I recommend the first 50 characters be as is, up until the end of the word 'historyes', and then adding double letters to spread the remaining characters out.
- 2 If authors make up their own spelling, readers may have difficulties understanding what the author means, as the words might not follow standard conventions.
- 3 Letters were added by workers at Caxton's printing press based on their own individual judgements, so some double and silent letters appeared in words. Another factor was how the words were copied across from manuscripts. Once codified into texts that were mass produced and distributed, a norm was created for these double and silent letters.

Develop your understanding 9.2

- 1 Student responses will vary.
- 2 Caxton's Printing Press appeared near the end of the Middle English period. Bullokar's Pamphlet appeared about 100 years into the Early Modern English period, and Dr Johnson's dictionary appeared towards the start of the Modern English period.

Develop your understanding 9.3

- 1 Definitions from Dr Johnson's dictionary can be found on <https://johnsonsdictionaryonline.org/>. Dr Johnson's was very biased. His sexist, classist and racist views hindered his definitions, due to these biases affecting his own understanding of the words. His humour is also apparent in some definitions, such as his dig at his patrons. The limitations of his knowledge also meant that terms like 'trolmydames' received no definition, and countless others could have been inaccurate as they are based on his own guesses.
- 2 Student responses will vary.
- 3 Student responses will vary.

Develop your understanding 9.4

Student responses will vary.

Develop your understanding 9.5

- 1 The GVS was thought to have been prompted by migration of populations due to causes such as plagues. The influence of French on English is also thought to have contributed to the GVS.
- 2 The GVS took place while English spelling was being codified, so irregularities and inconsistencies were written into the rules of English spelling.
- 3 Student responses will vary.

Develop your understanding 9.6

1

		Meaning	Abbreviation	Acronym	Initialism	Shortening
a	<u>ACDC</u> play this weekend.	refers to band name, which is based on 'alternating current / direct current'	✓	✓ (if said as 'acadaca')	✓	
b	Break is over, <u>B2B!</u>	back to business	✓			
c	Drink 200 <u>ml</u> each evening.	millilitres	✓	✓		
d	Happy <u>IDAHOBIT</u> Day!	International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia	✓	✓		
e	<u>HMS</u> <i>Victory</i> sailed today.	Her or His Majesty's Ship	✓		✓	
f	See you on 14 <u>Feb</u> :)	February	✓			✓

2

Player 1: hey, wyd?	Hey, what are you doing? (initialism)
Player 2: not much tbh, u?	Not much, to be honest (initialism), you? (abbreviation)
Player 1: nm but i miss youuuu. its been forevs.	Not much (initialism) but I miss you. It's been forever (shortening)
Player 2: ikr, its whack lol	I know right (initialism), it's whack lol (acronym)

Student responses for the creation of a similar discourse will vary.

3

	inflectional morpheme added	stem (underlined)
a	deadlifts	dead <u>lift</u>
b	firefighters	fire <u>fighter</u>
c	motherboards	mother <u>board</u>
d	mothers-in-law	<u>mother</u> -in-law
e	pancakes	panc <u>ake</u>
f	skateboards	skate <u>board</u>

4 The stems were mostly at the ends of the words. This is consistent with English syntax, where we pre-modify (e.g. blue sky, happy quokka). An exception is the familial term 'mother-in-law', where the stem is at the start. This could indicate the borrowing of this compound from another language.

5

	blend	words blended (existing knowledge required to infer meaning of blend)	meaning
a	chairdrobe	chair + wardrobe	throwing piles of clothes onto a chair
b	hangry	hungry + angry	anger that comes from being hungry
c	malware	malicious + software	software that is designed to have a damaging effect, such as by giving data access to a third party without consent
d	sitcom	situation + comedy	television genre that is a comedy, centred on a group of characters and storylines that are completed within singular episodes
e	shampagne	sham + champagne	a drink that appears like real champagne, but is not (e.g. it may not have alcohol, which champagne usually contains)
f	smog	smoke + fog	pollution-based fog

6

- a beekeeper
- b Olympian
- c pianist
- d removalist
- e skateboarder
- f Tiktoker

7 Student responses will vary

Develop your understanding 9.7

1

	term	borrowing	commonisation	nominalisation
a	google		✓	
b	sushi	✓		
c	synergisation			✓
d	gelateria	✓		
e	xerox		✓	
f	depolarisation			✓

2

	domain	examples	lexical processes
a	social media	hashtag, tweet	neologisms
b	cooking	sous vide, julienne	borrowing
c	academia	decomposition, exsanguinate	nominalisation, borrowings
d	bureaucracy	deliverable, commoditisation	nominalisation
e	literature	Bildungsroman, magnum opus	borrowings

3 Student answers will vary on why the lexemes are no longer used. Note that some of the terms seem like they would still be quite helpful, such as yesterneve (yesterday evening), while some pertain to technology no longer used regularly, such as crinoline (a hoop petticoat used to extend a skirt).

Develop your understanding 9.8

Student responses will vary.

Develop your understanding 9.9

- 1 Student responses will vary. They may consider teachers, who can act as prescriptivists. They correct language to aid in linguistic development and support people in presenting their ideas in a manner that ensures it will be taken seriously.
- 2
 - a Changes to language make it harder for scholars to understand older texts, by putting additional barriers in place.
 - b Linguistic change may make their works inaccessible in future. They also need to be aware of linguistic changes if writing about the past or trying to craft the voices of historical characters.
 - c Language change means that their work is never done, as the dictionary is out of date as soon as it is in print.
 - d Linguistic changes impact teachers, as they need to be able to translate across the languages of younger and older generations, especially if teaching older texts. Teachers need to be able to explain things to students in language that they can understand, so need some understanding of the language of young people.
 - e It is essential for public figures to use language that can foster a sense of connection with their audience. They need to keep up-to-date with important language changes to ensure that they are clear and do not offend anyone.
- 3 Student responses will vary. Some points students may use include:
 - language change can cause confusion
 - language change over time can make it difficult for younger generations to understand older texts
 - language change over time can cause difficulties in communication between younger and older generations
 - language change reduces mutual intelligibility between groups.

- 4 Student responses will vary. Some points students may use include:
- language change is a natural part of living languages
 - language change can enrich the language, allowing users to have more ways of expressing themselves
 - language change allows users to accurately describe modern technologies, values and other contemporary aspects of life
 - language change enables users to use more socially inclusive language, which can help reduce or remove the use of discriminatory or otherwise problematic aspects of language.
- 5 Taking a descriptivist approach allows linguists to observe a language without trying to influence it. This allows them to see how languages evolve naturally. If a linguist takes a prescriptivist approach and tries to decide what trends should or should not be occurring in a living language such as English, they could offend or insult groups of people who use language differently to how the prescriptivist thinks it should be used.
- 6 Student responses will vary.
- 7 Student responses will vary.