

# Contents

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| The Accusative and Infinitive (§§1–10)                                  | 75          |
| Adjective Clauses (§§11–15)   | 77          |
| Definite Adjective Changes (§§16–18)                                    | 79          |
| Infinitive Adjectives (§§19–21)   | 79          |
| Mood (§§22)   | 80          |
| Adverb Clauses (§§23–25)  | 81          |
| The Effects of Bound Clauses (§§26–28)                                  | 81          |
| <b>Foreword to the Fifth Edition</b>                                    | <b>vii</b>  |
| <b>Foreword to the Sixth Edition</b>                                    | <b>ix</b>   |
| <b>Map of Anglo-Saxon England</b>                                       | <b>x</b>    |
| <b>Abbreviations and Symbols</b>  | <b>xvii</b> |
| <b>How to Use this Guide</b>  | <b>1</b>    |
| <b>PART ONE</b>   |             |
| <b>1 Preliminary Remarks on the Language (§§1–4)</b>                    | <b>11</b>   |
| <b>2 Orthography and Pronunciation (§§5–9)</b>                          | <b>13</b>   |
| i Orthography (§5)  | 13          |
| ii Stress (§6)  | 13          |
| iii Vowels (§7)   | 14          |
| iv Diphthongs (§8)  | 14          |
| v Consonants (§9)   | 15          |
| <b>3 Inflexions (§§10–135)</b>  | <b>17</b>   |
| Introduction (§§10–14)  | 17          |
| i Pronouns (§§15–21)  | 18          |
| ii Nouns and Sound-Changes Relevant to Them (§§22–62)                   | 19          |
| Weak Nouns (§§22–25)  | 19          |
| Some Technical Terms (§§26–32)  | 20          |
| Strong Nouns like <i>stān</i> (masc.) and <i>scip</i> (neut.) (§§33–44) | 22          |
| Masculine and Neuter Nouns in <i>-e</i> (§§45–46)                       | 26          |
| Strong Feminine Nouns (§§47–51)   | 27          |
| <i>i</i> -Mutation (§§52–57)  | 28          |
| Nouns affected by <i>i</i> -Mutation (§§58–60)                          | 29          |
| <u>u</u> -Nouns (§§61–62)   | 30          |
| iii Adjectives (§§63–76)  | 30          |
| Introduction (§§63–64)  | 30          |
| Weak Declension (§65)   | 31          |
| Strong Declension (§§66–67)   | 31          |
| Stem Changes in Adjectives (§§68–73)                                    | 32          |
| Comparison of Adjectives (§§74–76)                                      | 33          |
| iv Observations on Noun, Adjective, and Pronoun Declensions (§§77–81)   | 33          |
| v Numerals (§§82–86)  | 34          |
| vi Strong Verbs and Sound-Changes Relevant to Them (§§87–114)           | 35          |

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Introduction (§§87–89)   | 35 |
| Principal Parts of the Strong Verbs (§§90–95)                                  | 36 |
| Breaking (§§96–99)   | 38 |
| Influence of Initial <i>g</i> , <i>sc</i> , <i>c</i> (§100)                    | 39 |
| Influence of Nasals (§101)   | 40 |
| Summary of the Strong Verbs of Class III (§102)                                | 40 |
| The Effects of Sound-Changes on other Strong Verbs (§103)                      | 40 |
| Strong Verbs of Class VII (§104)   | 41 |
| Grimm's Law and Verner's Law (§§105–109)                                       | 41 |
| Conjugation of the Strong Verb (§§110–114)                                     | 43 |
| <b>vii Weak Verbs and Sound-Changes Relevant to Them</b>                       |    |
| (§§115–126)  | 46 |
| Introduction (§115)  | 46 |
| Class 1 (§§116–123)  | 46 |
| Class 2 (§§124–125)  | 49 |
| Class 3 (§126)   | 50 |
| <b>viii Anomalous Verbs (§§127–130)</b>  | 51 |
| <i>Bēon</i> (§127)   | 51 |
| <i>Dōn</i> and <i>gān</i> (§128)   | 51 |
| <i>Willan</i> (§129)   | 51 |
| Preterite-Present Verbs (§130)   | 52 |
| <b>ix Is a Verb Strong or Weak? To which Class does it Belong? (§§131–134)</b> | 52 |
| <b>x Adverbs (§135)</b>  | 53 |
| Formation (§135)   | 53 |
| Comparison (§135)  | 54 |
| <b>4 Word Formation (§§136–138)</b>  | 55 |
| Introduction (§136)  | 55 |
| i Compounding (§137)   | 56 |
| ii The Addition of Affixes (§138)  | 57 |
| Prefixes (§138)  | 58 |
| Suffixes (§138)  | 59 |
| <b>5 Syntax (§§139–214)</b>  | 61 |
| Introduction (§§139–142)   | 61 |
| i Word-Order (§§143–147)   | 63 |
| ii Sentence Structure (§§148–153)  | 66 |
| Recapitulation and Anticipation (§148)   | 66 |
| The Splitting of Heavy Groups (§149)   | 67 |
| Correlation (§§150–153)  | 68 |
| iii Noun Clauses (§§154–161)   | 70 |
| Introduction (§154)  | 70 |
| Dependent Statements and Desires (§§155–156)                                   | 70 |
| Dependent Questions (§§157–160)  | 72 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| The Accusative and Infinitive (§161)                     | 75  |
| iv Adjective Clauses (§§162–165)                         | 75  |
| Definite Adjective Clauses (§§162–163)                   | 75  |
| Indefinite Adjective Clauses (§164)                      | 79  |
| Mood (§165)  | 80  |
| v Adverb Clauses (§§166–181)                             | 81  |
| Introduction (§§166–167)                                 | 81  |
| Non-Prepositional Conjunctions (§168)                    | 83  |
| Prepositional Conjunctions (§§169–171)                   | 88  |
| An Exercise in Analysis (§172)                           | 91  |
| Clauses of Place (§173)                                  | 92  |
| Clauses of Time (§174)                                   | 93  |
| Clauses of Purpose and Result (§175)                     | 94  |
| Causal Clauses (§176)                                    | 95  |
| Clauses of Comparison (§177)                             | 96  |
| Clauses of Concession (§178)                             | 96  |
| Clauses of Condition (§179)                              | 97  |
| Adverb Clauses Expressing Other Relationships (§180)     | 99  |
| Other Ways of Expressing Adverbial Relationships (§181)  | 99  |
| vi Parataxis (§§182–186)                                 | 99  |
| Introduction (§§182–183)                                 | 99  |
| List of Conjunctions and Adverbs Commonly Used (§184)    | 101 |
| Parataxis without Conjunctions (§185)                    | 102 |
| Some Special Idioms (§186)                               | 103 |
| vii Concord (§187)                                       | 103 |
| 1. Nouns, Pronouns and their Modifiers (§187)            | 103 |
| 2. Pronouns and their Antecedents (§187)                 | 104 |
| 3. Subject and Verb (§187)                               | 104 |
| viii The Uses of the Cases (§§188–192)                   | 105 |
| Nominative (§188)  | 105 |
| Accusative (§189)  | 105 |
| Genitive (§190)  | 105 |
| Dative (§191)  | 106 |
| Instrumental (§192)                                      | 106 |
| ix Articles, Pronouns, and Numerals (§§193–194)          | 106 |
| Articles and Pronouns (§193)                             | 106 |
| Numerals (§194)  | 107 |
| x Verbs (§§195–212)                                      | 108 |
| The Uses of the Present and Preterite Tenses (§§195–198) | 108 |
| The Resolved Tenses (§§199–204)                          | 109 |
| Introduction (§199)                                      | 109 |
| The Verb 'to have' as an Auxiliary (§200)                | 110 |
| The Verb 'to be' as an Auxiliary of Tense (§201)         | 110 |
| The Passive (§§202–203)                                  | 111 |
| Other Uses of the Present and Past Participles (§204)    | 111 |
| The Uses of the Infinitives (§205)                       | 112 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| The 'Modal' Auxiliaries (§§206–211)                      | 113 |
| Introduction (§206)                                      | 113 |
| <i>Magan</i> (§207)                                      | 113 |
| * <i>Mōtan</i> (§208)                                    | 114 |
| <i>Cunnan</i> (§209)                                     | 114 |
| * <i>Sculan</i> (§210)                                   | 114 |
| <i>Willan</i> (§211)                                     | 115 |
| Impersonal Verbs (§212)                                  | 116 |
| xii Prepositions (§§213–214)                             | 116 |
| <br>6 An Introduction to Anglo-Saxon Studies (§§215–251) | 118 |
| i Some Significant Dates (§§215–216)                     | 118 |
| ii History (§§217–218)                                   | 118 |
| iii Archaeology (§§219–230)                              | 124 |
| Introduction (§219)                                      | 124 |
| List of Abbreviated Titles (§220)                        | 125 |
| Weapons and Warfare (§221)                               | 127 |
| Life and Dress (§222)                                    | 127 |
| Architecture and Buildings (§§223–224)                   | 128 |
| Sculpture and Carving (§225)                             | 129 |
| Jewellery and Metalwork (§226)                           | 130 |
| Embroidery (§227)  | 130 |
| Coins (§228)   | 131 |
| Manuscripts and Runic Inscriptions (§229)                | 131 |
| The Sutton Hoo Ship-Burial (§230)                        | 131 |
| iv Language (§§231–235)                                  | 132 |
| Changes in English (§231)                                | 132 |
| The Danish Invasions (§232)                              | 133 |
| The Norman Conquest (§233)                               | 133 |
| Vocabulary (§234)  | 134 |
| Some Questions (§235)                                    | 135 |
| v Literature (§§236–251)                                 | 135 |
| Introduction (§§236–246)                                 | 135 |
| Poetry (§§247–249)                                       | 141 |
| Prose (§§250–251)  | 142 |
| <br>7 Select Bibliography (§§252–269)                    | 144 |
| General (§252)   | 144 |
| Chapter 1 Preliminary Remarks on the Language (§253)     | 144 |
| Chapter 2 Orthography and Pronunciation (§254)           | 145 |
| Chapter 3 Inflections (§254)                             | 145 |
| Chapter 4 Word Formation (§255)                          | 145 |
| Chapter 5 Syntax (§256)                                  | 145 |

|                                   |   |     |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----|
| Chapter 6                         | Introduction to Anglo-Saxon Studies (§§257–269) | 146 |
| History (§257)                    |   | 146 |
| Archaeology (§258)                |   | 146 |
| Language (§§259–261)              |   | 147 |
| History of English Prose (§259)   |   | 147 |
| Vocabulary (§§260–261)            |   | 147 |
| Word Formation (§259)             |   | 147 |
| Changes of Meaning (§260)         |   | 147 |
| Borrowings (§261)                 |   | 147 |
| Literature (§§262–269)            |   | 148 |
| Topics raised in §§236–246 (§262) |   | 148 |
| General Criticism (§263)          |   | 148 |
| Poetry Texts (§264)               |   | 148 |
| Appreciation of the Poetry (§265) |   | 150 |
| The Use of Oral Formulae (§266)   |   | 150 |
| Metre (§267)                      |   | 150 |
| Prose Texts (§268)                |   | 151 |
| Sources (§269)                    |   | 151 |
| Appendix A                        | Strong Verbs                                    | 152 |
| Appendix B                        | Some Effects of <i>i</i> -Mutation              | 159 |
| Appendix C                        | Metre   | 161 |

## PART TWO: PROSE AND VERSE TEXTS

|    |   |     |
|----|---|-----|
| 1  | Practice Sentences  | 171 |
| 2  | Two Old Testament Pieces  | 173 |
|    | The Fall of Man   | 174 |
|    | Abraham and Isaac   | 178 |
| 3  | A Colloquy on the Occupations   | 182 |
| 4  | Two Characteristic Prose Works by Ælfric  | 190 |
|    | Preface to Genesis  | 190 |
|    | St. Edmund, King and Martyr   | 195 |
| 5  | Alfred the Great's Preface to his Translation of Gregory's<br><i>Pastoral Care</i>                  | 204 |
| 6  | Cynewulf and Cyneheard  | 208 |
| 7  | Selections from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle   | 212 |
| 8  | Bede's Account of the Conversion of King Edwin  | 216 |
| 9  | Bede's Account of the Poet Cædmon   | 220 |
| 10 | The Goths and Boethius: Prose and Verse from the Introduction to King Alfred's Boethius Translation | 226 |
| 11 | (a)–(p) Riddles   | 231 |
| 12 | <i>The Battle of Maldon</i>   | 241 |
| 13 | <i>The Ruin</i>   | 253 |
| 14 | <i>The Dream of the Rood</i>  | 256 |
| 15 | <i>The Wife's Lament</i>  | 264 |

|   |   |     |
|---|---|-----|
| 16  | <i>The Wanderer</i>                               | 268 |
| 17  | <i>The Seafarer</i>                               | 276 |
| 18  | Four excerpts from <i>Beowulf</i>                 | 283 |
|   | (a) Beowulf's Fight with Grendel                  | 284 |
|   | (b) Beowulf Consoles Hrothgar for Æschere's Death | 291 |
|   | (c) The Lament of the Last Survivor               | 294 |
|   | (d) Beowulf's Funeral                             | 295 |
| 19  | <i>Wulf and Eadwacer</i>                          | 297 |
| 20  | <i>Judith</i>                                     | 300 |
| <br>A Note on the Punctuation of Old English Poetry             |   | 313 |
| <br>Glossary  |   | 317 |
| <br>Indexes to Part One   |   | 391 |
| Index of Subjects   |   | 391 |
| Index of Words  |   | 395 |
| <br>I: Objects and Tools (395)                                  |   |     |
| Weapons and Warfare (395)                                       |   |     |
| Life and Dress (396)  |   |     |
| Architecture and Buildings (396-397)                            |   |     |
| Sculpture and Carving (397)                                     |   |     |
| Jewelry and Metalwork (397)                                     |   |     |
| Lanterns (397)  |   |     |
| Cups (398)  |   |     |
| Manuscripts and Runic Inscriptions (398-399)                    |   |     |
| The Sutton Hoo Ship-Burial (399)                                |   |     |
| <br>II: Language (399-435)                                      |   |     |
| Changes in English (433)  |   |     |
| The Danish Invasion (433)                                       |   |     |
| The Norman Conquest (433)                                       |   |     |
| Vocabulary (434)  |   |     |
| Subjects in Old English Literature (435)                        |   |     |
| <br>III: Literature (435-451)                                   |   |     |
| General (435)   |   |     |
| Chapters 1-5: Preliminary Remarks on the Language (435-441)     |   |     |
| Chapters 6-7: Chronography and Pronunciation (441-447)          |   |     |
| Chapters 8-9: Tales (447)                                       |   |     |
| Chapters 10-11: Moral Fiction (447-451)                         |   |     |
| Chapters 12-13: Poetry (451)                                    |   |     |
| <br>IV: Select Readings (452-464)                               |   |     |
| Selections from King Alfred's <i>Consolations of Philosophy</i> |   |     |
| General (452)   |   |     |
| Chapter 1: Preliminary Remarks on the Language (452-454)        |   |     |
| Chapter 2: Chronography and Pronunciation (454-457)             |   |     |
| Chapter 3: Tales (457)  |   |     |
| Chapter 4: Moral Fiction (457-459)                              |   |     |
| Chapter 5: Poetry (459)   |   |     |