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OLD ENGLISH INFINITIVAL COMPLEMENTS AND WEST-GERMANIC V-RAISING0. Introduction.; 1. Some Old English data.; 2. Verb Raising.; 2.1. Negation.; 2.2. Clitic placement.; 2.3. Word order variations.; 3. Old English infinitivals as V-raising structures.; 3.1. Clitic placement.; 3.2. Extraposition.; 3.3. Preposition stranding.; 4. Conclusions.; NOTES; REFERENCES; THE SIMPLIFICATION OF THE OLD ENGLISH STRONG NOMINAL PARADIGMS; 0. Introduction.; 2. The Data as Represented in Old English Handbooks.; 3. The Data Represented Synchronically. 4. The Relationship between Historical and Synchronic Paradigms.4.1 Reanalysis of Stems without Surface Allomorphy.; 4.1.1 Giest, Cween and Gecynd.; 4.1.2 Feld, Duru and Hand.; 4.2 Reanalysis of Stems with Surface Allomorphy.; 4.2.1 Ende and Wiite.; 4.2.2 Cynn and Bridd.; 4.2.3 Excursus on Freme.; 4.2.4 Gierd and Synn.; 4.2.5 Wine and Clyne.; 4.2.6 Bearu and Searu.; 5. Some Problematic Cases.; 5.1 Sunu.; 5.2 Dene.; 5.3 Here.; 5.4 Sinu.; 6. Conclusion.; NOTES; REFERENCES; VERB AND PARTICLE COMBINATIONS IN OLD AND MIDDLE ENGLISH; 0. Introduction.; NOTES; REFERENCES  
 THE IMPERSONAL VERB IN CONTEXT: OLD ENGLISHNOTES; REFERENCES;  
 THE SOUTH AFRICAN CHAIN SHIFT: ORDER OUT OF CHAOS?; 1. The Problem.; 2. The 'Atomistic' Alternative.; 3. The Chain Shift Alternative : Preliminaries.; 4. Convergence and Stabilization : The Testimony of Jeremiah Goldswain.; 5. The status of [?].; 6. Retrospect : The State of the Shift.; NOTES; APPENDIX A: THE WORD-LIST; APPENDIX B: EXTRACTS FROM GOLDSWAIN'S Chronicle; REFERENCES; OF RHYME AND REASON: SOME FOOT-GOVERNED QUANTITY CHANGES IN ENGLISH; NOTES; REFERENCES  
 LEXICAL VARIATIONOF EModE EXCLUSIVE ADVERBS: STYLE SWITCHING OR A CHANGE IN PROGRESS?

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Sommario/riassunto

These papers are a selection from papers presented at the 4th International Conference on English Historical Linguistics (Amsterdam, 1985). Most studies deal with some aspect of an earlier stage of English, though present day varieties of English are also under investigation. Many of the papers show that there is a growing interest in the question why a certain change has taken place. Furthermore, the volume contains a considerable number of papers on historical syntax.

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