

## THE SEMANTIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE VERBS "FEORRIAN, FYRSIAN, FEORSIAN" IN OLD ENGLISH

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### ANNOTATION

The semantic development of the verbs "feorrian, fyrsian, feorsian" in old English.

The aim of this article is to identify the lexical and semantic variability, semantic enrichment, and the reasons for the historical development of some motion verbs in modern English. The main focus is on the lexical-semantic development of the verb "feorrian, fyrsian, feorsian" in modern English and the definition of their development factors.

**Keywords:** Semantics, verb, motion verbs, action verbs, prefixes.

### INTRODUCTION

When directional action verbs are compared to state and neutral action verbs, directional action verbs are absent. As a result, the meaning growth of directed verbs has no bounds. Directional verbs in Old English have a coded meaning, and their first form of meaning is uncommon. The ancient verb "scipian," which means "to take a ship," is derived from "to move inwards" or "to move inwards." The verbs that meant directional movement in Old English had numerous other meanings, and they weren't just used for directional movement. We'll use the examples in the major portion of the article to try to prove the aforementioned points. The verb "feorrian" means "to travel far" in Old English. Of course, the verb has a second meaning: "far away." "Longe fugiunt" is a Latin phrase that means "to go far and flee away." As a result, the verb's meaning is the same as "far away." For instance:

1 example:

- a) Gif hi hwylcne man on ðam landum ongitað oððe him hwylc folligende bið, þonne feorriað hi & fleoð.  
a) If they see or see someone in this realm of giants, or if they sense that they are being watched, they flee.

The aforementioned examples, according to L. Kornexl, were utilised for morphological analysis and to express the meaning of each syllable (Kornexl, 2001; 195-216). The Latin verb "ltan" is frequently used to signify "to leave." The verbs "faeder and modor, t child, hine" are used to describe both leaving locations and departing persons (Example 2 a-c).

2 example:

- a) For ðan forlæt se man fæder & modor, & gedeot hine to his wife.  
a) Boys separate from their parents and live with their families.  
b) Ca cyrdon heo ham mid þam & þæt child forlæten æt temple mid þam oðre femnen.  
b) The rest of the women left and left their children with other women in the castle.  
c) He wears þa gebunden. . . and to ðam lande gelæd, and forleton hine þær to anum treowe huxlice gebundenne.  
c) He was handcuffed and taken to land and shamefully tied to a tree.

"To leave behind", "to depart soon, to disregard", "to abandon, to abandon totally, to disconnect" are some of the meanings of the verb "Forlitan" in respect to an object or person, provided in the sense of purpose or wall and city (3 examples a, b, c).

3 example:

a) Hig þa forlættan wallone wall & heora burh, & flugan onwæg.

a) Then they left their walls and cities and fled.

b) Ðes ilces geares com se abbot Heanri of Angeli æfter Æsterne to Burch & seide þet he hæfde forlæten þone minstre mid ealle.

b) In the same year, after Easter, Abbot Henry Angel came to Peterboro and said that he had left the monastery.

c) Ac ic wille nu þurh Godes wissunge þa forlætenan mynstru on minum anwealde gehwær mid munecum gesettan & eac mid mynecenum & Godes lof geedniwian ðe ær wæs forlæten.

c) But now, by the direction of God, I want to fill the abandoned monasteries with monks and nuns everywhere in my territory, and praise God who was previously neglected.

4 example:

a) Wicon weallfæsten, wægas burston, multon meretorras.

a) The forts were emptied, the waters cracked, the high walls of the sea melted.

b) Ðæt sio ecg gewac brun on bane, bat unswiðor þonne his ðiodcyning þearfe hæfde

b) Biowulf struck the beast with the edge of his sword, a blow that weakened him and burned him to the bone, which was stronger than he described the dragon master.

c) Ne gemealt him se modsefa, ne his <mæges> laf gewac æt wige.

c) His [i.e. Neither Wiglaf's] courage nor his cousin's legacy [that is, his sword] did not fail in battle.

This verb's prefixed form meaning "to let, to fail." In the dragon fight incident, this verb appears twice in Beowulf's work (examples 4 b and c). For the first time, Biowulf's sword was used to describe his weakening by defeating him in the case above (Example 6 b). Wowlaf, Beowulf's bodyguard, comes to the rescue in the next example (Example 6 c), and Beowulf's sword does not fail. The verb is used to describe an action happening in this case. The verb "wcan" has always been a verb only.

#### Old English verb "(ge) witan".

This verb meaning "to go, depart, go forth," according to the Old English dictionary. This verb is used to in some sources "To set off in any direction means to turn one's eyes in any direction with the purpose of going in that direction. Some academics believe the verb means "to set off" (Ogura, 2000; 72-85). It indicated "going away from somewhere," according to Weman. This demonstrates that the verb "(ge) witan" can be used to represent both directional and broad action verbs.

5 example:

a) And se engel him gewat fram.

a) The angel left them.

b) Op þæt þæt scamlease wif geswænced aweg gewat fram þam ehþyrle his cytan.

b) The shameless woman stared angrily out the window of her summer house until she left.

c) And se fugol sona aweg gewat.

c) And the bird immediately flew away.

Suffixes differ from prepositions in Examples 5 c and b. In later examples, the Old English verb "onweggewiteness" implies "to stray away." Later, the prefix "forgewtan" was added to the verb, and the meaning of 'awaydeparture' was changed to "to leave." Furthermore, the contemporary preterite form of the Old English verb "gewtan" is "gewt," which expresses a distinct verb without the use of prefixes or prepositions. The verb "gewt" was rarely used and signified "to die" (see Example 6 a). A number of adjustments to the dictionary have been made as a result of the aforementioned instances. From the dictionary word "depart," lexicographers have generated a modern English ephemeral. The verb "gewt" is used to express a specific activity in the sense of directing action (see Example 6 c).

6 example:

a) Ac traianus gewat on þæm ilcan geara.

a) But Trajan died that year.

b) Wa wæs æfter noht monegum gearum æfter his onweggewitenesse of Breotone, þætte Wine wæs adrifen from þæm ilcan <cyninge> of his biscopseðle. Ga gewat he to Wulfhere Mercna cyninge; ond mid feo gebohte æt him þæt biscopseðl æt Lundenceastre.

b) Then, it happened many years after he left Britain. The wine was expelled by that king from the presence of his bishop. He then went to Wulfer, king of the Mercians, and bought the bishop's vision.

c) Ne con ic noht singan; & ic forþon of þeossam gebeorscipe ut eode, & hider gewat, forþon ic naht singan ne cude.

c) I can't sing, so I left the holiday and went here.

The verb "gewtan" did not express the meaning of the initial directional movement in paragraphs b and c of Example 6. Because the prior verb in both circumstances meant "leave." "Was adrifen of his biscopsele" means "was driven from his bishop's see," whereas "of eossum gebeorscipe ut eode" means "went out of this feast." Another significant piece of evidence is the use of the word "gewtan" with the infinitive (Example 7).

7 example:

a) Heo feðera onsceoc, gewat fleogan eft mid lacum hire.

a) He fluttered his feathers and returned with his vows.

Ogura goes into greater depth about this, pointing out that the verbs were used as auxiliary verbs, and that when paired with action verbs, the meaning of "gewitan" appears to be diminished and absorbed into the meaning of the infinitive verb" (Ogura, 2003; 69-78). As Vesser points out, the Old English infinitive incorporates a number of action verbs from Old English verbs, including "faran, fran, gn" under the "Go + infinitive" category. (Vesser, 1969; §1317). None of the action verbs in this group are directional action verbs. It can be seen that the word "gewtan" can imply both "to go" and "to go" in this context. The link between "go" and "infinitive" tends to shift over time in this process. As a result, the meaning of activity in space is frequently lost and reduced to the aspect sign. Wulff has also spoken about it (Wulff, 2006; 101-125).

The directional verbs employed in Old English were learned verbs, and the majority of them were not pure directional action verbs, as shown by the examples above. In Old English, the verbs "feorrian, fursian / feorsian, wcan, forltan" had additional meanings. The verbs produced

by the Old English word "feor" thus signify "far." In Old English, the verb "wcan" can also signify "power." The verb altered the movement of the form in this situation, either strengthening or weakening it. A semantic phenomenon occurred when the Old English verb "forltan" influenced additional space. No directional verbs appear to have been utilised as pure action verbs.