



Old English

Invasion of
Latin
& Old Norse

- c. 500 AD—King Arthur (if he really lived)
- 731—Bede finished his Ecclesiastical History of the English People
- c. 800—Beowulf written
- 871—Alfred became king of Wessex
- 1016—King Cnut won the throne of England

Middle English

Invasion of
French

- 1066—William conquered England; French became the official language of the English court
- 1382—Wycliffe's Bible (handwritten) began circulating in England
- 1400—Chaucer died with The Canterbury Tales unfinished
- 1456—Gutenberg's Printing Press
- 1476—Caxton's printing press—1st in England

Modern English

Invasion of
Greek
plus more Latin

- 1526—Tyndale published the first English NT in print; executed for heresy 1536
- 1611—King James Bible published
- 1616—William Shakespeare died

Back to [articles](#)