

Table of contents

Preface	7
Preface to the Second Edition	10
Preface to the Third Edition	11
Preface to the Fourth Edition	12
Introduction	13
Chapter One	
<i>Britain before the Germanic Conquest</i>	27
1. Roman Britain	27
2. The Germanic Invasion and Conquest of Britain	31
Chapter Two	
<i>Anglo-Saxon England</i>	42
1. The Establishment of Anglo-Saxon Rule in Britain	42
2. The Names 'England' and 'English'	44
3. Christianization	45
4. The Scandinavian Invasions of Britain	48
5. The Beginnings of English Literature	54
6. Standard Old English	57
7. The Fall of the English Kingdom	58
Chapter Three	
<i>From the Norman Conquest to the Ascension of the Tudors (1066 – 1485)</i>	61
1. After the Norman Conquest: The Political, Social and Linguistic Situation in England (1066 – 1204)	61
2. England from the Loss of Normandy to the Commencement of the Tudor Dynasty (1204 – 1485)	68
3. The Rise of Standard English	81

Chapter Four

<i>Under the Tudors and Early Stuarts (1485 – 1649)</i>	89
1. Political, Social and Cultural Developments	89
2. The Growth of Prestige of the English Language	92
3. Lexical Enrichment of English	98
4. Orthoëpists and Early Grammarians	103
5. The Beginnings of English Lexicography	107
6. The Spread of English until the Middle of the Seventeenth Century	110

Chapter Five

<i>From the Bourgeois Revolution to the End of the Eighteenth Century (1642 – 1800)</i>	116
1. The Age of Reason	116
2. The Ideal of Correctness, the Refining of the English Language and the Attempt to Fix It	117
3. English Lexicography 1650 – 1800	124
4. The Rise of Prescriptive Grammar	128
5. The Expansion of the British Empire and the Spread of the English Language	134

Chapter Six

<i>The Nineteenth and the Twentieth Centuries</i>	137
1. The Further Spread of the English Language	137
2. Political, Social and Cultural Influences on the Development of English	139
3. The Oxford English Dictionary	143

Appendix

<i>Chronological Summary of Important Events Pertaining to the History of English</i>	146
---	-----

Bibliography	151
--------------	-----

Abbreviations	168
---------------	-----

Maps and Illustrations	169
------------------------	-----

Index of Names	170
----------------	-----