

# Some Comparison of A Thesaurus of Old English and Clark Hall's A Concise Anglo-Saxon Dictionary, One of Its Three Source Dictionaries

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## Some Comparison of *A Thesaurus of Old English* and Clark Hall's *A Concise Anglo-Saxon Dictionary*, One of Its Three Source Dictionaries\*

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### 1.1 Introduction

The aim of this paper is to compare entry words and their word senses in *A Thesaurus of Old English* [*TOE*] with those in Clark Hall's *A Concise Anglo-Saxon Dictionary* 4th edition [*CH*], one of the three "standard Old English dictionaries" as *TOE* states (see footnote 6, p. xvi "Introduction"). *CH* is an alphabetical-order dictionary, while *TOE* is a conceptually arranged one. My attempt here, however, is justified because *TOE* is "largely dependent upon the definitions to be found in the Bosworth-Toller and Clark Hall dictionaries" (p. xvi).<sup>1</sup> The comparison will go along with the Bosworth-Toller and Cambell (for convenience Bosworth-Toller and Tollers' *Supplement* is hereafter referred to as *BTS*, and Cambell's *Enlarged and Corrigenda* as *Camb*).

### 1.2 The number of entry words in *CH*

Clark Hall's 3rd edition has 37,823 entry words (hereafter *CH*'s main body or the main body), which Meritt supplements with 1,705 words including 680 that refer to *CH*'s main body. The result is the present *CH* 4th edition that gives us 39,838 entry words.<sup>2</sup>

### 2.1 *TOE* and Meritt's use of "Delete" in his supplement

Meritt gives the instruction, "Delete," to 221 entry words in the main body. *TOE* partly goes against this by retaining 19 words in its entry words (n.b. Meritt provides five of them with a "?" mark). Since eight of them are given flags o, or g, and the rest flag q ("questionable" or "dubious"), *TOE*'s retention seems to be justified by its intention as is shown by the words as follows.

Retention of such words is a matter almost of book-keeping, an entry showing that the form was thought worthy of inclusion when the dictionaries were excerpted and that it was retained throughout the edition of the *TOE* materials. (p. xxx)

This intention is supported by Watanabe (1998) in his review article.

This Q, though it is scantily invoked, is particularly instructive, for it informs us of a dictionary 'ghost', a hyper-correction of unreasonable emendation by some editors, information which we could otherwise never obtain (134).

These nineteen words are listed in TABLE 1, where each word is accompanied by comments found in *TOE*, *CH*, *Camb*, and *DOE*.

Although *TOE*'s policy of retention may well be justified, some entry words should be checked by *BTS*, *Camb*, and *DOE*. Retention of words 2, 3, 4, and 5 in TABLE 1 does not agree with *DOE*, which has been compiled based on the complete corpus of Old English. Along with Meritt's instruction, "Delete," *Camb* gives his mention of "Probably delete" to the word 10 in the same table. I will quote Meritt's and *Camb*'s comment on two words in 2.2 and 2.3.

TABLE 1

<p>1. <i>breostgyrd</i> delete? ; v. <i>preostgyrd</i>  <i>TOE</i> = (g) a staff, wand of authority  <i>CH</i> = scepter?  <i>BTS</i> = scepter?  <i>Camb</i> = very probably error for <i>preostgird</i>  <i>DOE</i> = scepter or wand of authority, literally breast-rod</p>	<p>3. <i>delfin</i> delete, FL2, B 12  <i>TOE</i> = (og) dolphin  <i>CH</i> = dolphin  <i>BTS</i> = a dolphin  <i>Camb</i> = not Old English  <i>DOE</i> = (not cited)</p>
<p>2. <i>cealfgyrt</i> delete, FL 2, A 54  <i>TOE</i> = unidentified plants (q)  <i>CH</i> = 'eruca'  <i>BTS</i> = calfwyr <i>eruca</i>  <i>Camb</i> = in citation read probably <i>cawelucyrm</i>  <i>DOE</i> = (not cited)</p>	<p>4. + <i>dwildafterfolgung</i> delete, FL 2, B 0020  <i>TOE</i> = (q) herecy, error, wrong belief  <i>CH</i> = herecy  <i>BTS</i> = (not cited)  <i>Camb</i> = take as two words, see <i>gedwild</i>, <i>after-fyl-gung</i>  <i>DOE</i> = (not cited; cf. <i>dwyld</i>, <i>aeterfylgung</i>)</p>

5. *egnwrht* delete, FL 5, A 2

*TOE* = pay, wages, remuneration

*CH* = 'merx' [=merchandize, goods]

*BTS* = :egenwrht = hire, wages, a gift

*Camb* = (not cited)

*DOE* = (not cited: cf. esnewyrhta = hired laborer GD 2 (C) 3.106.34, lawAf I 43)

6. *fæðel* delete, FL4, BS

*TOE* = (q) a player, actor, actress

*CH* = play actor

*BTS* = (? fæðel) a player

*Camb* = (other articles shown)

7. *grytte* delete *spider*

*TOE* = (q) spider

*CH* = spider

*BTS* = (not cited)

*Camb* = (not cited)

8. *heathalgung* delete, FL 3, H 25

*TOE* = (q) festal character,

*CH* = 'ceremonia'

*BTS* = (not cited)

*Camb* = (not cited)

9. *hrandsparwa* delete?, FL3, A42

*TOE* = (og) sparrow

*CH* = sparrow

*BTS* = a sparrow

*Camb* = [not cited]

10. *lent* delete? ; v. BPG 152 n.

*TOE* = (q) lentils

*CH* = lentil

*BTS* = a lentil

*Camb* = probably delete. . . .

11. *mærhliða* delete? (FL 3, A24)

*TOE* = (q) notoriety

*CH* = notoriety

*BTS* = great fame, celebrity

*Camb* = (not cited)

12. *ofgeorn* delete, FL 2, B 0038

*TOE* = (g) elated

*CH* = elated

*BTS* = (not cited)

*Camb* = note: uncertain word

13. *puccian* delete, BPG 664 n.

*TOE* = (og) to poke, strike at

*CH* = to poke, creep

*BTS* = to poke(?), strike

*Camb* = discussed Prud. 664 note

14. + *radod* delete, A 67, 126 n. 4

*TOE* = (o) intelligent, endowed with reason

*CH* = intelligent

*BT* = quick

*Camb* = (not cited)

15. + *runnes* delete, BPG721

*TOE* = (q) state of coagulation

*CH* = that has been cooled or congealed,

*BTS* = (not cited)

*Camb* = (not cited)

16. *ðeccbryce* delete? ; v. OEG 2256 n.

*TOE* = (q) a tile, brick

*CH* = tile

*BTS* = a tile

*Camb* = delete, two words in MS

17. + *unfaestnian* delete ; see toll. word

*TOE* = (o) to unloose, undo, untie, unfasten

*CH* = to unfasten

*BTS* = to unfasten, detach

*Camb* = (not cited)

18. *weorððearfa* delete, ES62, 129

*TOE* = (o) a poor person

*CH* = poor man

*BTS* = (not cited)

*Camb* = poor person

19. *wlita* delete, FL 2, B64

*TOE* = face

*CH* = countenance

*BTS* = a face, countenance

*Camb* = I [face, countenance] is uncertain, *andwlita* may be intended,

cf. *DOE* = s.v. and-wlita 1. face of a person : 4. facial expression, countenanc.

## 2.2 *wlita*

With his examination of the MS, Meritt says about this word,

In the glosses here concerned the word printed as vel is in the MS written 7 [sic: designation of the OE ampersand] and in each instance this goes with the following wlita and wlitan, making the glosses andwlita and andwlitan, each an instance of the usual OE word andwlita, ‘face’ (1954: 63).

Let me make additional reference to this word. In *TOE* “02.04.03.01.03 Face” has seven words, *andwlita*, *ansien*, *hlor*, *mut*, *neb(b)*, *nebulite*, and *wlita* and its subcategory “Countenance, expression” has only *andwlita*, while *CH* gives ModE equivalents “countenance” and “expression” to all of these words except *mut*.

## 2.3 *weorþbearfa*

Following Förster (1927), Meritt wants to delete *weorþbearfa* (ModE “poor man” in *CH*’s main body). Meritt is ignored by *Camb*, which says, “. . . grateful use has been made of the supplement added by Professor H. D. Meritt to the 1960 edition of Clark Hall’s *Anglo-Saxon Dictionary* . . . .” (1972: p. v). *Camb*’s citation is:

*ÆHoM12* (Ælfric, homilies [Supplementary Collection])<sup>3</sup>

202 se hælend cwæð ær to sumum oðrum rican men ðaða he hine befran hu he mihte ðæt ece lif begitan, far and beceapa ealle ðine æhta wið feo, and dæl ðæt *wyrððearfum*; ðonne hæfst ðu ðinne goldhord on heofenum, and cum and filig me.

It is clear that *wyrððearfum* here means “to poor persons.”

In the following sections I will mention some of the words that Godden discusses in his “Ælfric’s changing vocabulary.”

## 3.1 OE entry words for the word sense “quickly” in *CH* and *TOE*

When the meanings of *quickly* are restricted to those of the *OED* s.v. *quickly* (adv.) 2.a, b, and c., the categories in *TOE* parallel to the definitions of the *OED* are as follows.<sup>4</sup>

- 05.11.01.02.01 Swift movement of time:  
 .Quickly, shortly, briefly:
- 05.11.07.01 Contemporary, coeval:  
 .At once, forthwith, immediately:
- 05.11.08.01.01 Suddenness;  
 .Suddenly, all of a sudden:
- 05.12.03.01 Swiftness, velocity:  
 .Quickly:

See TABLE 2. The second column lists all entry words for the above categories, and the third lists all the entry words in *CH* that have ModE equivalent “quickly.” The other columns cite definitions and comments from *BTS*, *Camb*, and *DOE*. I will show discrepancies of the word senses among these dictionaries below.

TABLE 2

	<i>TOE</i>	<i>CH</i>	where in <i>TOE</i> ?	<i>BTS</i>	<i>Camb</i>	<i>DOE</i>
1		<b>ædre</b> I. [sb. f.] artery, vein, pulse, nerve, sinew, AO : pl. veins, B : kidneys, Ps73<21>: runlet of water, fountain, spring, stream, [‘ædre’] II. [adv.] at once, directly, instantly, quickly : (†) fully, entirely. [OS. adro]	NOT CITED	quickly, at once	NOT CITED	adv. NOT CITED
2	<b>anunga</b>	<b>anunga</b> at once, forthwith : quickly, shortly : entirely. altogether, throughout, by all means, uninterruptedly, B : necessarily, certainly.	=> Suddenly, all of a sudden			
3	<b>arodlice</b>	<b>arodlic</b> [adj.] quick. [adv.] -lice quickly : vigorously, Æ, CP.				
4	<b>café</b>	<b>caf</b> quickly, actively, promptly				
5	<b>cafelice</b>	<b>caflice</b> promptly, vigorously				
6		<b>færinga</b> suddenly, unexpectedly, quickly, forthwith, by chance, Lk; Æ, CP. [‘feringe’]	=> Suddenly, All of a sudden => At once, forthwith, immediately => By chance	suddenly, quickly, by chance, all of a sudden	NOT CITED	

	<i>TOE</i>	<i>CH</i>	where in <i>TOE</i> ?	<i>BTS</i>	Camb	<i>DOE</i>
7	<b>færlice</b>	suddenly, unexpectedly, rapidly		suddenly, immediately, by chance	NOT CITED	
8	<b>forhrædlice</b> (o)	too soon CP 445, I [same citation in <i>BTS</i> ]		very quickly, suddenly	NOT CITED	
9		<b>forhraðe</b> very speedily, quickly, soon, Æ.	=> At once, forthwith, immediately	very quickly, soon	NOT CITED	
10		<b>framlic</b> strong, daring, BH30 <28>. adv. -lice boldly, strongly, strenuously, quickly.		strongly, firmly, stoutly	NOT CITED	
11		<b>freafestlice</b> (æ<1>) very quickly, WW 6301a.	=> At once, forthwith, immediately	very hastily, very quickly	NOT CITED	
12	<b>full raðe</b>	<b>fullraðe</b> adv. very quickly, AO.		full quickly, immediately	NOT CITED	
13		<b>fullricene</b> very quickly, immediately, PPs 1402.		full quickly, immediately	NOT CITED	
14		<b>gearwe</b> I. (gæro) adv. comp. gear(w)or; sup. gear(w)ost well, effectually, sufficiently, thoroughly, entirely, Æ, AO, CP : quickly : near. ['yare'] II. † f. (usu. pl.) clothing, equipment, ornament, trappings, harness, armour. III. (a, æ) f. 'yarrow,' Cp, LCD, WW.		entirely, well, very well, enough, readily, promptly, without delay	NOT CITED	
15		<b>georne</b> adv. eagerly, zealously, earnestly, gladly, B, Bo, CHR; Æ, AO, CP : well, carefully, completely, exactly, Æ : quickly, W. ['yerne']	=> Rapidly	eagerly, diligently, carefully, readily, entirely	NOT CITED	[ <i>OED</i> ] quickly, speedily, rapidly
16		<b>higendlice</b> quickly, immediately, RWH 25<13>. [higian]	=> At once, Forthwith, Immediately	NOT CITED	NOT CITED	
17	<b>hrædlic</b>	<b>hrædlic</b> quick, sudden, premature, Æ, AO, CP. adv. -lice hastily, soon, forthwith, B, Bo, DR; Æ, CP. ['radly,' 'rathely']				
18	<b>hraðe</b>	<b>hraðe</b> I. quick, Bo, CHR, PPs. II. adv. comp. hraðor, superl. hraðost hastily, quickly, promptly, readily, immediately, soon, Æ, B, Bo, Cr, G, Ps; CP : too soon, Bo. <i>sua hraðe swa</i> = as soon as, Æ. ['rathe,' 'rather,' 'rathest']				
19	<b>hwætlic</b>	<b>hwætlice</b> adv. quickly, promptly, Ps. ['whatliche']				

	<i>TOE</i>	<i>CH</i>	where in <i>TOE</i> ?	<i>BTS</i>	Camb	<i>DOE</i>
20	<b>leohtlic</b>	<b>leohtlic</b> I. light, of little weight or importance, <i>Æ</i> , CP. adv. -lice lightly, slightly, BH, LCD : inconsiderately : easily, quickly : gently, softly, slowly, CP; <i>Æ</i> . ['lightly'] II. bright, radiant, Rd.				
21		<b>lungre</b> adv. soon, forthwith, suddenly, quickly.	=> At once, Forthwith, Immediately	quickly, aoon, at once, speedily	NOT CITED	
22	<b>ofestlice</b>	/hurriedly s.v. <b>efestlice</b> NG				
23	<b>recene</b>	<b>recene</b> adv. instantly, quickly, <i>Æ</i> .				
24	<b>rynelice</b> (q)	'cursim' ( <b>rynelice</b> ? OEG 7<90>)				
25	<b>scearplic</b>	<b>scearplic</b> sharp, severe, effectual. adv. -lice 'sharply, 'acutely, keenly, CP : painfully, severely, OET, W : effectually, CM 192 : attentively, Bf : quickly, WW				
26	<b>snellice</b>	<b>snellic</b> smart, ready, quick, rapid, bold. adv. -lice, Wy				
27	<b>sneom</b>	<b>sneome</b> adv. quickly, speedily, swiftly : immediately, at once.				
28		<b>snude</b> † adv. quickly, at once, NG.	=> At once, Forthwith, Immediately			
29	<b>spedum</b>	(not cited with this meaning)				
30	<b>swiftlice</b>	(s.v. swift = 'swift,' quick, <i>Æ</i> , B, Bo, CP, GD; AO. adv. -lice, <i>Æ</i> , LPs, W. [swiftly']		in good time, soon	timely, suitable	
31		<b>timlice</b> quickly, soon, <i>ÆT</i> 12.	=> Conveniently, At a fitting time	in good time, soon	timely, suitable	
32	<b>unaswundentlice</b>	diligently BH.		not languidly, not slowly, promptly	NOT CITED	*

\* cf. *DOE* s.v. *aswundennes* = torpor, sluggishness, sloth

### 3.2 *anunga* (see 2 in TABLE 2)

*DOE*'s definitions concerning swiftness are (1) at once, immediately, forthwith, and (2) in short time, quickly. *TOE* gives word senses, "quickly," "suddenly," and "all of a sudden." Regarding suddenness *TOE* does not agree with *CH*, *BTS*, or *DOE* here.

### 3.3 *timlice* (see 31 in TABLE 2)

*TOE* lists this word in "Conveniently, at a fitting times," a subcategory of "05.11.08 A suitable time, opportunity," although it does not take this word for the word sense "quickly." The *OED*,



on the other hand, defines it as “1. Early, betimes: in good time, soon, quickly. Now *arch.* or *poet.*” Section B (prose) of *The DOE corpus* has two sentences with *timlice*.

*ÆLet* 4 (Letter to Sigeweard [‘On the Old and New Testament’])

<n=“11”> ðu bæde me for oft englisra gewritena, and ic ðe ne getiðode ealles swa *timlice*, ær ðam ðe ðu mid weorcum ðæs gewilnodest æt me, ða ða ðu me bæde for godes lufon georne ðæt ic ðe æt ham æt ðinum huse gespræce, and ðu ða swiðe mændest, ða ða ic mid ðe wæs, ðæt ðu mine gewrita begitan ne mihtest.

*WPol* 4 (‘Institutes of Polity’)

<n=“13”> ac soð is, ðæt ic secge, gecnawe, se ðe wille: a syððan biscopas awendan heora wisan of regollicre wisan eall to woroldwisan, syððan heora weorðscipe wæs waniende swy ðe; ðonne is ðære bote *timlice micel ðearf.* (underline mine)

The word sense of *timlice* in the above citations agrees with the definition of the *OED*.

### 3.4 *freaoftlice* (see 11 in TABLE 2)

The word sense of *freaoftlice* is “very quickly” in *CH*, and “very hastily, very quickly” in *BTS*. *TOE* adopts word senses “at once, forthwith, immediately” for it. *Freaoftlice* is a gloss for Latin *propere* in *CIGl* 3 (Quinn), which the *Oxford Latin Dictionary* defines as “speedily, quickly, without delay” in English. *TOE* should list *freaoftlice* in 05.12.06.01.

### 3.5 *forhrædlice* (see 8 in TABLE 2)

Both *CH* and *BTS* cite an example of this word as is shown below.

*Pastoral Care* (Sweet: EETS, p.445)

ðar we timbran willen, ðeah we hi for hrædlice to ðæm weorce don ne mægen for grennesse (underline mine)

Neither *CH* nor *BTS* has *forhrædlice* as an entry word. The above citation is under the entry word *hrædlice*, (*for*, *MODE* “very , too”). *A Microfiche Concordance to Old English* does not have a form of *forhrædlic(e)*.

#### 4.1 *Ælfric's* diction of synonyms for “frequently” in his earlier and later works

With the help of *TOE*, I will follow Godden’s “*Ælfric's* changing vocabularies” (1980) to show the frequency of *Ælfric's* use of synonyms for “frequently.” This will be followed by some comments on *TOE's* treatment of those synonyms.

Godden picks out seven conceptual words and discusses *Ælfric's* choice of synonyms in his earlier and later works after saying, “One aspect which has seldom been considered . . . is the degree a particular writer’s vocabulary choice may have changed in the course of his life” (207).<sup>5</sup> To this aspect of Old English word studies *TOE* will make a great contribution.

The synonyms for the adverb “frequently” are listed in “05.11.09.02 Frequently, often,” which has thirteen words and phrases as are shown in TABLE 4.

TABLE 4

	words <i>TOE</i>	e- <i>Ælfric</i>	l- <i>Ælfric</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>BTS</i>
1	gelome	32	57		
2	gelomlice	22	5		
3	manigsiðes				NOT CITED
4	geneahhe				
5	oferrædlice (og)			in SUPPL.	
6	oft	61	104		
7	oft and gelome	2	1		
8	oftrædlice*	19	7		
9	oftsiðum (o)				
10	on oftsiðas			on + =	
11	symle SEE 4.2	(133)	(90)	SEE 4.2	SEE 4.2
12	ðicce	0	0		
13	unseldan		1		
	<b>WORDS IN TOTAL</b>	226,590	288,290		
	(ratio)	(1)	(1.3)		

\* from *A Microfiche Concordance to Old English*

(og) and (o) are flag og and flag o in *TOE*.

With the help of Clemoes's "Chronology" (1959), machine-readable versions of Ælfric's works in the *The DOE corpus* are classified into the earlier and later ones based on such flags of text descriptions as "PES" (Prose - Early - West-Saxon) and "PLS" (Prose - Early - West-Saxon). The numbers of these words are from the corpus.

Godden refers only to *gelome* and *gelomelice*, but this table implies he should have discussed *oft*, *symble*, and *oftradlice*, too.

#### 4.2 *symle* (*symbel* in *CH*, and *symble* in *BTS*)

Neither *CH* nor *BTS* gives the word sense "frequently" to *symle*. Their definitions are quoted below.

*CH*: s.v. *simble* = I. (on) always, continually. II. = *simble* = ever, for ever, always, constantly, continually.

*BTS*: s.v. *simble* = ever, always. I. continually, continuously, without intermission. II. on every occasion or opportunity.

*TOE* agrees with *CH* and *BTS* regarding word senses "always, continuously" in ".Constantly, always, continuously," subcategory of "05.11.11 Continuity" and in ".Continuously, without a break, unceasingly," subcategory of "05.11.11.01 A not ceasing, persistence, recurrence."

#### 4.3 *oft and gelome*

*TOE* does not agree with *CH* about this phrase. Under the entry word (*ge*)*lome*, *CH* has the phrase *oft (and) (ge)lome* with ModE equivalents "constantly, diligently." This phrase is found under the entry word *oft* with ModE equivalent "diligently" (*and* without parentheses here). *TOE* proves to be correct when one example is examined in *Bede's Ecclesiastical History I* (EETS).

ðas word and eac monig ðysses gemetes mid ðy osweo se cyning sigeberhte ðam cyninge mid freondlicre and mid broðorlicre geþeahthe *oft and gelome* tospræc, ða æt nehstan mid fultume and mid geðafunge his freonda ðæt he gelyfde. (224)<sup>6</sup>

The editor renders this phrase as “often and repeatedly.”

#### 4.4 *unseldon* and *oft and unseldon*

The *OED* states under the entry word *unselde* “Only in phr. with *oft*” (note: the definition is given in the next entry word *unseldom*, whose definition is “not rarely, not infrequently”). To the contrary, *unseldon* can stand alone as is seen in *ÆLS* (Swinton) 262:

Hi hit heoldon ða syððan symle on gewunon, swa swa we gesawon sylfe for oft, and ðone sang we sungon *undeldon* mid heom.

*TOE* is therefore right, but it must list *oft and unseldon* in “05.11.09.02.” Three examples of this phrase are found in *The DOE corpus*; one of them from *LitBen* 7.8 (Ure) means “continually.” See below.

Donne is mycel ðearf ðæt man understande ðæt man toeacan ðam *oft and unseldon* sceall God herian . . .

#### 5.1 Set phrases

The editors of *TOE* design this dictionary to present conceptual relationships among words, and so it looks as if specialized scholars alone profit from this dictionary. Less specialized readers or beginning students of OE, however, will find *TOE* very useful when they look up set phrases, for example, *on worulde*, which is not found in *CH* (cf. John 9:32 Ne gehyrde we næfre on worulde ðæt ænig ontynde ðæs eagan . . .). They should ignore Görlach when he says in his review article, “for other less specialized readers it will have, as reading matter, the interest of a telephone directory” (1998: 398).

TABLE 4 shows the set phrases with *for* in *TOE* and *CH*. *TOE* has twenty-four, and *CH* has fourteen.

TABLE 4

<i>TOE</i>	<i>CH</i>	<i>TOE</i>	<i>CH</i>
aliesan for		for lang	
gan for			for lætan = to take (one) for
	ealles for swiðe = altogether, utterly	for longunge	
	for Dryhtne = by God	for nauht don	
for ... hand		for niede	
for intingan		for ðæm	for ðæm
for ... lufum		for ðæm (ðe)	for ðæm (ðe)
for ... ðingum	for his ðingum = for his sake	for ðisum ðingum	
for ... willan		for ðon	for ðon
for an	for an = only	for ðon (ðe)	
habban (for)	for habban = consider	for ðy	for ðy (ðe)
	for hwan = wherefore ?	for ðy ... for ðæm	
for hwon	for hwon	for ðy ... ðy	
for hwy	for hwy	for ðy (ðe)	
			for worulde = as regards this world

5.3 The numbers of some set phrases with adverbs/prepositions in *TOE* and *CH*

TABLE 5

	<i>TOE</i> *	<i>CH</i>
phrases with <i>for</i>	23	14
with <i>on</i>	250	76
with <i>to</i>	160	44
with <i>ut</i>	58	6

\* approximate figures

As far as this table shows, it seems that *TOE* collects set phrases with adverbs/prepositions fairly exhaustively.

#### 5.4 Some of the set phrases with *on*, *to*, and *ut*

I will quote here some examples of these set phrases from *TOE* which *CH* does not have.

- on þreo* (In three ways),
- swingan o twa* (To divide by a blow),
- beon/wesan on* (To consist of)
- don to nauhte* (To make null, annul),
- nu to geare* ((In) this year)
- don to witanne* (To make known/understand)
- habban to* (To get to take part in)
- gesettan ut* (To remove from office, etc., depose)
- ut afeohtan* (To fight one's way out)

#### 6. Concluding remarks

In the course of examining some entry words and phrases in *TOE* and *CH* I found that the work of Robert and Kay is a great contribution not only to specialized readers who have wanted to have a conceptual dictionary of Old English but also to scholars who will be expected to revise *CH* in the future. They will profit also from the entry words alone listed in *TOE*'s index volume. The editors have spent over twenty years "reviewing all the sources available and a meticulous checking of dictionaries, linguistic monographs and original texts" (Görlach: 398). *CH* has remained without revision for forty years since Meritt made a supplement to it. Less specialized readers of Old English have to make the best use of *TOE* along with *CH*, which is the most convenient and reliable dictionary available today.

#### Notes

- \* This essay is partly based on the paper read in Japanese at the symposium on "A Thesaurus of Old English and Medieval English Studies" in the 16th Congress of the Japan Society for Medieval English Studies held at Kansai University on December 10, 2000.
- <sup>1</sup> Tani (2002) shows a result of searching *TOE* and *CH* for word pairs: eleven word pairs of twenty-seven in *TOE* are found in *CH*. He suggests that this result proves large dependance of *TOE* upon *CH*.
- <sup>2</sup> These figures come from an electronic version of *CH* I compiled for my own use.
- <sup>3</sup> Citations with short titles hereafter are taken from *The DOE corpus on floppies*.

<sup>4</sup> OED s.v. *quickly* adv.

2. Rapidly, with haste or speed.

a. Describing the rate of progress in a motion, action, or process, without consideration of the time at which it begins and ends.

b. Denoting that the whole action or process is begun and ended within a comparatively short space of time.

c. Denoting that there is little or no interval between a given point in time and the doing of an act or happening of an event (freq. also implying a or b); without delay; very soon, shortly.

<sup>5</sup> Those seven and OE equivalents and their synonyms are:

“martyr” - *cyðere, martyr*; “very” - *forwel*; “salvation” - *hæl, hælu, hælþ*; “quickly, immediately” - *hræðlice*; “yet, nevertheless” - *hwæðre, swðþre, swaðeah, ðeah, ðeahhwæðere*; “frequently” - *gelome, gelomlice*; “psalmist” - *sealmscop, sealmwyrhta*;

<sup>6</sup> Koskeniemi (1986) lists this phrase and quotes this sentence.

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