



ul. Kuźnicza 22, 50-138 Wrocław, Poland, EU
tel. +48 (71) 375 24 39, fax. +48 (71) 375 24 40, www.ifa.uni.wroc.pl

SAPERE ET FARI

TASK 2

OLD ENGLISH AEROBICS

Below you have some data from Old English language, *i.e.* the ancestral form of the present English language that was used roughly until the XIIth century. The data illustrate the conjugation of the verb *rīdan*, which means ‘to ride’. Study the data and answer the questions below.

rīdan – to ride	þu rīdest – you(sg.) ride	ge ridon – you (pl.) rode
heo rād – she rode	heo rīdeþ – she rides	hie rīdaþ – they ride
ic rīde – I ride	ge rīdaþ – you(pl.) ride	hie ridon – they rode
þu ride – you(sg.) rode	ic rād – I rode	we rīdaþ – we ride
we ridon – we rode		

I. How is the past tense for the following persons formed?

I _____

She _____

You(sg.) _____

II. Using the verb “writan” – to write, how would you say

a) You(sg.) wrote _____

b) They write _____

c) You(pl.) wrote _____

d) I wrote _____

Task author: Wojciech Witkowski

ANSWER KEY:

Task I

For 1st singular – change ‘ī’ to ‘ā’ and remove/delete -en

For 3rd singular – change ‘ī’ to ‘ā’ and remove/delete -en

For 2nd singular – change ‘ī’ to ‘i’ and change -en to -e/ delete -n

Task 2

- a) þu write
- b) hie writon
- c) þu writon
- d) ic wrāt