**ME CHANGES**

A long vowel before two consonants is shortened; the exception here are the clusters *mb, ld, nd (OE cēpan* - *cēpte* ME *kepen, kepe* – *kept).*

In the 13th century short vowels were lengthened in the open syllables. This lengthening affected the short vowels *a, o, e (cāru).*

**Monophthongization**. The most significant change was monophthongization of Old English diphthongs.

**Short Diphthongs.**

*ea —>* æ—> *a heard - hard*

*eo* —*> e* closed *(e) heorte* - *herte* (heart)

*ie* almost invariably changed into *i* or *e* – *nieht* - *niht* (night)

**Long Diphthongs.**

*ēa –* æ: - ε: (sound is represented by *e, ea) – ēast -* ε:*st* (east, est)

*ēo* —> *e: – dēop - deep* (deep)

**Individual sounds**

æ – *a (*ðæt *– that)*

æ: - ε: stræ*:*t- *street*

*ā – כ:* stān *— stכ:ne* (stone)

*y, ý – i* in the north and east *fyllan - fillen* (to fill)

*u* in the west

*e* in the south west

Sometimes southern or western changes were accepted *bysi3 -* busy, business

*h* at the beginning of the word was lost in clusters *hr, hl, hn, hw*

*hrin3 - ring*

The sound *γ* (marked by 3) in the intervocal position vocalised and turned into *w,*

*a3* - *aw(au) dra3an — drawen*

*a3 - [ai]* marked by *ai, ay –* dæ3 *— day*

*e3 - [ei]* marked by *ei, ey – we3 - wey,*

The combinations j+ vowel lead to long vowels:

*i3, y3 – i: – ti3ele — tile*

*u3 - u:* (marked by *ou, ow) – fu3ol - foul (bird)*

In combination with liquids (плавный звук) (l and r) new diphthongs appeared:

*l3, r3 – lw, rw* [ou] and [au]

*sor3ian - sorwen, sorrow*

**ME CHANGES**

A long vowel before two consonants is shortened; the exception here are the clusters *mb, ld, nd (OE cēpan* - *cēpte* ME *kepen, kepe* – *kept).*

In the 13th century short vowels were lengthened in the open syllables. This lengthening affected the short vowels *a, o, e (cāru).*

**Monophthongization**. The most significant change was monophthongization of Old English diphthongs.

**Short Diphthongs.**

*ea —>* æ—> *a heard - hard*

*eo* —*> e* closed *(e) heorte* - *herte* (heart)

*ie* almost invariably changed into *i* or *e* – *nieht* - *niht* (night)

**Long Diphthongs.**

*ēa –* æ: - ε: (sound is represented by *e, ea) – ēast -* ε:*st* (east, est)

*ēo* —> *e: – dēop - deep* (deep)

**Individual sounds**

æ – *a (*ðæt *– that)*

æ: - ε: stræ*:*t- *street*

*ā – כ:* stān *— stכ:ne* (stone)

*y, ý – i* in the north and east *fyllan - fillen* (to fill)

*u* in the west

*e* in the south west

Sometimes southern or western changes were accepted *bysi3 -* busy, business

*h* at the beginning of the word was lost in clusters *hr, hi, hn, hw*

*hrin3 - ring*

The sound *γ* (marked by 3) in the intervocal position vocalised and turned into *w,*

*a3* - *aw(au) dra3an — drawen*

*a3 - [ai]* marked by *ai, ay –* dæ3 *— day*

*e3 - [ei]* marked by *ei, ey – we3 - wey,*

The combinations j+ vowel lead to long vowels:

*i3, y3 – i: – ti3ele — tile*

*u3 - u:* (marked by *ou, ow) – fu3ol - foul (bird)*

In combination with liquids (плавный звук) (l and r) new diphthongs appeared:

*l3, r3 – lw, rw* [ou] and [au]

*sor3ian - sorwen, sorrow*