Exploring Early Modern English: Lexicon and Morphology Name:

Use the Oxford English Dictionary and the “Lexicons of Early Modern English” project to explore the following topics: <http://leme.library.utoronto.ca/search/>. The LEME is a newer database, so it should be more intuitive than the other resources that we have used.

1) The lexicon of English expands even more in the Early Modern English period than it did in the Middle English period. The major difference is that in Early Modern English, speakers borrow words from a variety of languages. Use the Oxford English Dictionary's "Advanced Search Tool" (the link is just below the search field) to find words borrowed between 1500-1700 from these languages. Here is the way the window will look: put the name of the language in the "Language of Origin" field and the date range "1500-1700" in the "Date of Entry" range. Find at least one word that you recognize in each category.

Record the words you looked up here and the date of their first citation in the OED: (2 points)

Greek Spanish Italian Portuguese Iranian

Indian Subcontinent Languages German Dutch Russian

Scandinavian Turkish Arabic Hebrew

Malay Japanese North American Languages

2) Now, select three of those words and look them up in the "Lexicons of Early Modern English." What lexicon records them and when?

Use the searchable corpus derived from Early English Books Online to explore the following topics: <https://corpus.byu.edu/eebo/>. You may have to create a free account to do multiple searches, so make sure that you begin this task as soon as possible. After every 10-15 searches a “subscribe” message comes up. Just ignore it and run the next search. There might be a slight delay while you get your account.

3) Compare the frequencies of the following strings:

1490s 1550s 1600s 1650s 1690s

Ye shall:

You shall:

my eyes

mine eyes

my eyen

mine eyen

4) Compare the context of a sentence that has the sequence “it is thou” to the context of a sentence that has “it is thee” (provide the date and name of the work); which of the two constructions is more frequent?

it is thou:

it is thee: