

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg
Fakultät Geistes- und Kulturwissenschaften
Lehrstuhl für Englische Sprachwissenschaft und Sprachgeschichte
Ü: Methods and Theories in Linguistics
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Datum: 23.10.2015

Protocol on mini-project “*One and twenty*” vs. “*twenty and one*” vs. “*twenty-one*” in Early English Books Online.

- 1 We defined the time span of our search. We decided on the 1473 till the 1700.
- 2 We divided this period into 5 stages: 1473-1500, 1501-1550, 1551-1600, 1601-1650, and 1651-1700.
- 3 We accessed the EEBO database online. We limited our search to “items with keyed full text”. It includes 25,277 records.



Search using: Variant spellings [\(What is this?\)](#) (e.g. *jealousy* finds *iealousy*, *jalousie* etc.)
Variant forms [\(What is this?\)](#) (e.g. *arrest* finds *arresting*, *arrested* etc.)

KEYWORD(s): [Select from a list >>](#) [Check for variants >>](#) [Hints on phrase searching](#)

LIMIT TO: [Limit help](#)

AUTHOR KEYWORD(s): [Select from a list >>](#)
(e.g. Knox, John; Church of England)

TITLE KEYWORD(s): [Select from a list >>](#)
(e.g. Hamlet; labyrinth or labyrinthe)

SUBJECT KEYWORD(s): [Select from a list >>](#)
(e.g. Saints, Ireland fby History)

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NUMBER: [Abbreviations reference](#)
(e.g. STC and 22328; E.540[17])

LIMIT BY DATE: From: To: [Date help](#)

Sort results: **Display:**

[Clear search](#)

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- 4 We included variant spelling and variant forms in our searching criteria.

Search using: Variant spellings [\(What is this?\)](#)
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5 We searched for each separate item for the whole time span.

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Search

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5.1 We searched for ‘*twenty-one*’, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1473-1700. 1687 results in 862 records were found.

The screenshot shows the EEBO (Early English Books Online) search results interface. At the top, the EEBO logo is displayed on the left, and the Cambridge University Press logo is on the right. Below the logo is a navigation bar with 'Search Results' and links for 'HOME', 'MARKED LIST', 'SEARCH HISTORY', and 'HELP?'. A secondary bar shows search filters: 'SEARCH: Basic | Advanced | Periodicals' and 'BROWSE: Authors | Thomason Tracts | Periodicals'. A key indicates available content types: RECORD, DOCUMENT IMAGE, ILLUSTRATION, FULL TEXT, and THUMBNAIL.

The search details state: "You searched on: **Items with keyed full text only**; Keyword(s): **"twenty-one"**; Date: **1473 to 1700** - Your search included variant spellings and variant forms." A link to "<< Refine search" is provided.

The results summary indicates: "Your search produced 1749 hits in 891 records".

Sorting options are shown as "Sort: Earliest publication first" with a "Go" button. A "Go to record no." field with a "Go" button is also present.

Instructions for using the marked list are provided: "You can use the checkboxes to add/remove records from your Marked list, or [click here to add all records on this page](#), or [click here to remove all records on this page](#)."

The pagination shows "Page(s): 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Next >>".

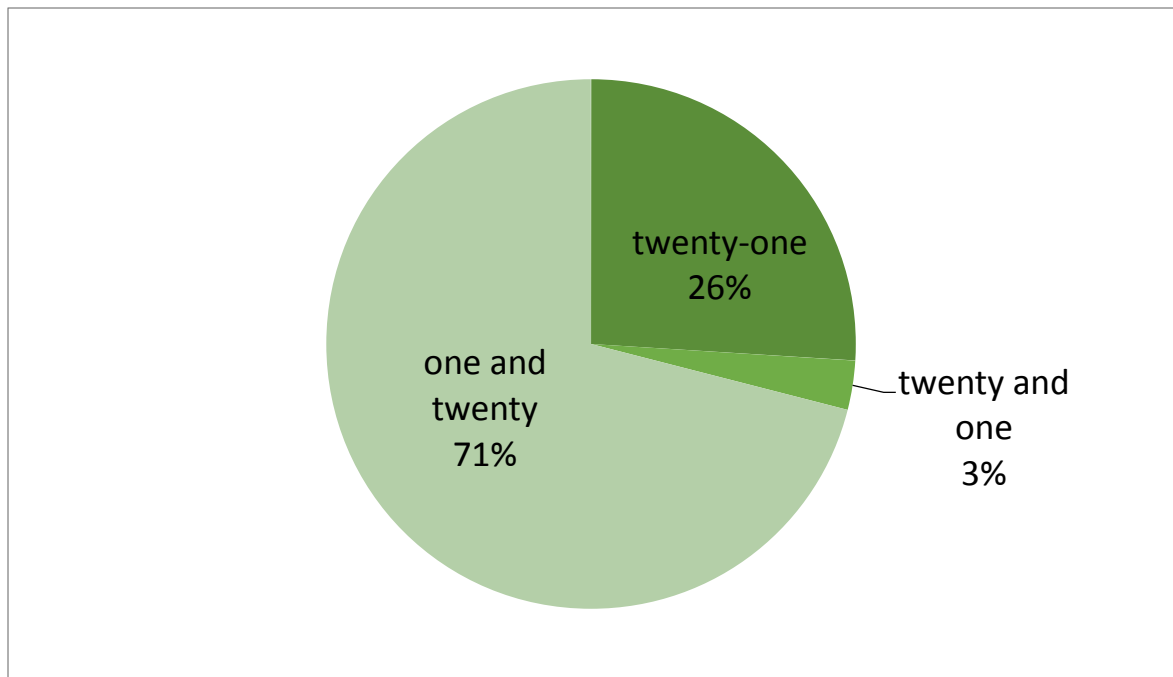
The first result is "1. Euclid." with a checkbox and icons for document image, illustration, full text, and thumbnail. A thumbnail image of the book cover is shown on the left. The description reads: "The elements of geometrie of the most auncient philosopher Euclide of Megara. Faithfully (now first) translated into the Englishe tounge, by H. Billingsley, citizen of London. Whereunto are annexed certaine scholies, annotations, and inuentions, of the best mathematiciens, both of time past, and in this our age. With a very fruitfull praeface made by M. I. Dee, specifying the chiefe mathematical scie[n]ces, what they are, and wherunto commodious: where, also, are disclosed certaine new secrets mathematicall and mechanicall, vntill these our daies, greatly missed, Imprinted at London: By Iohn Daye, [1570 (3

5.2 We searched for ‘*twenty and one*’, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1473-1700. 196 results in 145 records were found.

5.3 We searched for ‘*one and twenty*’, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1473-1700. 4625 results in 1732 records were found.

6 We depicted the collected data in percentage.

Results. 100% is a total number of the use of the figure “21” (in all the possible variants) in the Early Modern English texts between 1473 and 1700. The most frequently used form was ‘*one and twenty*’, appearing in 71% of the proceeded records. The form ‘*twenty-one*’ can be met in 26% of the Early Modern English texts. The rarest was ‘*twenty and one*’, showing up only in 3% of the records. We represented this figures in a diagram form.



- 7 We started searching for each separate item for each period of time.
- 8 We searched for *'twenty-one'*.

E E B O
EARLY ENGLISH BOOKS
O N L I N E

CHADWYCK-HEALEY

Basic Search

[HOME](#)
[MARKED LIST](#)
[SEARCH HISTORY](#)
[HELP ?](#)

SEARCH:
[Basic](#) | [Advanced](#) | [Periodicals](#)

[BROWSE: Authors](#) | [Thomason Tracts](#) | [Periodicals](#)

Search using: Variant spellings [\[What is this?\]](#) Variant forms [\[What is this?\]](#)
(e.g. jealousy finds *realousy*, *jalousie* etc.) (e.g. arrest finds *arresting*, *arrested* etc.)

KEYWORD(s): [Select from a list >>](#) [Check for variants >>](#) Search
[Hints on phrase searching](#)

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LIMIT BY DATE: From: To: [Date help](#)

Sort results: **Display:**

[Clear search](#) Search

- 8.1 We searched for *'twenty-one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1473-1500. No results were found.
- 8.2 We searched for *'twenty-one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1501-1550. No results were found.

- 8.3 We searched for *'twenty-one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1551-1600. 64 results in 38 records were found.
- 8.4 We searched for *'twenty-one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1601-1650. 436 results in 213 records were found.
- 8.5 We searched for *'twenty-one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1651-1700. 1187 results in 611 sources were found.
- 9 We searched for *'twenty and one'*.
- 9.1 We searched for *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1473-1500. No results found.
- 9.2 We searched for *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1501-1550. 4 results in 3 records were found.
- 9.3 We searched for *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1551-1600. 44 results in 26 records.
- 9.4 We searched for *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1601-1650. 52 results in 47 records were found.
- 9.5 We searched for *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1651-1700. 96 results in 69 records were found.
- 10 We searched for *'one and twenty'*.
- 10.1 We searched for *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1473-1500. 10 results in 4 records were found.
- 10.2 We searched for *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1501-1550. 27 results in 15 records were found.
- 10.3 We searched for *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1551-1600. 536 results in 170 records.
- 10.4 We searched for *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1601-1650. 1653 results in 523 records were found.
- 10.5 We searched for *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1651-1700. 2401 results in 1022 records were found.
- 11 We depicted the collected data in percentage:
 We counted the relation of different variants of the figure “21” for each period of time. To enable this we counted how many times the notion “21” appeared in all the texts in any variation in each period.

	1473-1500	1501-1550	1551-1600	1601-1650	1651-1700
twenty-one	0	0	64	536	1,187
twenty and one	0	4	44	52	96
one and twenty	10	27	536	1653	2401
Total	10	31	644	2241	3684

We compared the percentages of the rivaling expressions in each time period.

	twenty-one	one and twenty	twenty and one
1473-1500	0%	100%	0%
1501-1550	0%	87%	13%
1551-1600	10%	83%	7%
1601-1650	24%	74%	2%

1651-1700

32.5%

65%

2.5%

Results. Although, according to Nielsen (Nielsen: 2007), the modern form of numerals in the English language appeared in the 15th century, it was not widely used in written language until the second half of the 16th century. The form *'one and twenty'* was widely applied in the early modern English period, remaining the most frequently used one in comparison to *'twenty and one'* and *'one and twenty'*. *'Twenty and one'* can be seen as a transition form from *'one and twenty'* to *'twenty-one'*, because it started to appear in Early Modern English books after 1500, whereas *'twenty-one'* emerged after 1550.

12 We got more interested in our research and decided to investigate further. We searched for the old and new forms of "21" to appear in the same records together.

12.1 We searched for *'twenty-one'*, *'one and twenty'* and *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the whole period (1473-1700). 979 results in 43 records were found.

12.2 We searched for *'twenty-one'* and *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the whole period (1473-1700). 2969 results in 316 records were found.



Search using: Variant spellings [\(What is this?\)](#) (e.g. *jealousy* finds *iealousy*, *jalousie* etc.) Variant forms [\(What is this?\)](#) (e.g. *arrest* finds *arresting*, *arrested* etc.)

KEYWORD(s): [Select from a list >>](#)
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AUTHOR KEYWORD(s): [Select from a list >>](#)
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LIMIT BY DATE: From: To: [Date help](#)

Sort results: **Display:** **Search**

[Clear search](#)

You searched on: **Items with keyed full text only**; Keyword(s):
"twenty-one" and "one and twenty"; Date: **1473 to 1700** - Your search
 included variant spellings and variant forms.

[<< Refine search](#)

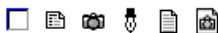
Your search produced 2969 hits in 316 records

Sort:

Go to record no.

You can use the checkboxes to add/remove records from your Marked list, or [click here to add all records on this page](#), or [click here to remove all records on this page](#).

Page(s): [1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#) | [5](#) | [6](#) | [7](#) | [8](#) | [9](#) | [10](#) | [Next >>](#)



1. Adams, Thomas, fl. 1612-1653.



A commentary or, exposition vpon the diuine second epistle generall, written by the blessed apostle St. Peter. By Thomas Adams, London: Printed by Richard Badger [and Felix Kyngston] for Iacob Bloome, MDCXXXIII. [1633]
Date: 1633

- 12.3 We searched for 'twenty-one' and 'twenty and one', concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the whole period (1473-1700). 273 results in 51 records were found.
- 12.4 We searched for 'one and twenty' and 'twenty and one', concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the whole period (1473-1700). 1072 results in 93 records were found.
- 13 We did the same for each separate period of time.
- 13.1 We did not search for 'twenty-one', 'one and twenty' and 'twenty and one' to appear in the same records together for the period 1473-1500, as far as "twenty-one" and "twenty and one" did not appear in the records of that period at all.
- 13.2 We did not search for 'twenty-one', 'one and twenty' and 'twenty and one' to appear in the same records together for the period 1500-1550, as far as "twenty-one" did not appear in the records of that period at all.
- 13.3 We searched for 'twenty-one', 'one and twenty' and 'twenty and one', concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1551-1600. 239 results in 8 records were found.
- 13.4 We searched for 'twenty-one', 'one and twenty' and 'twenty and one', concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1601-1650. 441 results in 16 records were found.
- 13.5 We searched for 'twenty-one', 'one and twenty' and 'twenty and one', concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1651-1700. 299 results in 19 records were found.
- 13.6 We did not search for 'twenty-one' and 'twenty and one' to appear in the same records together for the period 1473-1500, as far as they did not appear in the records of that period at all.

- 13.7 We did not search for *'twenty-one'* and *'twenty and one'* to appear in the same records together for the period 1501-1550, as far as "twenty-one" did not appear in the records of that period at all.
- 13.8 We searched for *'twenty-one'* and *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1551-1600. 38 results in 8 records were found.
- 13.9 We searched for *'twenty-one'* and *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1601-1650. 103 results in 19 records were found.
- 13.10 We searched for *'twenty-one'* and *'twenty and one'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1651-1700. 132 results in 24 records.
- 13.11 We did not search for *'twenty-one'* and *'one and twenty'* to appear in the same records together for the period 1473-1500, as far as *'twenty-one'* did not appear in the records of that period at all.
- 13.12 We did not search for *'twenty-one'* and *'one and twenty'* to appear in the same records together for the period 1501-1550, as far as "twenty-one" did not appear in the records of that period at all.
- 13.13 We searched for *'twenty-one'* and *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1551-1600. 268 results in 19 records.
- 13.14 We searched for *'twenty-one'* and *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1601-1650. 1112 results in 87 records.
- 13.15 We searched for *'twenty-one'* and *'one and twenty'*, concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1651-1700. 1589 results in 210 records.
- 13.16 We did not search for *'twenty and one'* and *'one and twenty'* to appear in the same records together for the period 1473-1500, as far as "twenty and one" did not appear in the records of that period at all.
- 13.17 We searched for *'twenty and one'* and *'one and twenty'* concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1501-1550. No results found.
- 13.18 We searched for *'twenty and one'* and *'one and twenty'* concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1551-1600. 250 results in 15 records were found.
- 13.19 We searched for *'twenty and one'* and *'one and twenty'* concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1601-1650. 452 results in 30 records were found.
- 13.20 We searched for *'twenty and one'* and *'one and twenty'* concerning variant spelling and variant forms, for the period 1651-1700. 370 results in 48 records were found.

Results. The last investigation has shown that after its appearance the new form of the numeral 21 was widely used with the old ones in the same texts. Thus, the *'twenty-one'* did not manage to substitute the OE *'one and twenty'* until the end of the 17th century. According to Nielsen (Nielsen: 2007) this process continued till the 19th century. The results also show that there was no standard for numerals at that time, the language was changing and developing. That is why the Early Middle English period is often called "the time of sweeping changes" (Rastorgueva: 2003).

References.

1. Mengden, Ferdinand von. *Cardinal Numerals: Old English from a cross-linguistic perspective*. Berlin: Hubert & Co., 2010. Print.

2. Nielsen, Hans Frede. *Irregularities in Modern English*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing, 2007. Print.
3. Rastorgueva, Tamara. *A History of English*. Moskow: Astrel, 2003. Print.