

## Protocol

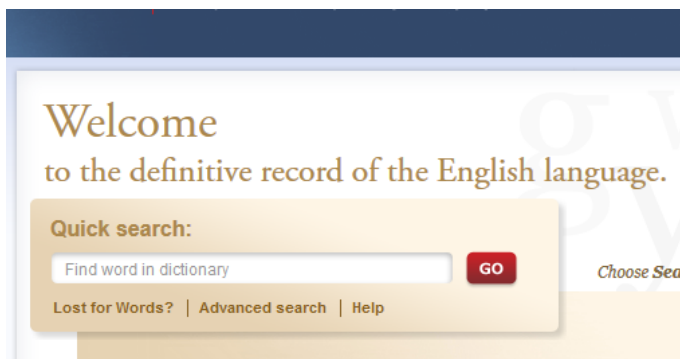
### Variation and change in the form of the present participle in the OED and King Horn

Tasks:

- Look at the information given in the OED entries for "-ing, suffix<sup>1</sup>" and "-ing, suffix<sup>2</sup>". Try to outline differences and connections between suffix<sup>1</sup> and suffix<sup>2</sup> on the one hand and between suffix<sup>2</sup> and the Old English suffix "-ende" on the other.
- Search for the forms of the present participle in the electronic full text of *King Horn* at <http://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams/text/salisbury-king-horn>. What do you find?

Methodology:

1. Enter [www.oed.com](http://www.oed.com). There is a "quick search" input field right at the top of the homepage:



2. Enter the word or expression you are looking for, in this case the suffix "-ing", and click on "GO" to start the search. A list of search results will appear. The task was to compare the suffix<sup>1</sup> form with the suffix<sup>2</sup> form, which are both among the results. Click on a result to open a more detailed definition of the term and the function.



3. Compare the forms:

-ing, suffix <sup>1</sup>	-ing, suffix <sup>2</sup>
from OE -ung, ME -inge	from OE -ende, -inde
forms <u>nouns</u> of action, gerunds	Suffix of the present participle & derived <u>adjectives</u>

Both forms share the same spelling and pronunciation and have been identical since the 14th century, despite different origins. The OED definitions delve into possible reasons for the historical drift, stating that "it is now generally agreed that the confusion was, in its origin, entirely phonetic ("-ing, suffix<sup>2</sup>").

4. Having made the distinction, the second part of the task requires us to look for these different forms in *King Horn*, which is fully available under <http://d.lib.rochester.edu/teams/text/salisbury-king-horn>. The search function gives several hits for "inde" and "inge", which confirm the OED explanation that current -ing forms have developed from different origins:

"Sittinde" in line 1457 is an example for a present participle, whereas "fightinge" in line 823 could be used as an example for the "-inge"-form as a derived noun.

Works Cited:

"-ing, suffix<sup>2</sup>." *OED Online*. Oxford University Press, September 2015. Web. 21 October 2015.