

## Phonological rules affecting syncopated 2sg. and 3sg. verb forms.

### 1. Vowel changes.

The vowel of the verb root is subject to i-umlaut. Taking the classes of strong verbs in traditional order, the following changes occur.

**Class I.**  $\bar{i} \rightarrow \bar{i}$  (drīfan: drīfst, drīfþ)

**Class II.**  $\bar{e}o \rightarrow \bar{i}e$  (clēofan: clīefst, clīefþ)

$\bar{u} \rightarrow \bar{y}$  (brūcan: brȳcst, brȳcþ)

**Class III.**  $i \rightarrow i$  (drincan: drincst, drincþ)

$e \rightarrow i$  (helpan: hilpst, hilpþ)

$ie \rightarrow i$  (ġielpan: ġilpst, ġilpþ)

$eo \rightarrow$  (weorpan: wierpst, wierpþ)

**Class IV.**  $i \rightarrow i$  (niman: nimst, nimþ)

$e \rightarrow i$  (beran: birst, birþ; breca: birst, bricþ)

$ie \rightarrow i$  (scieran: scirst, scirþ)

$u \rightarrow y$  (cuman: cymst, cymþ)

**Class V.**  $i \rightarrow i$  (licgan: ligst, ligþ); in this case the root vowel is already umlauted

$e \rightarrow i$  (spreca: spricst, spricþ)

$ie \rightarrow i$  (ġiefan: ġifst, ġifþ)

**Class VI.**  $a \rightarrow \text{æ}$  (faran: færst, færþ)

$a \sim o \rightarrow e$  (standan: stentst, stent)

**but:**  $e \rightarrow e$  (hebban: hefst, hefþ), because the root vowel is already umlauted, and

$ie \rightarrow ie$  (sciepan: sciepst, sciepþ), for the same reason

**Class VII.**  $\bar{a} \rightarrow \bar{æ}$  (slāpan: slāpst, slāpþ)

$\bar{a} \rightarrow \bar{æ}$  (cnāwan: cnāwst, cnāwþ)

$a \sim o \rightarrow e$  (gangan: gengst, gengþ)

$\bar{e}a \rightarrow \bar{i}e$  (hlēapan: hlīepst, hlīepþ)

$ea \rightarrow ie$  (feallan: fielst, fielþ)

$\bar{o} \rightarrow \bar{e}$  (rōwan: rēwst, rēwþ)

$\bar{e} \rightarrow \bar{e}$  (wēpan: wēpst, wēpþ); in this case the root vowel is already umlauted

## 2. Consonant changes.

- $t + st, d + st \rightarrow tst; t + \beta, d + \beta \rightarrow tt$  ( $\rightarrow t$  after a consonant, and usually after a long vowel or diphthong); thus:

bīdan: bītst, bīt(t)	sittan: sitst, sitt
bītan: bītst, bīt(t)	biddan: bitst, bitt
ġēotan: ġīetst, ġīet(t)	wadan: wætst, wætt
bēodan: bīetst, bīet(t)	standan: stentst, stent
lūtan: lýtst, lýt(t)	lāetan: lāetst, lāet(t)
bindan: bintst, bint	rāedan: rāetst, rāet(t)
sweltan: swiltst, swilt	hātan: hāetst, hāet(t)
ġieldan: ġiltst, ġilt	scādan: scāetst, scāet(t)
feohtan: fiehtst, fieht	bēatan: bīetst, bīet(t)
etan: itst, itt	healdan: hielst, hielt
tredan: tritst, tritt	blōtan: blētst, blēt(t)
begietan: begitst, begitt	

- $\beta + st \rightarrow (t)st; \beta + \beta \rightarrow \beta\beta$  ( $\rightarrow \beta$  after a consonant, and usually after a long vowel or diphthong); unstressed and common verbs tend to have more opaque outcomes; thus:

snīþan: snī(t)st, snīþ(þ)	weorþan: wierst, wierþ
ābrēoþan: ābrīe(t)st, ābrīeþ(þ)	cweþan: cwist, cwīþ(þ)

- $s + st \rightarrow st; s + \beta \rightarrow st$ ; thus:

rīsan: rīst, rīst	lesan: list, list
cēosan: cīest, cīest	

- root-final geminates are simplified before syncopated endings; thus:

onginnan: onġinst, onġinþ	ġiellan: ġilst, ġilþ
swimman: swimst, swimþ	bannan: benst, benþ
swellan: swilst, swilþ	feallan: fielst, fielþ