





3. Take the following quiz with your class:

<p>1. How many irregular verbs are there in the English language?  a. 50  b. 100  <u>c. 200</u></p>	<p>2. How many letters are there in the English alphabet?  a. 24  <u>b. 26</u>  c. 29</p>
<p>3. English is not the official language of the United States.  <u>a. True (The US does not have an official language)</u>  b. False</p>	<p>4. What is the population of the UK?  a. <u>66 million</u>  b. 95 million  c. 50 million</p>
<p>5. What is the most used adjective in English ?  a. <u>Good</u>  b. New  c. First</p>	<p>6. What is the most used verb in English?  <u>a. be</u>  b. have  c. do</p>
<p>7. English originates from:  a. North west Germany and France.  b. North west Germany and Denmark.  <u>c. North west Germany and the Netherlands</u></p>	<p>8. How many words are in the Oxford dictionary?  <u>a. 171, 476</u>  b. 120,014  c. 255,345</p>
<p>9. What is the most used letter in English?  a. A  <u>b. E</u>  c. I</p>	<p>10. What percentage of information stored on computers is in English?  a. 40%  b. 60%  <u>c. 80%</u></p>
<p>10. Which everyday word originated from the old English phrase "God be with you"? <u>Goodbye</u></p>	<p>11. What is the shortest grammatically correct sentence you can make in English? <u>"Go"</u></p>



#### 4. Discuss the following with your class or partner:

- How did you do on the quiz?
- Which, if any, facts surprised you?
- How did you do on the first exercise?
- Did you learn any new vocabulary? If so, which ones?
- Does your language have a lot of irregular verbs?
- Can you think of some irregular verbs in your language?
- Do you think the English irregular verbs are difficult to learn?
- Do you have any idea why we have irregular verbs? If not, try to think of a reason with your partner.



#### 5. Watch the following video Why Do We Have Irregular Verbs? And answer the following questions:

- a. What were the two rules to make past simple verbs in Old English?

To change the vowel. For example: ride became rode.

Changing the ending to a “-d” sound. For example- Lufian Lufode (meaning to love)

- b. What change happened around 11 AD?

The rule that adds a “-d” sound to the ending of verbs in the past spread and started to take over the other rules.

- c. Why didn't some verbs make the change referred to in b?

Verbs which were most frequently used made them resistant to change as their use in the old system was continually reinforced. Till this day these verbs are in Old English and that's why they are irregular.

- d. What is particular about the example of the verb be?

This is an example of a verb that is used extremely frequently. Therefore, it had even more reinforcement than the other irregular verbs, making it a part of even older grammar.

- e. What were *have* and *made* in the past and why did they change?

have = haved and make = maked

The sound of haved was close enough to had so people eventually changed it to speak faster.

- f. Every act of language use involves three things. What are they?

Enforcing old habits, applying rules to new situations and economising effort.