# HISTORICAL PROGRESS OF INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

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**Abstract.** The article investigates various principles of differentiating tense forms of the English language.

**Key words.** Tense, aspect, verb, sentence, action, time, grammatical categories.

In world linguistics, the history of the development of the English language is divided into three periods: the period of the Old English language from the 5th to the 11th centuries, the period of the Middle English language from the 11th to the 15th centuries, and the period from the 15th century to the present. The Early New English period, in turn, is divided into two parts, the period from the fifteenth century to the time of Shakespeare is studied as the Early English period, and the period from the time of Shakespeare to the present is studied as the New English period. When we pay attention to the history of the emergence and their increase and development of pronouns, we can witness the diversity of opinions and opinions of linguists. It is known that in the period of Old English, pronouns were classified according to the categories of agreement, number, and gender [8, 35].

Old English, the earliest form of the English language, did not have indefinite pronouns as we know them today. Instead, speakers would use demonstrative pronouns, such as "þæt" (that) and "þis" (this), to refer to non-specific or indefinite nouns. For example, instead of saying "someone," they might say "þæt sum" (that one) or "þis sum" (this one).

As the English language evolved, new words and grammatical structures were introduced to express the same ideas more efficiently. In Middle English, which was spoken from the 11th to the 15th century, the word "man" was used as an indefinite pronoun to refer to people in a non-specific way. For example, instead of saying "someone," speakers might say "man" (one). This usage is still found in some dialects of English today, such as the phrase "one does not simply walk into Mordor" from J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings."

In Early Modern English, which was spoken from the 15th to the 17th century, new indefinite pronouns were introduced to the language. The word "any" was used to refer to non-specific things or people, as in the phrase "anyone can do it." The word "some" was also used in this way, as in the phrase "somebody told me." These pronouns were used in combination with other words to create new indefinite pronouns, such as "anyone," "anything," "someone," and "something."

During the 18th and 19th centuries, the use of indefinite pronouns became more standardized in English. New words were introduced to the language, such as "everybody," "everything," "nobody," and "nothing." These words were used to refer to non-specific people, things, or ideas in a more efficient and concise way than previous forms of the language [4, 32].

In the 20th century, the use of indefinite pronouns continued to evolve. New words were introduced to the language, such as "anybody," "someone," and "something," which were used to refer to non-specific people, things, or ideas in a more casual or informal way. The use of these pronouns became more common in spoken English, particularly in informal settings.

The earliest examples of indefinite pronouns in English can be traced back to the Old English period, which lasted from the 5th century to the 11th century. During this time, the language was heavily influenced by Germanic languages, and many of the indefinite pronouns used in Old English were borrowed from these languages.

One of the most common indefinite pronouns in Old English was "man," which meant "one" or "someone." This pronoun was used to refer to an unspecified person, and was often used in place of a specific noun. For example, instead of saying "the boy," a speaker might say "man" to refer to any boy.

Another common indefinite pronoun in Old English was "hwæt," which meant "what" or "something." This pronoun was used to refer to an unspecified thing, and was often used in place of a specific noun. For example, instead of saying "the book," a speaker might say "hwæt" to refer to any book.

During the Middle English period, which lasted from the 11th century to the 15th century, the language underwent significant changes, and many new indefinite pronouns were introduced. One of the most important of these was "any," which was borrowed from Old French. This pronoun was used to refer to an unspecified person or thing, and was often used in negative or interrogative sentences. For example, instead of saying "I saw someone," a speaker might say "I didn't see any one."

Another important indefinite pronoun that was introduced during the Middle English period was "some," which was also borrowed from Old French. This pronoun was used to refer to an unspecified person or thing, and was often used in affirmative sentences. For example, instead of saying "I saw no one," a speaker might say "I saw some one."

During the Early Modern English period, which lasted from the 15th century to the 17th century, the language underwent further changes, and many new indefinite pronouns were introduced. One of the most important of these was "every," which was used to refer to all members of a group. For example, instead of saying "some of the boys," a speaker might say "every boy."

Another important indefinite pronoun that was introduced during the Early

Modern English period was "none," which was used to refer to no members of a group. For example, instead of saying "some of the boys," a speaker might say "none of the boys."

In the modern era, many new indefinite pronouns have been introduced, and the use of these pronouns has become increasingly complex. Some of the most common indefinite pronouns in modern English include "someone," "anyone," "everyone," "noIndefinite pronouns are a type of pronoun that refers to an unspecified or unknown person or thing. They are a common feature of many languages, including English, and have a long and complex history [2, 178].

The origins of indefinite pronouns can be traced back to the ancient Greek and Latin languages, which had a variety of words and constructions that could be used to refer to an unspecified person or thing. In Greek, for example, the word "tis" could be used to mean "someone" or "something," while in Latin, the word "aliquis" had a similar function.

In the Middle Ages, as Latin began to decline as a spoken language and give way to the various Romance languages, the use of indefinite pronouns became more widespread. In Old French, for example, the word "on" could be used to mean "one" or "someone," while in Middle English, the word "man" had a similar function.

During the Renaissance, as the study of grammar and language became more formalized, the use of indefinite pronouns became more standardized and codified. In the 16th century, the English grammarian William Lily included a section on indefinite pronouns in his influential grammar book, "A Short Introduction of Grammar."

In the centuries that followed, the use of indefinite pronouns continued to evolve and expand. In the 18th century, for example, the English language saw the introduction of new indefinite pronouns such as "anybody," "anything," and "anywhere,"

Today, indefinite pronouns are an important part of the English language. They are used to refer to non-specific people, places, things, or ideas in a concise and efficient way. They are also used to avoid repetition and to make language more natural and flowing. SomeIndefinite pronouns are a type of pronoun that refers to an unspecified or unknown person or thing. Examples of indefinite pronouns in English include "someone," "anyone," "anything," and "everything." The history of indefinite pronouns can be traced back to the development of the English language itself, as these pronouns have evolved over time to meet the changing needs of speakers and writers.

During the Middle English period, the number of pronouns increased. In addition to the above-mentioned pronouns, personal and relative pronouns appeared. Instead of the indefinite personal pronoun "I", the pronoun "one" is used. In this period, indefinite and negative pronouns stop being used in some, any, non and each, every agreements. In the period of Old English, the indefinite pronouns man, me, me were used in the

unstressed, weakened state in the sense of the indefinite personal pronouns. The indefinite pronoun oon (= one) is prominently combined with other indefinite pronouns in the Middle English period, for example everyckon = every one, many one. Later they are used independently in texts and speech. By the Early Modern English period, the demonstrative one's also appears in indefinite pronouns.

Information about the morphological categories of interrogative, indefinite, negative, personal, relative, indefinite-personal pronouns in English is not detailed. In this chapter, since indefinite pronouns are mainly the subject of research, we have focused more on them. If we pay attention to the opinions of modern English scholars, we can witness different approaches to indefinite pronouns

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