

# [PDF] Story Of English

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**Books Details:**

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Author: Robert McCrum

Released: 2013-10-01

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The short history of English. How did English reach the special position in which it finds itself today? Mostly, the rise of English to its position as the world's main international language was a result of chance. Britain was the world's most active colonial nation in the 19th century, and British explorers and colonists took their language with them wherever they went. English became the official language of most of Britain's colonies. The success story of English has been due partly to the nature of the language, but more to the fact that it had developed into a mature national language just when the countries of Europe were beginning to expand their influence and spread their culture all over the world. How can we tell the story of the English language? There seem to be two main ways. The usual approach is to provide an overview, identifying general themes and trends within the major periods of development: Old English | Middle English | Early Modern English | Modern English. A short history of English words. The Anglo-Saxon monk Bede, writing in his monastery in Northumbria in about the year 730, gives us an early account of those who first spoke the English language. In his Ecclesiastical History of the English Nation, written in Latin, he tells us that the island "contains five nations, the English, Britons, Scots, Picts and Latins, each in its own peculiar dialect cultivating the sublime study of Divine truth". And he goes on to explain how this situation came about. Do you enjoy reading stories? Read our entertaining short stories specially written for intermediate or upper intermediate level learners. Do you enjoy reading stories? In this section, read our entertaining short stories specially written for intermediate (CEFR level B1) or upper intermediate (CEFR level B2) learners. You will improve your reading fluency and comprehension and develop your vocabulary. Each story has interactive exercises to help you understand and use the language. Choose a story. 488. A serious case. My friend is afraid of spiders. This isn't very unusual; a lot of people are afraid of spiders. But my friend isn't just afraid of spiders, she is totally, completely and utterly terrified of them See more. 137.