Practice: Alternations. The items below represent patterns in German that might look odd, irregular or unexpected from a contemporary perspective, but history makes pretty clear where they come from. Sketch briefly where they come from.

1. **bringen **~ **brâhte**

2. **si darf_, ich sol_ vs. si nimet, ich nime**

3. **helfen **~ **ich hilfe, nemen **~ **nime**

4. By MHG, most noun classes show some kind of singular ~ plural distinction, but a few have really limited inflectional forms, like masculines that simply contrast the **NOM.SG.** with all other forms, like *fürste, mensche, garte* (Garten).

5. Class III strong verbs usually have *e* in the infinitive (*helfen, sterben, swellen, smelzen*), but some have *i* (*dringen, gewinnen, stinken, vinden*).

6. MHG consonants have almost always changed dramatically since Germanic, let alone Indo-European or other IE languages, but yet we have a couple of sets of exceptions, like these:
   a. IE *spreg-* > MHG *sprechen*, IE *stel-* > MHG *stellen*
   b. Low German/Dutch *wâpen* ~ MHG *wâpen*
   c. Old French *prophecie* ~ MHG *prophezie*

7. Central German *ümbe* (and Modern Low German *öim*) vs. Upper German *umbe*

8. These two words not only look a lot alike, they even come from the same Germanic root: *schône* ‘already’ ~ *schæne* ‘beautiful’.

9. Sometimes, consonants change in different forms of the strong verbs:
   a. **dihen, dech, gedigen** ‘gedeihen’
   b. **lîden, leit, gelîten**

10. **mêr(e) **~ **meist(e)**

11. The words for both ‘ear’ and ‘eye’ go back to Germanic words beginning with **au**, but in MHG we find *ôre* and *ouge*.

12. It seems like lots of MHG nouns ending in *-e* are feminine: *lêre, êre, sache*, *krône, vrâge, helle, klage*. 