

# Table of Contents

Chapter 1	
THE NORDIC LANGUAGES . . . . .	1
1.1 Overview . . . . .	1
1.1.1 The Written Languages 1 • 1.1.2 The Spoken Languages 2	
1.2 The Sources . . . . .	4
1.3 Methods and Points of View . . . . .	6
1.4 Germanic. . . . .	7
1.5 Common Scandinavian . . . . .	9
1.6 West Scandinavian . . . . .	10
1.7 East Scandinavian . . . . .	11
1.8 Middle Scandinavian . . . . .	12
1.9 Modern Scandinavian . . . . .	15
1.10 Plan of the Book . . . . .	18
Chapter 2	
PHONOLOGY: PROSODIC AND VOCALIC STRUCTURES . . . . .	20
2.1 Definitions. . . . .	20
2.1.1 Phonology 20 – 2.1.2 Prosodic Features 20	

2.2	Development of the Prosodic Structures . . . . .	21
	2.2.1 Stress 21 – 2.2.2 Accent 22 – 2.2.3 Intonation 24 – 2.2.4 Quantity 24 – 2.2.5 Juncture 26	
2.3	Proto-Scandinavian: Vowels . . . . .	26
	2.3.1 Symbols 26 – 2.3.2 Notes 27 – 2.3.3 Ablaut 27	
2.4	From Proto-Scandinavian to Common Scandinavian. . . . .	28
	2.4.1 Unstressed Vowels 28 – 2.4.2 Stressed Vowels 29 – 2.4.3 Contact Assimilation 29 – 2.4.4 Remote Assimilation 30 – 2.4.5 Dating 31 – 2.4.6 Rules 32 – 2.4.7 The Vowel System of CScand 33	
2.5	Old Scandinavian: West and East . . . . .	34
	2.5.1 Early Differences 34 – 2.5.2 From CSc to WSc/ESc 35 – 2.5.3 The Vowel System of East and West Sc 40	
2.6	From Old to Modern Scandinavian . . . . .	40
	2.6.1 Perspective 40 – 2.6.2 Icelandic 41 – 2.6.3 Faroese 43 – 2.6.4 N-Norwegian 46 – 2.6.5 Swedish 48 – 2.6.6 Danish 50 – 2.6.7 B-Norwegian 52	
2.7	Summary of Rules. . . . .	54
Chapter 3		
	PHONOLOGY: CONSONANTAL STRUCTURES . . . . .	57
3.1	Proto-Scandinavian: Consonants . . . . .	57
	3.1.1 Symbols and Inventory 57 – 3.1.2 Inherited Alternations: (a) IE <i>tt</i> > <i>ss</i> ; (b) Verner's Law 58	
3.2	From Proto-Scandinavian to Common Scandinavian. . . . .	58
3.3	Old Scandinavian: West and East . . . . .	63
3.4	From Old to Modern Scandinavian . . . . .	66
3.5	Icelandic . . . . .	68
3.6	Faroese . . . . .	70

3.7	N-Norwegian . . . . .	74
3.8	Swedish . . . . .	76
3.9	Danish . . . . .	79
3.10	B-Norwegian . . . . .	82
3.11	Summary of Rules . . . . .	85

Chapter 4

**MORPHOLOGY: NOMINAL INFLECTIONS . . . . . 87**

4.1	Definitions . . . . .	87
4.2	Proto-Scandinavian . . . . .	89
	4.2.1 Nouns 89 - 4.2.2 Pronouns 90 - 4.2.3 Adjectives 93 - 4.2.4 Adverbs 94	
4.3	Common Scandinavian . . . . .	94
	4.3.1 Nouns 95 - 4.3.2 The Suffixed Definite Article 95 - 4.3.3 Pronouns 99 - 4.3.4 Adjectives 102	
4.4	From Old to Modern Scandinavian . . . . .	103
	4.4.1 Nouns 103 - 4.4.2 Pronouns 106 - 4.4.3 Adjectives 107	
4.5	Icelandic . . . . .	107
4.6	Faroese . . . . .	108
4.7	N-Norwegian . . . . .	109
4.8	Swedish . . . . .	109
4.9	Danish . . . . .	111
4.10	B-Norwegian . . . . .	111

4.11 Summary . . . . .	112
Chapter 5	
<b>MORPHOLOGY: VERBAL INFLECTIONS</b> . . . . .	118
5.1 Definitions . . . . .	118
5.2 Proto-Scandinavian . . . . .	119
5.2.1 Tenses: Stem Classes: (a) Strong Verbs; (b) Weak Verbs; (c) Preterite-Present Verbs 119 – 5.2.2 Number and Person: Present Stem Suffixes: (a) Infinitive; (b) Present Indicative; (c) Present Subjunctive; (d) Imperative; (e) Present Participle 121 – 5.2.3 Number and Person: Preterite Stem Suffixes: (a) Preterite Indicative; (b) Preterite Subjunctive; (c) Perfect Participle 123	
5.3 Common Scandinavian . . . . .	126
5.3.1 Tenses: Stem Classes: (a) Strong Verbs; (b) Weak Verbs; (c) Preterite-Present Verbs 127 – 5.3.2 Number and Person: Present Stem Suffixes: (a) Infinitive; (b) Present Indicative; (c) Present Subjunctive; (d) Imperative; (e) Present Participle 129 – 5.3.3 Number and Person: Preterite Stem Suffixes: (a) Preterite Indicative; (b) Preterite Subjunctive; (c) Perfect Participle 131 – 5.3.4 Secondary Verb Forms: (a) The Mediopassive; (b) The Perfect; (c) The Future 134	
5.4 From Old to Modern Scandinavian . . . . .	136
5.4.1 Tense 136 – 5.4.2 Number 137 – 5.4.3 Person 138 – 5.4.4 Mood 138	
5.5 Icelandic . . . . .	139
5.6 Faroese . . . . .	139
5.7 N-Norwegian . . . . .	140
5.8 Swedish . . . . .	141
5.9 Danish . . . . .	141
5.10 B-Norwegian . . . . .	142
5.11 Summary . . . . .	143

Chapter 6	
SYNTAX . . . . .	148
6.0 Introduction . . . . .	148
6.1 Word Order . . . . .	149
6.1.1 Proto-Scandinavian 149 – 6.1.2 From Proto-Scandinavian to Common Scandinavian 150 – 6.1.3 Modern Scandinavian 152	
6.2 Congruence . . . . .	152
6.2.1 Impersonal sentences 153	
6.3 Government . . . . .	154
6.3.1 Accusative 155 – 6.3.2 Dative 155 – 6.3.3 Genitive 156 – 6.3.4 Loss of Case Distinctions 156	
6.4 Tense and Aspect . . . . .	157
6.4.1 Historical Present 157 – 6.4.2 Inferential Present 157 – 6.4.3 Durative and Iterative 157 – 6.4.4 Expressive Preterite 158	
6.5 Modality . . . . .	158
6.5.1 Subjunctive 158 – 6.5.2 Imperative 159	
6.6 Voice and Predication . . . . .	159
6.6.1 Stative Verbs 160 – 6.6.2 Passive auxiliaries 160 – 6.6.3 Medio- passive 161	
6.7 Verb Phrases . . . . .	161
6.7.1 Infinitive 162 – 6.7.2 Present Participle 163 – 6.7.3 Perfect Participle 163	
6.8 Modification . . . . .	164
6.8.1 Sentence Adverbs: (a) Negatives; (b) Question Particles (c) Modals 164 – 6.8.2 Content Adverbs: (a) Prepositional Phrases; (b) Adverbial Noun Phrases 167	
6.9 The Noun Phrase . . . . .	169
6.9.1 Pronouns: (a) Neuters; (b) Neuter Plurals; (c) Apposition; (d) Reflexive; (e) Interrogative; (f) <i>Sjálfr</i> ; (g) Case reduction; (h) Relative	

particles; (i) Impersonal 169 – 6.9.2 Adjectives 172 – 6.9.3 Articles:  
(a) Definite; (b) Indefinite 173

6.10	Complex and Compound Sentences . . . . .	174
6.10.1	Conjunctions: (a) Coordinating; (b) Subordinating 174 –	
6.10.2	Subordinate (Embedded) Clauses: (a) Nominal; (b) Adjectival;	
6.10.3	Adverbial 175 – 6.10.3 Marks of Embedding: (a) Subjunctive; (b) Word Order 176	
6.11	Ellipsis . . . . .	177
6.12	Summary. . . . .	179
Chapter 7		
	LEXICON . . . . .	182
7.1	The Vocabulary of Scandinavian . . . . .	182
7.2	Function Words . . . . .	183
7.2.1	Modern Languages 183	
7.3	Content Words: The Native Lexicon . . . . .	184
7.3.1	The Germanic Heritage 184 – 7.3.2 Nordic Innovations: (a) Physical Terrain; (b) Plants and Trees; (c) Animals and Birds; (d) Buildings and Houses; (e) Food and Clothing; (f) People; (g) Law and Commerce; (h) Descriptive Terms 186	
7.4	Word Formation . . . . .	188
7.4.1	Definitions 188 – 7.4.2 Unstressed Prefixes 189 –	
7.4.3	Compounds 190 7.4.4 Formatives: (a) Nominal; (b) Adjectival;	
7.4.5	Derivations: (a) Nominal; (b) Adjectival; (c) Adverbial; (d) Verbal 193	
7.5	Borrowing . . . . .	195
7.5.1	Perspectives 195 – 7.5.2 Common Scandinavian 197 – 7.5.3 The Low German Impact 199 – 7.5.4 German and Nordic 201 – 7.5.5 Modern Scandinavian 202	
7.6	Current Trends: Language Planning. . . . .	204

7.6.1 Icelandic 204 - 7.6.2 Faroese 205 – 7.6.3 N-Norwegian (nynorsk) 206 –  
7.6.4 Swedish 207 – 7.6.5 Danish 208 – 7.6.6 B-Norwegian (bokmål) 209

7.7 Nordic Unity . . . . .	210
Appendix 1. Table of Phonetic Symbols . . . . .	214
Appendix 2. Table of Abbreviations . . . . .	216
Index . . . . .	218