

# Contents

---

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	page viii
<i>Note on texts</i>	x
<i>Preface</i>	xiii
<b>1 Sentence and period</b>	<b>I</b>
i Sentences now	I
ii Sentences then	13
iii Medieval punctuation	20
iv Period	35
<b>2 Prose rhythm</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>3 Syntax and period in Middle English</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>4 Cranmer's commonwealth</b>	<b>71</b>
i Tyndale and the Bible	71
ii Cranmer's sentences	82
<b>5 Shakespeare <i>vs</i> the wanderers</b>	<b>105</b>
i The worst English prose	105
ii Shakespeare's prose	123
iii Puritan pamphleteers	131
<b>6 Dryden's democracy</b>	<b>139</b>
<b>7 The prose world</b>	<b>151</b>
<b>Appendices</b>	
<b>1 The history of the sentence</b>	<b>166</b>
<b>2 Medieval punctuation theory</b>	<b>185</b>
<b>3 Punctuation in a few manuscripts</b>	<b>190</b>
<b>4 Cranmer and the <i>cursus</i></b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Texts frequently cited</b>	<b>209</b>
<b>Index</b>	<b>213</b>
	vii