

soveran, from the Latin super, and an, an affix.

Her's.—This is not spelt with an apostrophe, though there is just as much reason for using it here as for using it in the expression, 'a book of my sisters.'

However it is omitted as there was no other form with which it could be confused.

Hem, we do not now use this form, but employ instead of it 'them.'

Two books.—The apostrophe is not used in the plural now, though it would be correct, as there is an elision of the letter 'e.'

Hissself, This word is spelt thus after the analogy of myself, thyself. It is more correct than the form himself, which we employ.

Naught, nought.—Naught is the more correct form as it is derived from

the Anglo-Saxon ne-a-whit.

Children.—This is an example of a double plural, in adding 'er,' and then 'n.' By metathesis we spell the word now Children.

IX. To the French language we owe the introduction of e mute at the end of words, the use of the letter z, and the recognition of 's' as the sign of the plural. To the same language we owe a considerable modification of the sounds of the language, the suppression of the sound of 'l' before other consonants, the partial suppression of the sounds of 'h' and 'gh,' the introduction of the sibilant sounds of j, g, ch, and c, and the consonantal sound of 'v.'

French has also freed us from the stiff and involved arrangement of sentences, which modern German still employs.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS IN FRENCH ANSWERED.

1. What principles guide us in the division of French words into syllables?

a. When vowels are separated by a single consonant, the consonant is written with the second vowel, as, *so-li-tu-de*.

b. When more than one consonant occur between vowels the consonants are separated in the division, as, *as-sis-tan-ce*.

c. But combinations of mutes and liquids or of consonants representing but one sound are not divided; thus tr, bl, th, gn, ph, &c., are not divided, *i-gno-rant*, *al-pha-bet*.

2. Give three words in which s final is, and three in which f final is not sounded.

a. *lis*, lily; *vis*, screw; *ours*, bear.

b. *Clef*, key; *cerf*, stag; *oeuf dur*, hard egg; pronounced klé, sèr, eu-ûr.

3. When are the final letters in *cinq*,

six, *sept*, *huit*, *neuf*, *dix* sounded and when not?

a. In counting or when the words come at the end of a phrase, the consonants are sounded, f and x being sharp like f and s.

b. Before a word beginning with a vowel sound, the final consonants are also sounded, f and x being like v and z.

c. Before a word beginning with a consonant sound the final consonants are silent.

4. Explain the spelling of *grand'chose*, *grand'mère*, *grand'rue*, &c.

Adjectives which in Latin have but one form for masculine and feminine had also in Old French but one form for both genders. In the 14th century this usage was abandoned, a regular feminine being formed for all words except *grand*. Grammarians of the 16th century thinking the e for the