Semantic Change

Words may undergo shifts in meaning over time. Typical paths of semantic change include broadening, narrowing, amelioration, pejoration, metaphoric use, metonymic use, and semantic bleaching (see slides and/or concepts).

Look up each of the following words in the *OED* (on campus or using eduVPN). If your search yields multiple entries, select the one most commonly used today. Write down the earliest attested form and sense along with the date of attestation, then identify the most notable path of semantic change towards its most common present-day sense. Use the model of *nice* below:

Modern Form	Earliest Form	Date	Earliest Sense	Process
nice	*nice*	c. 1300	foolish	amelioration
awful				
plate				
bead				
silly				
deer				
starve				
meat				
terrific				