

Common Elizabethan Words (that aren't so common today) and their meanings

'a	he
a'	on
against	for, in preparation for
alack	alas (an exclamation of sorrow)
an/and	if
anon	soon
aye	yes
but	except, only
Good-den/go-den/God-den	Good evening
hap	luck
haply	perhaps or lucky
hence	away from here
hie	hurry
hither	here
ho	an exclamation or greeting (like "hey!")
humor	mood
Jack	a common fellow; ordinary guy
maid	unmarried girl
mark	listen
Marry	indeed (a mild curse)
nice	trivial or foolish
owes	owns
shrift	confession (for forgiveness of sins)
soft	quiet, hush; wait
stay	wait
still	always
whence	where
wilt	will
withal	with that, with; in addition to
wot	know
would	wish

Greetings and Titles

"Hello!"	How now! What ho! Good morrow!
Person of Rank	Your Worship, My Lord
Common Man	Knave, Rogue
Common Woman	Wench
"Listen to Me."	Mark me well.
"Let me explain."	Give me leave.
"I'll do it quickly."	I will about it strait.
"Please."	I pray thee; prithee
"I give permission."	I give leave.
"Leave!" / "Go away!"	Be gone!
"Goodbye."	I take my leave. Fare thee well. Adieu.