Major Changes
Indo-European to Germanic

1. Germanic replaced IE lexical pitch-accent with fixed primary stress on the initial syllable of the root (which generally changed later into word-initial stress).

2. IE obstruents restructured in the First Sound Shift/Grimm's Law. Except when preceded by s, voiceless stops become voiceless fricatives
\[ p \rightarrow f \quad t \rightarrow s \quad k \rightarrow x \]
Unaspirated voiced stops become voiceless stops
\[ b \rightarrow p \quad d \rightarrow t \quad g \rightarrow k \]
Aspirated voiced stops became voiced fricatives (and later in initial position unaspirated voiced stops)
\[ b^{h} \quad d^{h} \quad g^{h} \quad b^{hw} \rightarrow b \quad d \quad g \]

3. IE stops restructured again in Germanic as accounted for in Verner's law.
Voiceless fricatives become voiced when surrounded by voiced sounds and preceded by an unaccented syllable. f θ s x > θ ð z ñ after an unaccented syllable and between voiced phones.
This occurred after the FSF but before the accent shift. The accent shift followed and then obscured blocking environment.

4. IE vowels changed, losing one long vowel and one short vowel

5. Six IF diphthongs became three Germanic diphthongs. The loss of the short vowel resulted in the loss of two diphthongs and PIE ei > i in Germanic.

6. Case simplified from a probable eight cases (nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, ablative, instrumental, locative and vocative) to six: PIE ablative, locative, and dative merged into dative.

7. Germanic introduced the distinction between two adjectival conjugations, weak (used to modify definite nouns when preceded by a determiner) and strong (used elsewhere)

8. Tense-aspect system reduced from six tense/aspects (present, imperfect, aorist, perfect, pluperfect, and future) to a simple tense distinction between present and preterite.

9. Germanic developed a dental suffix for the preterite producing a bifurcated system of strong and weak verbs.

10. Germanic (except Gothic) lost the inflected passive and the inflected middle voices.

11. Germanic reduced the number of moods from live to three (indicative, imperative and subjunctive).

12. Large-scale lexical changes.