## Scottish English

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## Scotland

1 May 1707 - Scotland entered into a political union with the Kingdom of England



## Geographical location



The total area is $78,772 \mathrm{km2}$

## Language

## Scottish Gaelic:

- is spoken by around 50,000 people
- mainly in the Outer Hebrides


## Scots:

- 1.6 million speakers
- a corrupt form of English?


## English:

- its features vary depending on region and social status


## A brief history of the development of the SE

5th century AD - Old English came to the British Isles with the Germanic tribes
8th century - Vikings and "Anglo-Scandinavian" language
1066 - the establishment of Norman French rule in England
11th and 12th centuries - large immigration to Scotland from England
1476 - Printing arrived in London. Geneva Bible was printed in English!
1603 - King James VI of Scotland became King James I of England
1707 - The Acts of Union

## Phonetic peculiarities: Vowels

Monophtongs of Scottish English


## Phonetic peculiarities: Vowels

- No short front /æ/ pat [pat] versus long back /a:/ part [pa:t], path [pa: E ]
- No short /d/ lot [lot] versus long /כ:/ thought [ $\theta$ o:t], north [no:rth], force [fo:s]
- No /v/ put [pot] versus /u:/ proof [pru:f] contrast
- No /3:/ purse [pz:s] phoneme
- No centering diphthong phonemes


## Phonetic peculiarities: Vowels

- Scottish Vowel Length Rule for / $\mathbf{x} /$, /u/, and / $\wedge$ /, before voiced fricatives and /ג/
- /o/ in /əv/ poach [pəot]] words
- /e/ in /ex/ pace [pets] words
- /au/ becomes /^/
- Suffix ending /ェ/ happy [hæpr] becomes /e/
- Schwa suffix /ə/ comma [kdmə] becomes /^/


## Phonetic peculiarities: Consonants

- /w/ in wh-combination is aspirated
- /x/ (loch) versus /k/ (lock) contrast
- Rhoticity; /r/ realized as tap/r/ or approximant /ג/
- Realization of "dark l"in onsets and rhymes, rather than solely rhymes
- /p/, /t/ and /k/ are not aspirated or weakly aspirated


## Phonetic peculiarities: Stress and Intonation

- Northern cities (Glasgow) - rising tones
- Another pattern involves a series of falls, one on each accented syllable and another on the last accented syllable.
- Variation in the height of the peak:
- for statements such accented syllables have high fall and high fall;
- for wh-questions high fall and mid fall;
- and for yes-no questions mid fall and high fall.


## Lexical features

- "wee" - small "bairn" - child "bonnie" - pretty, attractive • "How?" = "Why?" - "Why not?" ="How no?"
- "braw" - fine
- "muckle" - big "spail" - plinter "snib" - bolt
- The ending "-ie" is added to indicate smallness:
"outwith" - outside of
"cowp" - tip or spill
"fankle"- a tangled mess
"kirk" - church


## Grammatical features

- "I'm wanting a drink"
- "You'll be coming from Glasgow?" - an assumption
- "He is after going" instead of "He has gone"
- "I've got the cold/the flu", "he's at the school", "I'm away to the kirk"
- The compound preposition "off of": "Take that off of the table"
- "I was waiting on you" meaning "waiting for you"
- "What age are you?" for "How old are you?"
- "My hair is needing washed" for "My hair needs washing"
- "I'm just after telling you" for "I've just told you"
- "Amn’t I invited?" for "Am I not invited?"


## Scotticisms

- "What a dreich day!" - "What a dull, miserable day" (of weather)
- "I'm feeling quite drouthy" - "I'm feeling quite thirsty"
- "The picture still looks squint" - The picture still looks askew/awry"
- "You'd better just caw canny" - "You'd better just go easy/Don’t overdo it"
- "His face is tripping him" -"He’s looking fed up" and so on.

Thank you for your attention!

