# 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 km<sup>2</sup>

### 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

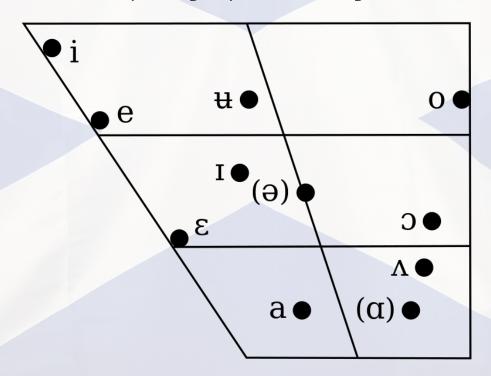
1476 - Printing arrived in London. Geneva Bible was printed in English!

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 [pæt] versus long back /a:/ part [pa:t], path [pa:θ]
- No short /α/ tot [lat] versus long /:c/ gnol susray [tat] tol /α/ tronk on
- No /υ/ put [pυt] versus /u:/ proof [pru:f] contrast
- No /3:/ purse [p3:s] phoneme
- No centering diphthong phonemes

#### Phonetic peculiarities: Vowels

- Scottish Vowel Length Rule for  $/\mathbf{I}/$ ,  $/\mathbf{u}/$ , and  $/\mathbf{A}/$ , before voiced fricatives and  $/\mathbf{J}/$
- /o/ in /əu/ poach [pəutʃ] words
- /e/ in /eɪ/ pace [peɪs] words
- /au/ becomes /^/
- Suffix ending /I/ happy [hæpI] becomes /e/
- Schwa suffix /ə/ comma [komə] becomes /∧/

#### Phonetic peculiarities: Consonants

- /w/ in wh-combination is aspirated
- /x/ (loch) versus /k/ (lock) contrast
- Rhoticity; /r/ realized as tap /r/ or approximant /x/
- **Realization of "dark 1"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:
  - o for statements such accented syllables have high fall and high fall;
  - o for wh-questions high fall and mid fall;
  - o and for yes-no questions mid fall and high fall.

#### Lexical features

- "wee" small
- "bairn" child
- "bonnie" pretty, attractive
- "braw" fine
- "muckle" big
- "spail" plinter
- "snib" bolt
- "outwith" outside of
- "cowp" tip or spill
- "fankle"- a tangled mess
- "kirk" church

"How?" = "Why?" - "Why not?" ="How no?"

• The ending "-ie" is added to indicate smallness:

"laddie" young boy and "lassie" - young girl

#### 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!