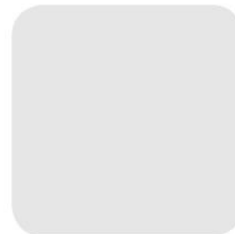
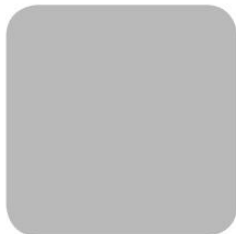


Language(s) in the British Isles

Summer semester 2022

Guest lecture:

Language(s) in Scotland



Starter



What was the story about? Try to retell the story in your own words.

- 2 min talking time with your partner
- discussion in the plenary

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- Short History of Scottish Gaelic
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- The Scots – English linguistic continuum
- Scottish English phonology, morphology, lexis & pragmatics

03 REFERENCES & BIBLIOGRAPHY

01 INTRO & HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Introduction

Highlands & Hebrides

Highland

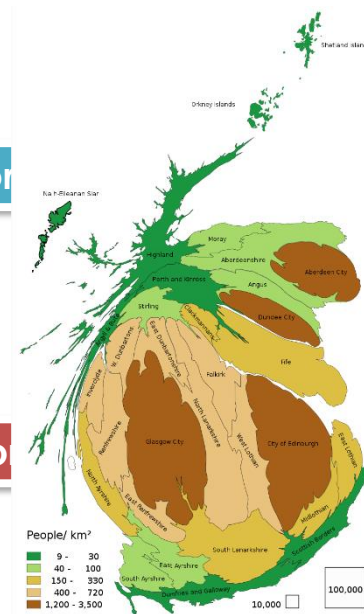
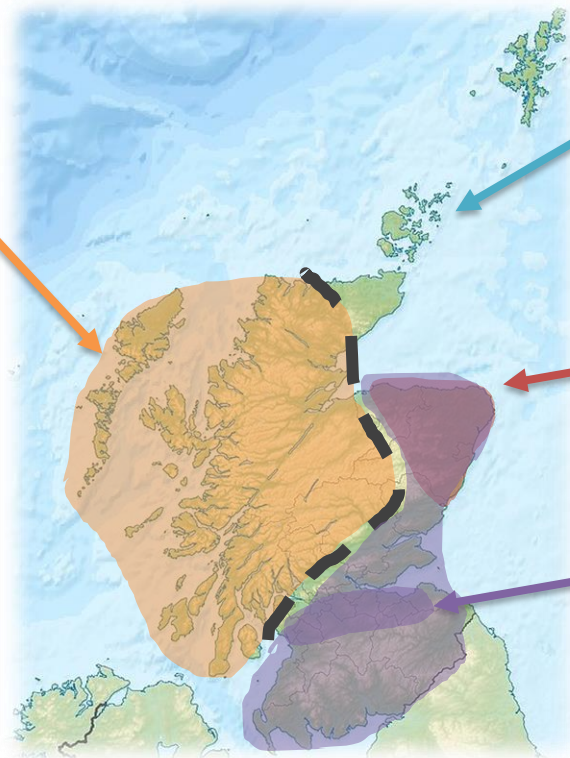
Lowland

Divide

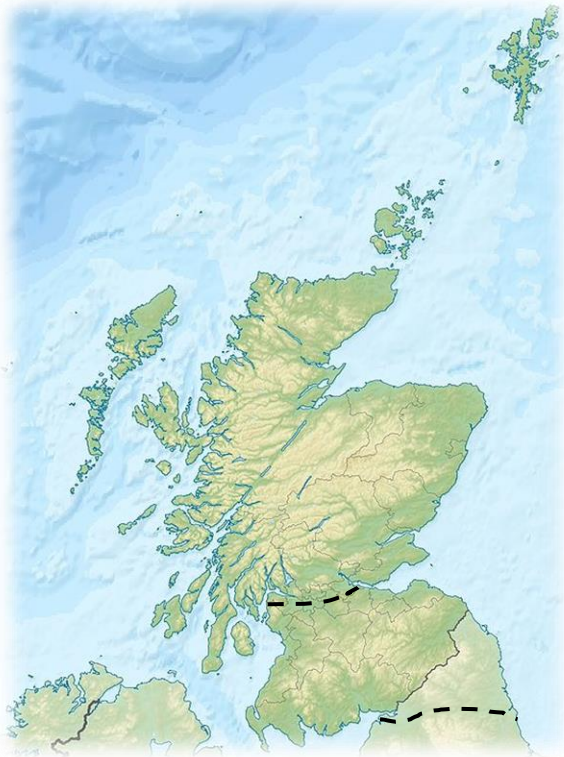
North

North

Central Belt



Roman times



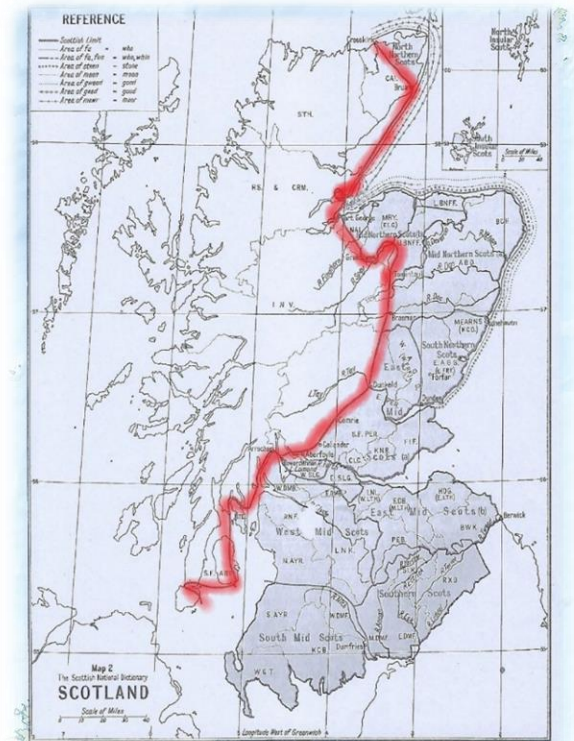
- Roman province of Britannia (~ 43-410 AD)
- Most of modern-days Scotland was never under Roman control
- Construction of Hadrian's wall in 122 AD
- Construction of Antonine's wall in 142 AD
- Uncertainty about the language(s) of the northern tribes

Scottish Gaelic



- Scottish Gaelic introduced to the southwest of Scotland at ~ 500 AD (Ó Baoill 2011: 1-3)
 - Spread to the North and East and became the predominant language of the country (Cox 2011)
- Scottish Gaelic place names found all over the country (except Southeastern Borders, Caithness and Northern Isles) (Cox 2011)
 - Northern Isles long under Scandinavian influence; Anglian invasions into the Southeast of Scotland during 7th century AD

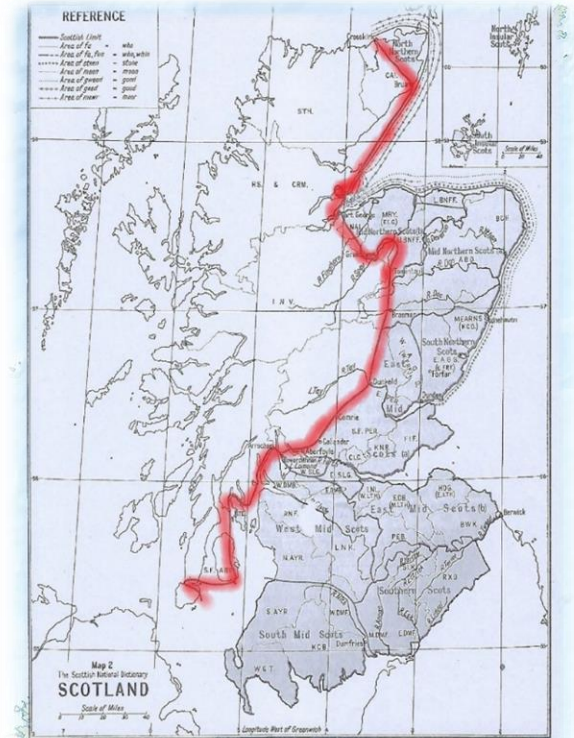
Scottish Gaelic



Grant (1931)

- Role of Scottish Gaelic decline in particular after the 11th century (Jones 2002)
- Language of the Angles spread northwards across the East Coast due to major sociopolitical changes (Ó Baoill 2011: 10–11)
- Scottish Gaelic was largely superseded in the Lowlands
- “Highland/Lowland divide” up until 18th century: predominantly Scottish Gaelic speaking population in Highlands and predominantly Scots speaking population in Lowlands (Ó Baoill 2011: 16)

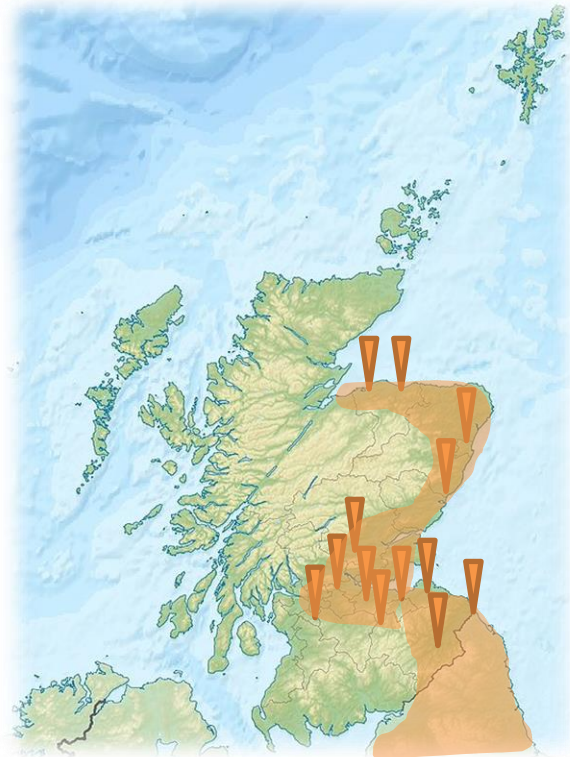
Scottish Gaelic



Grant (1931)

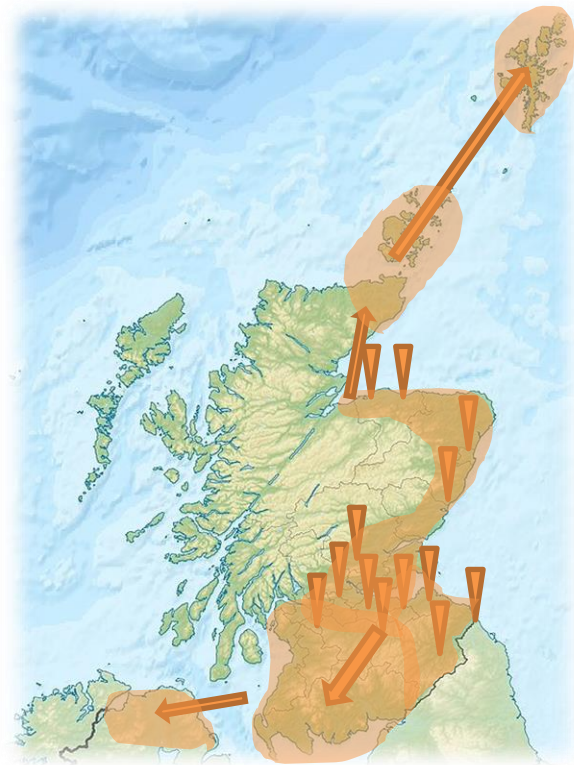
- further decline of Scottish Gaelic after the failures of the Jacobite rising of 1745
- ‚pacification‘ of the Jacobite areas in the Highlands
- Highland clearances (~ 1750 – 1860) in the wake of the Industrial Revolution
- Emigration of large parts of the Highland population to Canada, US, Australia, New Zealand
- Education (Scotland) Act of 1872 lead to a further decline in Scottish Gaelic
- Development of Highland and Hebridean English

Scots



- Northumbrian dialects of Old English introduced to the Southeast of Scotland by the Angles of Bernicia in the seventh century AD (McClure 1994: 23)
 - Language of the Angles 'Inglis'
- Influence of Germanic language grew especially in the 11th century (aftermath of Norman conquest)
 - Establishment of burghs peopled with mostly Scots speakers (esp. Scots lairds)
 - Immigration of English-speaking tenants by Norman nobility (Jones 2002: 94)

Scots



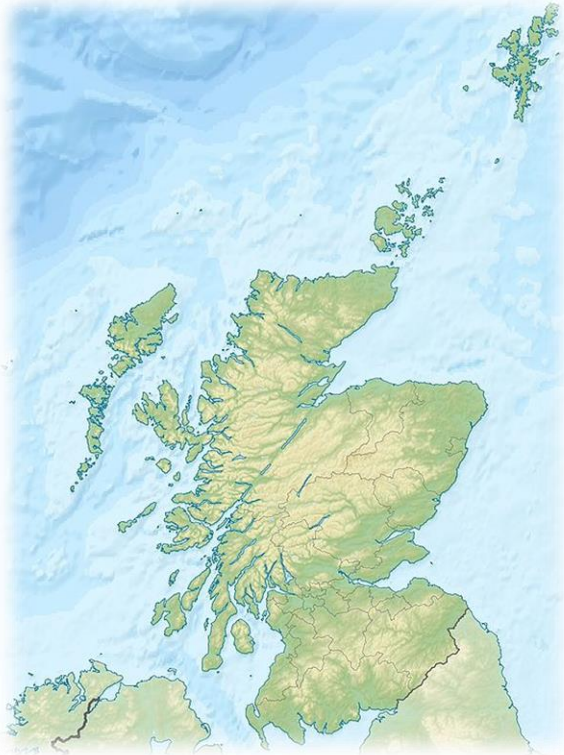
- Scots gradually superseded Scottish Gaelic in the Lowlands (later also Galloway, Caithness, Northern Isles and also Ulster) and became the language of administration, government and written communication
- Scots seen as „the only Germanic variety in the British Isles besides Standard English ever to have functioned as a full language within an independent state (the Kingdom of Scotland)
(Johnston 2007: 105)
- Kingdom of Scotland (843 – 1707)

Scots



- Role of literary Scots declined after the unification of Crowns (1603) and Parliaments (1707)
- Growing influence of Southern Standard English
- Spoken Scots remained dominant in rural areas and working class contexts

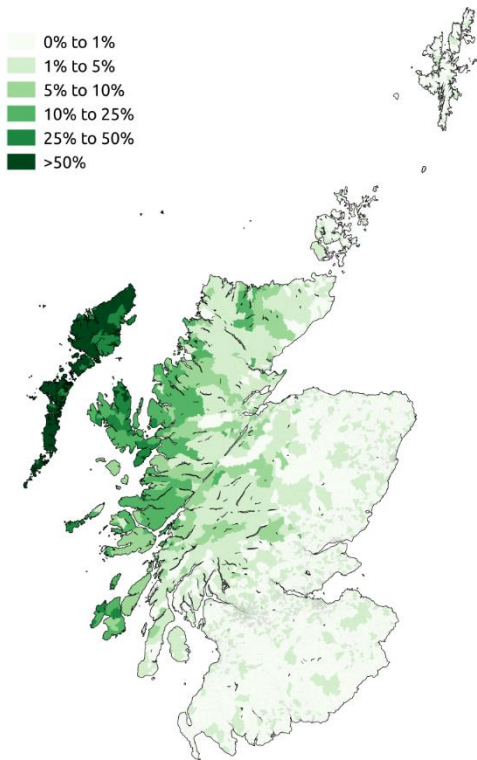
Standard Scottish English



- Scottish aristocracy adapted their language towards that of England after the unification of the Crowns and Parliaments
- Anglicisation of oral language among higher social classes in Scotland
- Anglicisation of the Highlands after Jacobite failures (→ Highland and Hebridean English)

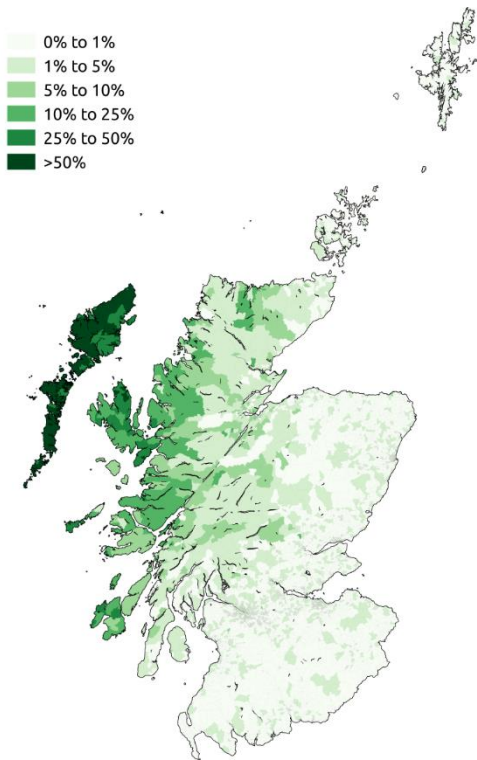
02 THE CURRENT SITUATION

Scottish Gaelic



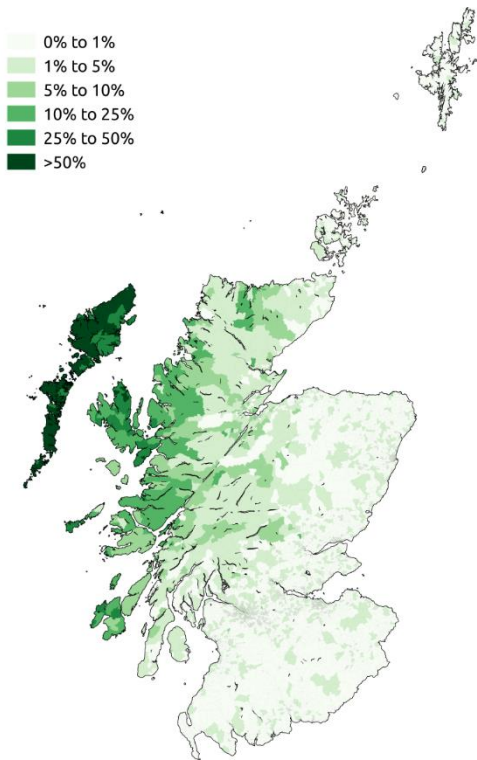
- 87.100 people aged 3 and over have Scottish Gaelic language skills (1.7 % of the population)
(National Records of Scotland 2015: 6)
- Highest speaker proportions found west of the historic Highland Line
- Continuous decline of speaker numbers over centuries and decades

Scottish Gaelic



- decline of Scottish Gaelic is currently slowing down
 - increase of speaker numbers among younger age groups
- Revitalization efforts due to the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act (2005)

Scottish Gaelic



- Scottish Gaelic as school subject
- Opening of Scottish Gaelic primary and secondary schools
- Gaelic television BBC Alba
- Scottish Gaelic recognized as a minority language by the Scottish and UK government as well as by the Council of Europe

Scottish Gaelic

- Scottish Gaelic is a Celtic language
- related to Irish Gaelic and Manx

Fàilte! /fa:ldiə/

Slàinte! /slʌ:ntiə/

Madainn mhath! /mad:ən va:/

Modern Scottish Gaelic alphabet contains 18 letters

<a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, t, u >

<bh> and <mh> → /v/

<ch> → /x/ loch; /ç/ deich

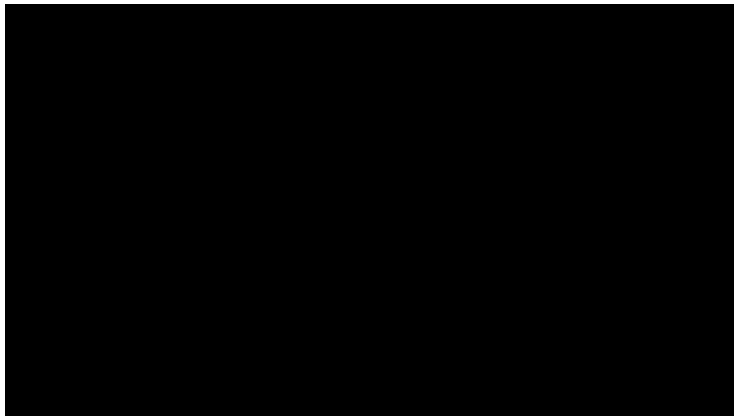
<th> → /h/ a mhàthair /ə va:hɪrɪ/

Scottish Gaelic

Scottish Gaelic - example

English

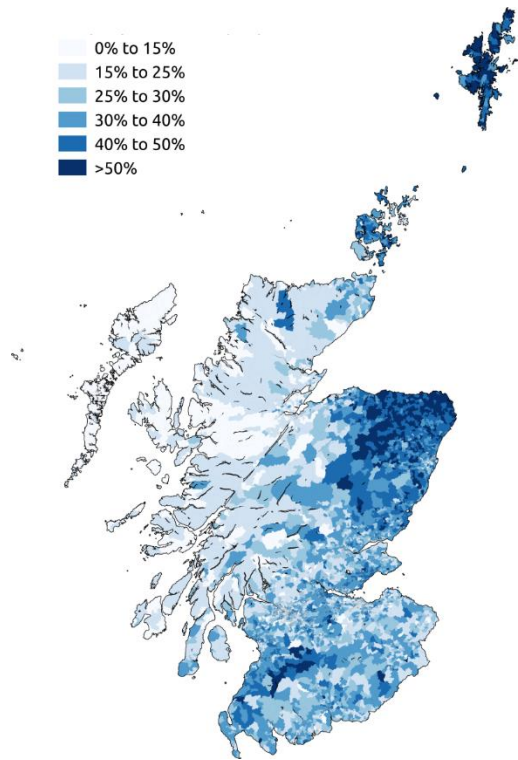
Is mise Rosemary. Chaidh mo thogail an Uibhist a Deas ann am baile beag air a bheil Geàrrraidh nam Monadh. Bha Gàidhlig aig m' athair, ach cha robh Gàidhlig aig mo mhàthair, agus le sin chaidh mo thogail ann an dachaigh far an robh sinn a' cleachdadh beurla fad na tìde. Ach a dh' aindeoin sin chaidh mi air adhart tron sgòil agus dh' ionnsaich mi Gàidhlig gu àrd-ìre. Chuir mi an uairsin seachad iomadach bliadhna a' teagasg tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig agus an uairsin a' leasachadh na Gàidhlig agus a' leasachadh ionadan Gàidhlig air feadh Alba. Tha mi a-nis ag obair mar cheannard aig Comhairle nan Leabhraichean ann an Glaschu. 'S e cathrannas a th' ann Comhairle nan Leabhraichean. Tha sinn an urra ri taic a chumail ri sgrìobhairean Gàidhlig agus ri foillsichearan Gàidhlig annan oidhirp a bhith ag àrdachadh an àireamh de leabhraichean a tha ri fhaighinn agus tha sinn cuideachd an urra ri sgrìobhairean a bhrosnachadh... sgrìobhairean ùr a bhrosnachadh... a bheachdnaicheas air... air... bith-bèo a dhèanamh a-mach a' sgrìobhadh tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig.



I'm Rosemary. I was brought up in South Uist in a village called Garrynamonie. My father spoke Gaelic but my mother didn't and because of that I was brought up in a home where we spoke English all the time. But despite that progressed through school and I learned Gaelic to Scottish Highers level. Since then I have spent many years teaching in Gaelic medium education and after that developing Gaelic and developing Gaelic centres throughout Scotland. I now work as the head of the Gaelic Book Council in Glasgow. The Gaelic Book Council is a charity. We are involved in supporting Gaelic writers and Gaelic publishers in an effort to increase the number of [Gaelic] books available and we are also involved in encouraging writers; encouraging new writers who are considering making a living through Gaelic writing.

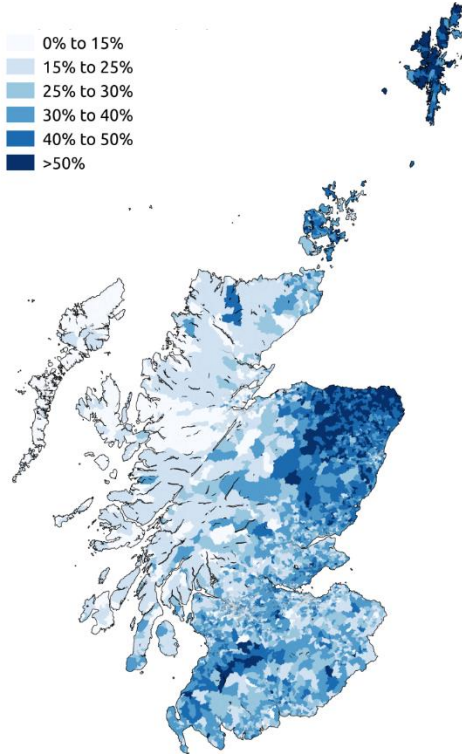
Scots

- 1.5 million people can speak Scots and another 267.000 people can understand, but not read, write or speak the language (33% of the population) (Scotland's Census 2011)
- Highest proportions in Shetland and the Northeast (Doric), Urban Scots in the Greater Glasgow area
- Decline of Scots usage and speakers over time



Scots

→ Revitalization efforts




What are the revitalization efforts discussed in the video?

Scots - example

On which levels can one see variation from “Standard English“?

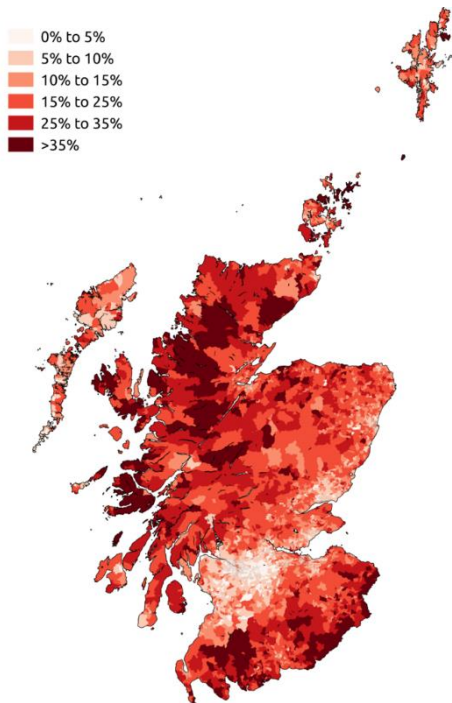
→ vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation



The wee bairn isnae bletherin' cause he's hungry, ken.

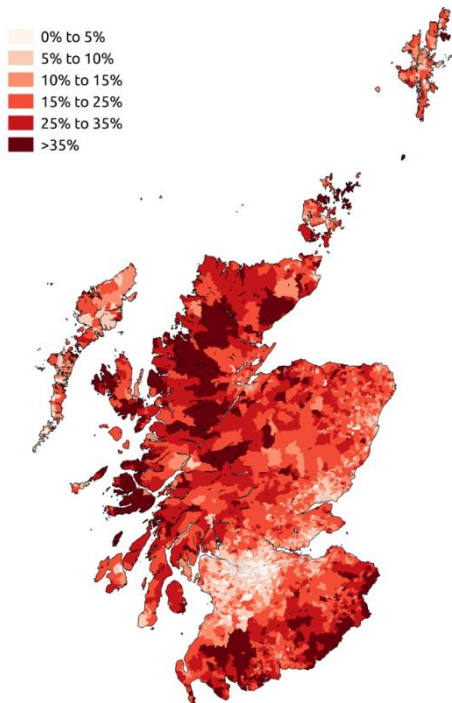
(The small child isn't talking because he's hungry, you know.)

English / Scottish Standard English (SSE)



- English/SSE is the general language of communication
- 98.6% of the people in Scotland aged 3 and over speak English (Scotland Census 2011)
- 92.6% speak English/SSE at home (Scotland's Census 2011)

Scottish Standard English



Percentage of population born in England

- **Scottish English / Scots English** often used as a cover terms for the varieties of Scots and Standard Scottish English in Scotland (Schützler 2015: 1)
 - Scottish Standard English (SSE) generally defined as “the variety of Standard English spoken in Scotland, [which] has few lexical and syntactic characteristics that set it apart from the Standard English used in England” (Giegerich 1992: 45-46)
- “Scots bias” (Schützler, Gut and Fuchs 2017)

Scots & English – a complicated situation

- Debate whether Scots can be seen as a language in its own right (MacArthur 1992)
- Both Scots and SSE have the same origin → Old English
- Simplified definition of SSE #Scotsbias?
- Terminology: Scots as language and people; Scottish English as a cover term or referring to SSE
- **Speakers can switch and drift between SSE and Scots**

Scots & English – a complicated situation



Jennifer Smith

Professor of
Sociolinguistics at the
University of Glasgow



Sheena Blackhall

Scots Poet, Writer
and Translator

The Scots-English linguistic continuum



The Scots-English linguistic continuum

Aitken's (1979) model of Scottish speech

Scots			English	
1	2	3	4	5
<bairn>	<mair>	<before>	<more>	<child>
<kirk>	<hame>	<name>	<home>	<church>
<ken>	<hoose>	<tide>	<house>	<know>
-na		most of the inflectional system, word order and grammar		-n't

SCOTS

SSE

*I dinna ken that bairn ootside the
hoose! Fit's the name of that lass?*

*I don't know that child outside the
house! What's the name of that girl?*

The Scots-English linguistic continuum

Aitken's (1979) model of Scottish speech

Scots			English	
1	2	3	4	5
<bairn>	<mair>	<before>	<more>	<child>
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<ken>	<hoose>	<tide>	<house>	<know>
-na		most of the inflectional system, word order and grammar		-n't

SCOTS

SSE

informal, private

Dialect switchers

formal, public

Style drifters

The Scots-English linguistic continuum

Aitken's (1979) model of Scottish speech

Scots		English		
1	2	3	4	5
<bairn>	<mair>	<before>	<more>	<child>
<kirk>	<hame>	<name>	<home>	<church>
<ken>	<hoose>	<tide>	<house>	<know>
-na		most of the inflectional system, word order and grammar		-n't

non-standard / broad

working class

uneducated

standard

middle-class

educated

The Scots-English linguistic continuum

→ Situation

“Any pa
Scots, SS
and-no

→ Changing



example:
I, Glasgow-
2012, p. 55)

education

Example of Doric (Northeastern Scots)

Phonology of Scottish English

Which way should we go to Lochwinnoch? One way is seven miles, the other isn't quite so far but I don't want to take the car on that bad road again.



Where can you identify variation in terms of pronunciation?

Phonology of Scottish English

Consonantal features:

/x/ → <loch> <broch>

/ç/ → <right>

/w/ → <which>

/r/ → <car>

[ʔ] t-glottalization

[ɹ] vocalisation

consonant cluster simplification

Johnston 2007

SCOTS

SSE

Phonology of Scottish English

Vowels:

Vowel system relatively similar
(regional variation)

SVLR / Aitken's Law is said to operate in Scots & SSE

Johnston 2007

SCOTS

SSE

Phonology of Scottish English

Abercrombie's (1979) Basic Scottish Vowel System

Scottish English	RP	Example word by Abercrombie (1979)	Lexical set by Wells (1982)
/i/	/i/	<bead>	FLEECE
/ɪ/	/ɪ/	<bid>	KIT
/e/	/eɪ/	<bay>	FACE
/ɛ/	/ɛ/	<bed>	DRESS
/ɛ̃/	/ɛ/	<never>	DRESS
/a/	/æ/	<bad>	TRAP
	/ɑ/	<balm>	BATH
/ɔ/	/ɒ/	<not>	LOT
	/ɔ/	<nought>	THOUGHT
/o/	/əʊ/	<no>	GOAT
/u/	/ʊ/	<pull>	FOOT
	/u/	<pool>	GOOSE
/ʌ/	/ʌ/	<bud>	STRUT
/ʌɪ/	/aɪ/	<side>	PRICE
/æ/		<sighed>	PRICE
/ʌʊ/	/aʊ/	<now>	MOUTH
/ɔe/	/ɔɪ/	<boy>	CHOICE

Phonology of Scottish English



Table 1. Environments constraining durational allophony in varieties of British English.

Constraint	Examples	Scottish English	Anglo-English
Voiceless consonants	<i>beat, greet</i> <i>brute, cute</i>	short allophones	short allophones
Voiced (oral and nasal) stops and /l/	<i>bead, bean, beal</i> <i>brood, broom, gruel</i>	short allophones	long allophones
Voiced fricatives and /r/	<i>tease, beer</i> <i>bruise, smooth, cure</i>	long allophones	long allophones
Morpheme boundaries	<i>bee, bees, bee's</i> <i>agree, agreed</i> <i>brew, brews, brewed</i>	long allophones	long allophones

(Retrieved from: Rathcke and Stuart-Smith 2016: 406)

Morphology and Syntax of Scottish English

Morphological features:

Irregular plural forms <shae> <shoen>

Plural pronoun <youse> (esp. Glaswegian Scots)

Syntactic features:

negation <didnae> <wouldna>

Johnston 2007

SCOTS

SSE

Words and Phrases of Scottish English

I am getting the messages.

I am going (grocery) shopping.

The bairn was greeting all night!

The child was crying all night.

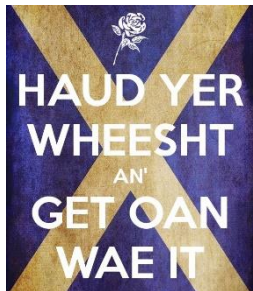
Words and Phrases of Scottish English

The wheather is all dreich today.

The wheather is drizzly/grey/windy.

Haud yer weesht an' get oan wae it.

Keep calm and carry on.



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