

ОСОБЕННОСТИ ПРОИЗНОШЕНИЯ
ШОТЛАНДСКОГО АНГЛИЙСКОГО
(PECULIARITIES OF SCOTTISH ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION)

One of the most specific dialects in Britain is Scottish English. It stands out not only due to the peculiarity of the pronunciation of some sounds but also due to its specific intonation: it's typical of Scottish English to reduce diphthongs to monophthongs, retaining only the nucleus, to modify the pronunciation of some consonants and vowels and to use the Rising-Falling tone frequently.

First of all, there are some significant differences in the phonetic inventory. They concern both consonants and vowels. The most noticeable differences are related to the sound [r] which unlike in RP is vibrant [ɾ]: *scream* [skɹim], *grizzly* [gɹɪzli], *grief* [gɹɪf] and the interdental sound [ð̪] is approximated to [d].

Major differences can also be observed in the realm of **vocalism**:

- Diphthong [eɪ] sounds like [e]: *take* [tek], *make* [mek];
- Diphthong [əʊ] is pronounced like [ɒ]: *know* [nɒ], *ago* [əgɒ];
- Diphthong [aʊ] is pronounced like [əʊ]: *cow* [kəʊ], *about* [əbəʊ?];
- Sound [ɪ] is pronounced like [e]: *if* [ef], *stick* [stek], *fix* [feks];
- Sound [ɜ:] is pronounced in various ways depending on the spelling: [ɪr], [ʌr], [ɜr];
- Sounds [æ], [ʌ] are merged into [a]: *matter* [maʔə], *had* [had], *snap* [snap];
- There is no perceptible difference between [u:] and [ʊ]. They are neutralized into one sound which is always pronounced like [ʊ]: *too* [tʊ].

Apart from that there are some more subtle differences in allophonic variation:

- Plosive consonants [p^h, t^h, k^h] are pronounced almost without aspiration [p, t, k] not only in intervocalic and word-final positions but also in prevocalic word-initial position;
- The sound [t] is glottalized at the end of the word or in the intervocal position: *no matter what* [nɒ maʔə wɒʔ];
- The sound [ð̪] in some cases is pronounced as [θ]: *with* [wɪθ];
- Only the dark allophone of the phoneme [ɪ] is used: *look* [lok], *large* [la:dʒ].

What concerns Scottish **intonation** there are some differences in the frequency of tones. In Scottish English the Raising-Falling tone occurs much more frequently than in Standard English. It's usually used to express emotional attitude, but in Scottish English it's very often found in emotionally neutral speech: *I'm from ^Scotland / and I speak English with a 'Scottish ^accent. 'Nice to ^meet you.*

Summing up the scale of specificity of the dialect under study, we can say that the differences cover about 13 % of consonants, 35 % of vowels and roughly 25 % of the tonal system.