

Engaging with spelling in Scots language

Assessment options and additional teaching notes



Choose, or allow learners to choose, one (or more) assessment(s) from the following three options:

Assessment Option 1

Learners should write a short story, blog entry, or poem in Scots, taking time to ensure that every word is phonetically as close to their own speech as possible.

Potential topics or titles could be:

- Whit bein brave means tae me
- Scotland: whit Ah like an whit Ah dinnae
- A journey somewhere new

Assessment Option 2

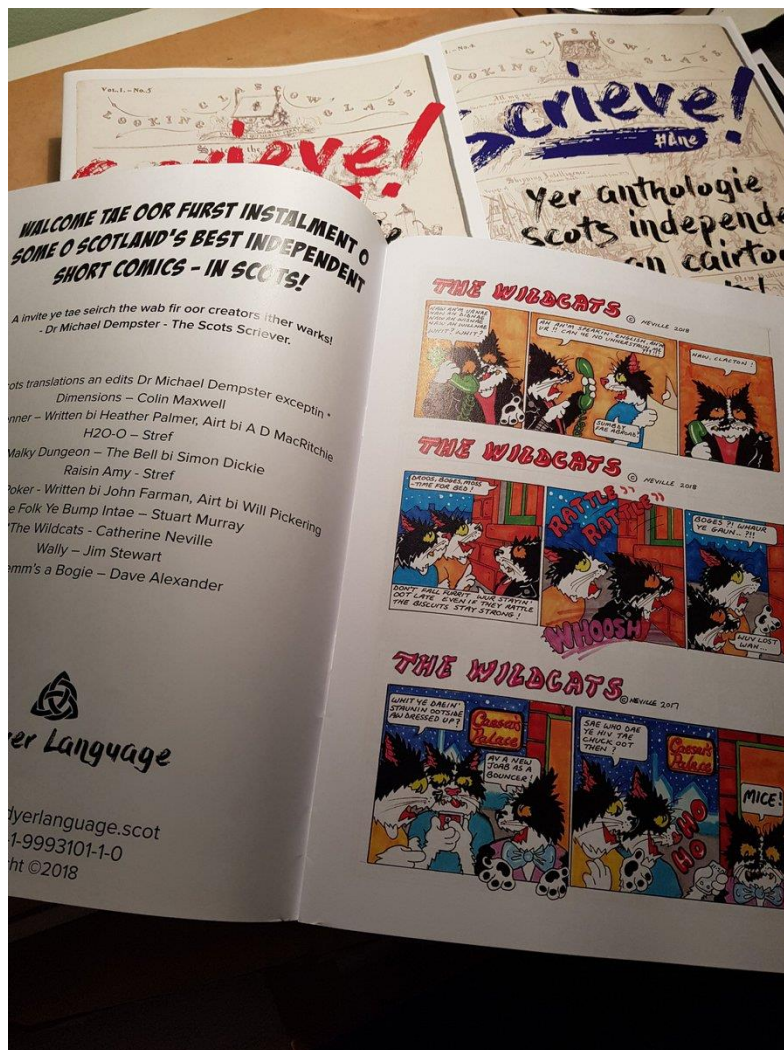
Learners should use the Tweet sheet provided as inspiration to write their own series of tweets about their life in Scots. They must ensure that each tweet contains no more than 280 characters, including spaces and punctuation marks.

There is also the option to create a series of tweets or comments which ask and answer in Scots on a topic of the learners' choice.

Assessment Option 3

Learners should design a comic strip written in Scots, taking time to ensure that every word is phonetically as close to their own speech as possible.

There are many comics in Scots available to help with inspiration for this, such as Tintin in Scots or Scots Scriever Michael Dempster's comic anthology "Scrieve":



Optional Extension Task

Learners should choose a text in English and translate it into Scots, taking time to ensure that every word is phonetically as close to their own speech as possible.

Once the learners have completed their translation they should share it – perhaps via the school twitter account, or website – or even just take it home to share with family or friends.

Practitioners should feel free to post not only learners work, but also questions and queries about this resource or any Scots language related questions on the Scots Blether on glow.

Teaching Notes

In Lesson Two the teacher needs to decide which 2 versions of The Gruffalo the class read and compare:

Read extracts of 'The _____ Gruffalo' and 'The _____ Gruffalo'.

An interesting conversation for learners to have would be to ask if anyone in the class has family or friends or has been to different parts of Scotland – perhaps places where translations of The Gruffalo have been published in the dialect unique to that place: Shetland, Orkney, Aberdeen (Doric), Dundee and Glasgow.

Further resources to explore

Search for “Scots language” on Education Scotland’s National Improvement Hub:

<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/>

The Scots Language Centre have their own Scots Learning page with many resources that can be used by learners of all levels of the curriculum:

<https://www.scotslanguage.com/learning>

The Online Dictionary of the Scots language: <http://www.dsl.ac.uk/>

We also recommend the DSL Scots Schools Dictionary App for smart phones, suitable for learners and practitioners alike.