



DIGNITY

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Kairos Kist
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*Tae ma faimily
fir giein me
the gift o
the gab
Aye*

.

Dignity

A suppose A'v aye wrote
the wey A talk.
Lik fae when A lairnt
thit aw thae wee mairks
wirnae lik the nummers,
the mairks fir the nummers aw
hiv a name,
wan,
twinty,
a thoosan,
a mulᶑeon.

See, see the shape o the nummers?
They wullnae tell ye how
tae say them,
ye jist need tae ken them,
ken their names.

The letters,
weil, they're different,
they've got somethin tae dae
wi the soonds in wir wirds.
The bits.

Ye soond oot the bits
o the wirds,
an then ye
write them doon.
Juist the wey it
soonds.

Magic.

Bit ye see, A wisnae
soondin them oot richt,
or pittin them
in the richt order.
An hauf ma wirds
wurnaen even richt wirds,
A wis telt.
Ye cuidnae write them
doon.

Ye see, A wis tae
uise ma readin fir tae
lairn masel
whit wans wis
the richt wirds,
the wans
ye'r alooed tae say,
an then, fae thae mairks
on the paper,
wirk oot the soonds
ye'r needin tae make
for tae say the richt wirds richt.

Sae's ye kin talk richt.

That wey o talkin richt, tho,
ye juist kept that
tae the clessroom,
in the pleygrun an
the hoose,

an juist aboot
everywhere else,
ye juist talked... normal.

Weil, ye wid.
Acause that's wir language.

Ye cannae juist tak it aff lik
an auld jaiket an pit it away or
drap it lik a bad habit.

It's wir fundamental wey o
communicatin wi wan anither, an o
makkin sense o the warld.

Ye see, we evolved language,
talkin an gestures,
sae's we kin get by
juist imitatin wan anither
fir tae cooperate,
fir tae pass on wir knowledge,
wir weys o bein,
wir culture.

An wi
every new generation,
fir tae add mair
tae wir knowledge an for tae
mak chynge
tae wir culture.

An writin, see,
writin's an invention.

A wey tae represent or fir tae
record wir language,
in a wey thit
hings aboot,
thit endures.
It disnae dizappear
in the air
as suin as hit's been creatit,
lik language dis.
It disnae
rely on humans
an wir memories
the same wey
fir it tae
persist in time.
Wance somehin's wrote,
hit's a airtifact.

An the hing is, wi
this Latin alphabet
we were lairnin
at the schuil,
that disnae really care
whit language
hit's recordin.
It records languages
wi aa sorts o nemms -
Latin,
French,
Norwegian,
Maori,
Tagalog,

English,
Scots...

A mean ye'd hink
sumb'dy cuid hae
gied me the dignity
o tellin iz
the name o ma language,
Scots,
insteid o juist
tellin iz it wis juist bad,
wrang.
Ye ken, sae's A cuid
fin oot mair about it.
A wurd
tae gie
tae a librarian,
or noo adays, tae
pap intae a
seirch engine.
But A'm guessin
ither fowk
didnae ken
wan
either.

Sae onieweys, alang wi
lairnin this language
o the clessroom,
an o buiks,
A lairnt masel
a wey fir tae

write the wey A talk,
pickin up bits
fae comics,
faimily,
an whit A'd lairnt
fae writing
English.
Fir a bit o
self expression.

Maistly but, A lairnt
whaur
fowk
thocht it wis
appropriate
tae uise.
It wis juist about
appropriate
in athin quote mairks,
when ye were
writin a story,
fir certain
chairecters,
or in speech bubbles in
ma wee cairtoons.

An A wis lairnt
it wis nae uise at aw
fir nearhaun
aathin else thit ye
dae wi writin.

Apairt fae mibbie
writin doon
auld folksongs.

At first A
wrote the wirds doon
as A heard them,
tae help ye
mind the wirds
as ye were
lairning them,
an then as
A wantit mair sangs,
A turnt tae
sang buiks.
Sae's A cuid
lairn yins
thit A'd no heard
fowk singin
afore.

An ye stert tae railise -
the wans ye sing,
the wans ye've lairnt aff o
thaim about ye,
they're different
fae the wey they're
wrote doon
in the buiks.
In the buiks
there naen o the wee wirds,
the function yins, an

readin it oot,
it disnae
soond the wey ye'd say it.
An wi
aw the singers about me,
some wad sing
the wey ye'd say it
an some wad sing
the wey it's
wrote doon.

Sae A stertit
writin doon the sangs
the wey ye'd sing them
the wey ye'd say them.
An wance ye'r daein that
it's no a big lowp
tae daein some
o yer ain sangs
in yer ain language.

An fae there
ye wunner whit
ye'r ainly daein folksangs
fur, ye cuid write
in whitever genre
ye want really.

Noo ye'r writin
that wey,
rock,
metal,

jazz,
pop,
classical.
A mean
hou no?

Noo, as time went
on it wisnae
juist sangs
A wis wirkin wi,
A wis daein aw
sorts o expressive writin,
comics an scripts
an that,
an mair
an mair
A wis wantin
tae dae the
dialogue richt.

A'd aye be writin
hings an luikin
at it an
tellin masel -
that's no
hou ye wid say it,
ye're wantin tae write
hings the wey
fowk actually talk.

Sae mair
an mair

A'd listen
tae the wey
thaim roon aboot me
sayed hings,
faimily,
pals,
thon bangster
doon the pub.

Aw that wee
bit different
fae wan anither,
but aw talkin
the same weys.
An A got
no bad
at aw
caipturin the leid
o whit wey fowk
went on,
haein that
as models
fir the wey
A wantit tae write.

An A cuid pit it doon
in ma ain wey
quiet decent.
An fowk liked whit
A wis daein.

Bit see,

wance ye
stert daein somehin
fowk like,
ye stert tae hear opinions.

Hings lik -
"That's good, but it won't travel."
or
"You'll have to make your work less broad,
people won't understand it."
Whit people?
Travel whaur?

As faur as
A wis concernt
A wis bein as true tae
the wey fowk aboot me talked
as A kin.

Ye cuid juist aboot
convince fowk
thit if
ye're representin sumb'dy
thit actual talked
the wey ye were writin then
that wis fair eneuch.
But imaginin
yer ain language
in the mooth
o sumb'dy thit
"ought not to be speaking that way"?
Nae chance!

But,
opinions are fir chyingin.

An thankfully, wi
the opinions ye get
a guid bit o
encouragement
an aw. An
it's aye best tae listen
tae the wans thit
like the same bits
ye like yersel
about
whit ye'r daein.
An mibbie
thaim thit's cam up
against the same challenges
ye hiv yersel.

Fir me
A wis
stertin tae come up
against some
challenges.
See,
wance ye'r by
notin doon phrases
an the wirds
tae sangs an that,
wance ye'r writin,
wance
ye kin

freeze a bit
o language
in time
bi representin it
on the paper-
just lik
writin nummers
leads tae theories
about
maths an science,
or sheet music
kin tak ye ayont
tunes
tae sonatas
an symphonies,
writin taks ye
tae langer forms
lik short stories,
an pleys,
an operas...
screen pleys.

The hing is,
they're aw
different animals.
Wi prose
an comics
ye kin juist write
the wey
ye've wirkt it oot
yersel,
the wey

ye'v lairnt yersel
fir tae write
the wey fowk talk.

An fowk thit read
it are comin
at it wi
maistly the same
tools ye used
yersel
fir tae
pit it doon,
English spellin
conventions,
the wee drap Scots
they'v read afore,
an their ain knowledge o
the spoken language.

Ye kin write somethin
onie wey ye like
an fowk kin
mak sense o it
in their
silent
readin.
They'v got time
tae read
an reread,
luik a dictionaries
an that.

They either get it
an they like it
or they dinnae.
But ye see,
giein someb'dy
somehin tae read's a
different story fae
giein someb'dy
somehin
for tae
read oot.

Maist actors
an singers
expect tae get
gien their
wirds in English,
as we'r
scuiled.
They urnae uised tae seein
their ain language as a skill,
as pairt o their airt.
That wis ma
first thocht,
thit the fowk A wis
wirkin wi
wurnae literate
in their ain language,
even tho
A wis
writin exactly
the wey thit

they talked.

But

A wisnae lang in raelizin,
it wis me thit wis illiterate
an aw. A'd
made up
this wey o writin,
maistly on ma ain,
decidin
whit wis richt an
whit wis wrang
aw masel.

A'd ne'er raelly
taen the time
for tae
tak a richt guid luik
at whit exactly
it wis
thit ither writers
were daein.
An whit fowk
haed duin afore us.

A'd ne'er raelly
asked masel -
How dae A
best write
sae thit
fowk ken
hou tae read

oot whit
A'm writin'?

Sae A stertit
readin,
readin Scots.
An readin
wi a mind
tae unfankle
whit fowk were daein
wi their writin.
An whit A
wis daein
wi ma ain.
An talkin
tae writers.

It's no straicht
forret hou
fowk write
Scots,
there a load
gaun on
there.
Hunners an hunners
o aproaches tae
it.

Ay, there
tokenism,
an totemism,
an fowk daein it

as a gimmick,
an thaim writin
basically English
wi a wheen o
Scots wirds
selotaped on tae it,
but on the hale
juist aboot aw fowk
thit bother tae
write the wey fowk talk
hiv a deep
carin
involvement wi
their language
an its literature.

There fowk
thit dinnae raelise
they've Scots
in their writin,
thaim thit juist want
a wee drap extra
vocabulary
fir their English
writing,
wans thit uise
their ain spellins,
uisually taen
fae English
spellin conventions,
thaim thit
stick tae traditional spellins.

Some fowk want tae stick
as close
tae transcribin the language
as it's spoke,
e'en includin
code-switchin
wi English,
an ithers want
tae avoid aw
thit it
shares wi English.
Even tae the pynt o
makkin up their ain wirds
tae avoid shared yins.
Some stick tae
Scots grammar
an ithers
stick tae
English
prescriptive grammar
uisin aw
Scots wirds.

Some haud
tae ainly
uisin the wirds,
grammar,
an expressions
they ken
an hear aboot them,
or whit they mind
o fowk uisin

fae whan
they were wee,
wans want tae
expand their vocabulary
fae that
solid base
o their ain language
tae include
whit
ither speakers uise,
ithers tak freely
fae the full
700 year o
recordit Scots.

Wans
haud strang
tae their ain
local dialects,
an ithers luik
tae write
in a wey
sae thit
speakers o
aw the dialects
kin
unnerstaun.

Some
write exactly
as
they believe
they talk
theirsels,

an ithers
write
as
they believe
"it ought to be."
An A'v yit tae fun
a writer
thit disnae
tae wan extent
or anither dae
aw these hings.

Aw fascinatin stuff,
stuff thit wir
English literacy
disnae caipture.
Cannae caipture.

Writin aye
removes ye fae
the necessity o spikkin a language.
It's aye an
abstraction
fae a
spoken language.
An ye kin wind up
juist peyin
tent tae
that abstraction.

Yit, some o the
least convincin writin

kin be fae the
braidest speakers,
an some o the
maist convincin
fae thaim thit
cuidnae haud ae
wird o a conversation
in Scots.

Ye cuid say
ye've got the language
on the wan haun,
an then ye've got
hou fowk write
on the ither.
Thit the
writin's taen a daunner
that faur fae
whit fowk actual talk lik.

Or thit
some fowk's
mair worried
about whit it shuid be,
or whit it cuid be,
raither'n whit it is.

An A guess
it's easier
fir tae try an
preserve a daud
o writin

than it is tae
validate the fowk
thit express theirsels in
the spoken language.

But sinderin the wan
fae the ither
disnae quite cut it -
ay ye kin
fin examples o
fowk sooked
intae the drumly
whirls o ainly
drawin fae
the literature,
but aw throu it
ye'v the speakers
there writin
the wey they talk.

See Scots speakers
hiv been
writin the wey they talk
for ower
seiven hunner year.
Wir record sterts
as wan o the
fowerteent century
vernacular literatures.

Vernacular juist means
no writin in Latin.

A haunfae o speakers o
ither languages
haed been uisin
the Latin alphabet
tae write the wey
they talk
fir a guid few centuries,
Auld Welsh,
Auld Irish,
Anglo-Saxon or
Auld Inglis,
Auld French.

But in the
fowerteent century
ye got Italian,
Dutch,
Scots,
Middle English
speakers aw
uisin the
Latin alphabet
tae write the wey
they talked.

It stertit oot
wi fowk
pittin notes
in the mairgins o
Latin texts
fir tae

better unnerstaun
the mair
footerie bits,
an afore lang
fowk stertit writin
doon
original
epic verse,
an translatin
ither vernacular
warks
an thaim fae
classical antiquity.

An it wisnae juist
self expression,
see Scots speakers
went full
vernacular
afore maist,
wi laws,
correspondence,
legal documents,
recipe buiks,
an aw
the writin
needit in
day tae day life
wrote doon
in Scots.

Even later

on efter
adoptin a bible
translatit intae
English,
tho there wis
wans translatit
intae Scots,
written Scots
wis uised aw
throu
religious practice
an administration.

Throu the
17t an 18t century tho
Scots speakers
mair an mair
stertit flittin awa fae
writin
the wey they talked,
tae writin
in English,
an then
stertit talkin the wey
thit they were writin.
An as writing the wey
ye talked
fell mair
an mair
oot o daily uise
fowk cam
tae the fore

thit wantit
tae keep
daein it,
writin in Scots.
They fun
a uise fir it,
a value in it,
a need fir it.

An oot o this
cam a when o
the themes
thit's been pairt o
wir Scots writin
doon tae the day -
It's auld,
it's by,
an the
new language
o talkin English
wi a
Scots accent
is the wey forret.

It's certainly auld
in terms o provonance,
but it's ne'r been
oot o fashion.
It's seen us throu
industrial,
scientific an
digital

revolutions

The idea
thit it's
dyin aff -
every generation
haes
last laments
thit the language'll
be deid
efter they're
plantit.

Noo, mibbie
throu
the centuries
amang thaim
thit write
fir a livin
it luiks affae
peely wally,
yit here we ur,
thrie hunner year
later an even
if it's juist
yer accent
or if ye'r the
broadest Scots
speaker
it's stull in
wir mooths
an lugs.

An there the idea
thit thaim thit
cam afore us
haed
the rael language,
no us,
no noo adays.

Revivalism,
is wrote throu
wir literature
lik a stalk o rock,
but
it's kept
the language
o thaim thit cam
afore us
throu
tae this day.

The wan theme
thit A kin fin
few fauts wi
is thit
it's neglectit,
wir bonnie
broukit
bairn.
Whilst ither
vernacular languages
went throu
codification -

settlin on a
single spellin system,
explorin an explainin
wir ain grammar,
an
showin wan anither
the skills
o writin
the wey we talk -
we've pitten
faur an awey
maist o
wir efforts
ower the centuries
intae developin
the ideologies o
monolingualism,
inferiorism,
an
prohibition.

An gien
aw that,
here we ur,
stull
talkin awey
in wir
Scots
in a
oral culture
thit
wis wance

a literate
yin.

Whan it comes
tae writin
in Scots,
acause we're
literate in
English, wir
graphocentrism
wants codification,
fir there tae be
a staunnart wey
o writin
the wey we talk.
An oor
bibliocentrism
sees
extendit writin
in buiks
an poetry as
somehou
the ainly wey
o
legitimisin
wir language.

But
we legitimise it
every time
we uise it,
when

we'r no feart
tae talk it
in public,
whan
we refuse tae
stigmatize it,
an whan
we listen
athoot judgement
tae thaim
thit uise it.
A language
is aboot
communication,
eften aw.

The
writen wurd isnae
a language,
it's evidence o
a language,
fowk uisin
a language
an then
recordin it
wi mairks
on paper.

Writin's a tool,
A skill,
a behaviour.
An it's a

addition
tae a language.

That bein said,
we ur a
guid wey
taewart
codification,
we've
extensive dictionaries
thit covers
nearhaun aw
the maist
common spellins
an dialect variations
o wir wirds fae
the hale history o
the haun written
an prentit wird.

We've a when o
grammars thit
caipture weil,
wir
grammar.

An whilst
maist wirds
are settlin on a
haunfae o spellins,
no hunners,
there is

wirkable solutions
available tae
haein
single spellins
per wurd
thit wirks
across aw the dialects.
An we've a
growin nummer o
resources fir fowk
tae lairn
mair
about writin
the wey thit they talk.

Whit we've yit tae
fully develop
is the
editorial support
an
mature critical feedback
about
language uise.
Bein discenin an
helpfu
athoot bein snide.
Fowk sayin
"that grammar's a bit aff",
that's
"no quite whit that wurd means",
or
"that's no the pandialectical

or dialectical spellin thit
suits the expectations o
the reader."

Stuff thit's normal
in codified languages.

There
nae division
o labour there -
it's aw
left tae the writer.
Mibbie that suits ye,
mibbie it disnae.

Mibbie
we need it
fir some
writin an
no fir ithers?

Fir masel
ma Scots
writin haesnae
juist been
aboot
expressive writin
an
writin hings
fir actors an
singers.

Ma
scientific
reseirch interests

is about
how we
communicate,
like actual.
How
we evolved
language
and how we
invented
the technology of writing
first to
extend that
seemingly
innate ability.

An
understanding
of the
neuroscience and
psychology
behind it all.

Expressive writing
and the craft
of creative writing's
a big part of that,
but there are
that found
of language
as it's spoken
behind them.

An whan
it comes tae
Scots,
the wey we talk,
hou dae ye even
get a haunnle
on that
fir tae study it?

See A went
throu years
o studyin
language
an Scots
wisnae even
mentioned.
Juist aboot
aw the wark
A encoontert
wis based on
Staunnart
English,
wi ither
codified languages
taen in
fir tae
luik at features
English
disnae hae.

Tae study
somehin as

ephemeral
as a
spoken language
ye need tae
caipture it,
freeze it in time.
Ye kin dae that
throu
memory
an
repitition,
or record it,
or better yit
mibbie
write it doon
so's ye kin
luik at it.

Sae
A stertit
systematically
writin doon
aw the wirds
thit we uise
thit's
"Not Proper English",
the wans
A'd been
uisin
creativly.
An then
the phrases,

an the grammar,
an the basic soon
we uise in
Scots accents,
an luikin
at the
wee variations
across dialects
in Scotland,
an the thoosans
an thoosans o
wirds we say
thit
urnae available
in English.
A wis luikin
at place names,
an hou
we pit thegither
explanations, an
stories.

An as A wis
bringin thegither
aw this
data
on wir language
it stertit
tae become
obvious
thit ye cannae
treat it as

a list o exceptions
tae English,
the exceptions
were gettin bigger
than the
comonalities.

An as
A wis
daein that
it wis stertin
tae luik
mair
an mair
lik sayin
a dug is basically
a cat,
wi this list o
exceptions.

Naw,
the wey we talk,
this Scots,
wis definitely
its ain
category.

An aw throu
this period
A wis
teachin writin an
mairkin wirk,

academic writin,
wirkin wi
adult literacy,
lairning fowk
English
as a
saicont or
ither language,
an editin wirk
o aw sorts
fir colleagues an
pals.

An whit ye
raelise
there
is whan fowk
get their English
"wrang"
it's no
random errors,
German speakers
aw dae the
same mistakes,
French spickers
aw dae the
same mistake,
Chinese spickers,
Polish Speakers,
Urdu speakers.

An they aw come

fae their
unnerlyin
first languages.

An here,
aw thae
Scots speakers
mak the same
mistakes
wi their
English writin
thit A wis seein
as the
unnerlyin features
o the
spoken language.

Sae
A stertit
askin fowk
hou they go
about writin,
invitin them
an mase
tae dae a bit o
introspection.

Some o thaim
thit haed
literacy
in their ain
language

wid wirk
entirely
in that,
then wance
it wis aw
pitten doon
they'd g'throu a
process o translation,

Ithers wid
wirk oot
whit they
wantit tae say
in their
ain language
an write in
English,
an ithers
wid juist
wirk in
English
in their heids
an write it
doon that
wey,
aften wi
these features
o their
ain language
in there
fae the stert.

Scots speakers,
especially thaim
thit haed
rael bother writin,
aften
they wid say
whit they wantit
tae write tae
theirsels
an then
wirk oot
hou tae
"write it properly."

By the by,
they'd aften the
same bother wi
"speakin properly"
in public.

Fir masel
A raelised
A'd aye
duin the
exact same,
say hings
"normal"
tae masel,
then pit it
doon
"properly",
it wis

the same
wi readin,
wi some
footery ideas
A'd aften
read it,
an then
pit it in
ma ain wirds,
phrase it
ma ain wey
fir tae get a
haunnle
on it.

Sae A
wunnert,
whit if
A taen that
experience
o thaim thit
haed a
literacy
in their
ain language
an tried it
oot whaur
A wis writin
fir masel.

Cut oot
that process o

expressin hings
in ma heid
an haudin on
tae them
tae A
translatit them
intae
"proper English"
afore writin
it doon.

Writin's a tool
fir memory,
eften aw,
an A cuid
mibbie
reduce the load
on ma
wirkin memory.

A wis daein
a lot o
programmin an
experimental design
an ye'r aye
luikin fir
efficiencies
an weys tae
increase
yer
productivity.

A'd eneuch
literacy
in ma Scots
fae ma
creative wirk,
messagin pals,
an fae
studyin the weys
thit we
talk oniewey,
sae A
gied it a shot.

Aw that wirk
is jist
fir yersel tae
read,
an if
ye'r daein it richt
ye'r wirkin
wi notebuiks an
pseudocode in the
design process.

An fir me A'd be
reasonin hings
lik
"Ye cannae hauf
that lot if there
no a guid daud o
them giein the
wrang answer,

sae check
thit nae
mair'n wan
pairt in twinty
o thae yins..."
an it's mibbie
nae surprise,
but A fun it
faur, faur quicker.

Nae pausin whan
writin doon tae
hink aboot
if A wis
pittin hings richt,
nae seirchin fir
alternatives tae
vocabulary A
cannae uise,
an
nae worries
aboot
"proper Scots" either.

An naen o it maittert,
acause A wis juist
writin fir masel.

Simple ergonomics.

Fae there
A stertit writin

in ma
ain language
fir mair
an mair
o ma
writing fir masel.

An when ye
push a pincil
as pairt o
yer wirk,
that's a
fair amoont.
Lab buiks,
diaries,
plans,
time management,
design documents,
draftin letters and
emails,
essays an
reports.

Pittin it intae English
whane'er A'd tae
gie it tae onib'dy
tae read.
Leain the translation
tae efter A'd
pitten doon
whit A wantit
tae say.

There wis
this new
fluency in
ma writin.
Juist fae decidin
afore A stertit
"All write here
in English",
or
"All write here
in Scots".

A stertit plannin
ma lectures,
wirkshops,
lessons
thon wey.
An luikin
at them,
A raelised thit
that wis the wey
A'd aye
explained hings
tae ither
Scots speakers,
sae hou no
juist dae them
athoot
pittin them
intae English?
An fir the
Scots speakers

A tried it wi,
it wis effective.
Communication.

See, thon
auld saw
thit English
is the
language o the
heid,
an Scots the
language o the
hairt
juist didnae
sit richt.

Fir speakers
it's mibbie
somehin
mair lik -
Scots is
the language o
the internal,
the inner
monologue.

An as
a psychologist
ye've aye got a
ee on potential
therapeutic
value

o yer
observations,
ye cannae
no see thit
it's mibbie
a path tae
better
self-knowledge.

We ken
talkin therapies,
minfu
self-reflection, an
diary keepin
as pairt o that
are aw
pairt o
effective treatments
fir a wheen o bothers.

Literacy, an
writin fir yer ain sel
is there as pairt o
speach therapy,
educational psychology,
memory techniques,
symptom trackin,
primary care,
an
faur
faur
mair.

That's aw
a faur chalk
fae
uisin yer Scots
juist fir
imaginative writin.
There a
practicallity
tae it thit's
mair aboot
communicative
expression
ower
aesthetic taste.

Communicatin
wi yersel,
communicatin
wi thaim
thit'll unnerstaun ye
in yer ain language,
communicatin
wi thaim thit
tak the time
tae lairn
yer language.

An
daein it
expands
yer knowledge
o yer language,

yer skills.

See,
different writin
haes
different aims
an weys
o writin.
Explainin hings
in the
third person,
pittin forret
airguments
in essays
an airticles,
giein
fowk recipies,
daein
encyclopedia
entries,
writin instructions, an
interfaces
fir the computer -
ye'r wantin tae
express hings
claer an as simple
as ye kin
in the
maist common
vocabulary
so's as
monie speakers

kin unnerstaun ye.

Ye'r wantin tae
explore spellin
an grammar
an vocabulary
wi a view tae
harmonisin wi
fowks expectations,
their expectations
based on
their knowlege o
their ain language
an their
growin experience
o it
wrote doon.

Lairn hou tae uise
the engine o
wir language.
Ye'r tryin tae
mak it as easy fir
Scots spickers
tae unnerstaun,
no as
haurd as ye kin
fir English spickers
no tae unnerstaun.

Wantin tae write
the wey ye talk is normal.

We've juist got oot the wey
o daein it,
an showin wan anither
hou tae.

If ye'r wantin
tae get intae
writin
the wey ye talk,
tae write in Scots,
juist pick up a pincil
an dae it.

Mind, we'r aw
juist lairnin wirsels,
sae luik at whit
ither fowk
are daein,
Ask yersel whit
they're daein,
is that phrased
the wey A'd pit it?
Dis that rhyme,
hou monie syllables
dis that hiv?
Hou come they
pit it that wey?
An dinnae be feart
tae ask fowk about it.
Talk tae strangers,
talk tae thaim thit care
about

the wey we talk.
It's aw about
communicatin
eften aw.

Dinnae stert
wi tryin
tae dae yer
ain War an
Peace,
it's easy
tae forget
thit
literature
is a
artistic
extension
o a
everyday
hing.
An ye
want tae
be daein
thae
everyday
hings.

Translate
the wee bits
o whit
ye'r readin.
As faur as

ye kin translate oniehin,
ye kin translate oniehin.

Keep readin an
keep writin, an
keep talkin.

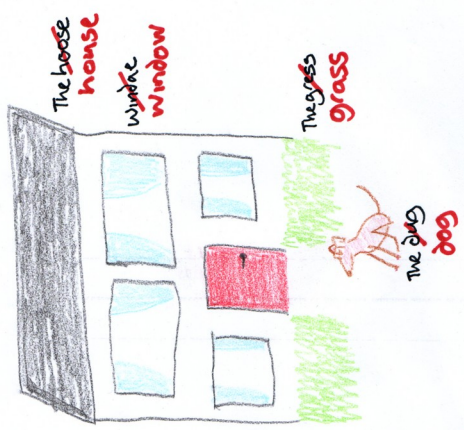
Folk aften
ask me -
"Whit's the pynt
in readin
that stuff
when ye kin
lairn oniehin
ye want
fae readin
English?"

Weil,
it's the same
as onie
writin,
ye'll fun oot
whit fowk
thit talk
lik yersel
sees as
important eneuch
tae gie the
dignity
o writin
doon in

their ain language.

Bi writin
fir oor ain sels,
an
fir wan anither
in
wir ain language,
we kin mibbie
lairn hou tae
unnerstaun wirsels
an wan anither
that wee bit
better.

Dr. Michael Dempster, Juin 2021



The house
house
window
window

The grass
grass

The dog
dog



Ma Mammie
my Mum



ὡς ἴππε τῶν γενόμενα ἐξ ἀνθρώπων τῷ χρόνῳ ἐξίτηλα γένηται

u u u u u u u u u u

v v v v v v v v v v

w w w w w w w w w w

x x x x x x x x x x

y y y y y y y y y y

z z z z z z z z z z

gn gn gn gn gn gn

sc sc sc sc sc sc

ng ng ng ng ng ng

ch ch ch ch ch ch

ck ck ck ck ck ck

gh gh gh gh gh gh

ph ph ph ph ph ph

rh rh rh rh rh rh

sh sh sh sh sh sh

th th th th th th

wh wh wh wh wh wh

wr wr wr wr wr wr

qu qu qu qu qu qu

mb mb mb mb mb mb

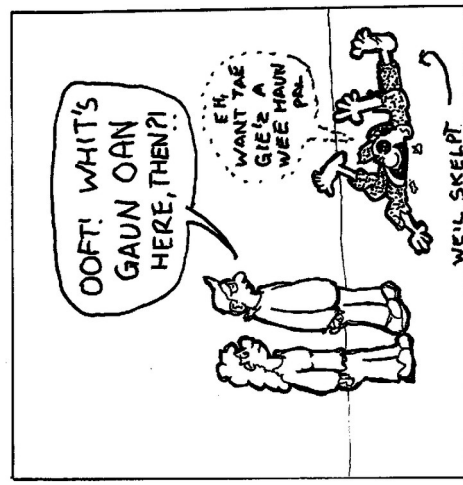
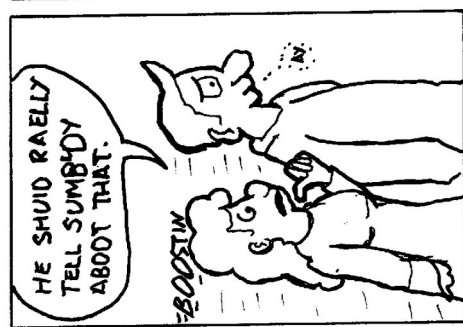
kn kn kn kn kn kn

3



HIT'S LIK A FINGAR PYNTIN
A WEYTAE THE MUIN...

DIVNAE CONCENTRATE ON
THE FINGAR UR YE'LL
MISS AW THAE
HEIVENLY MAIRVELS



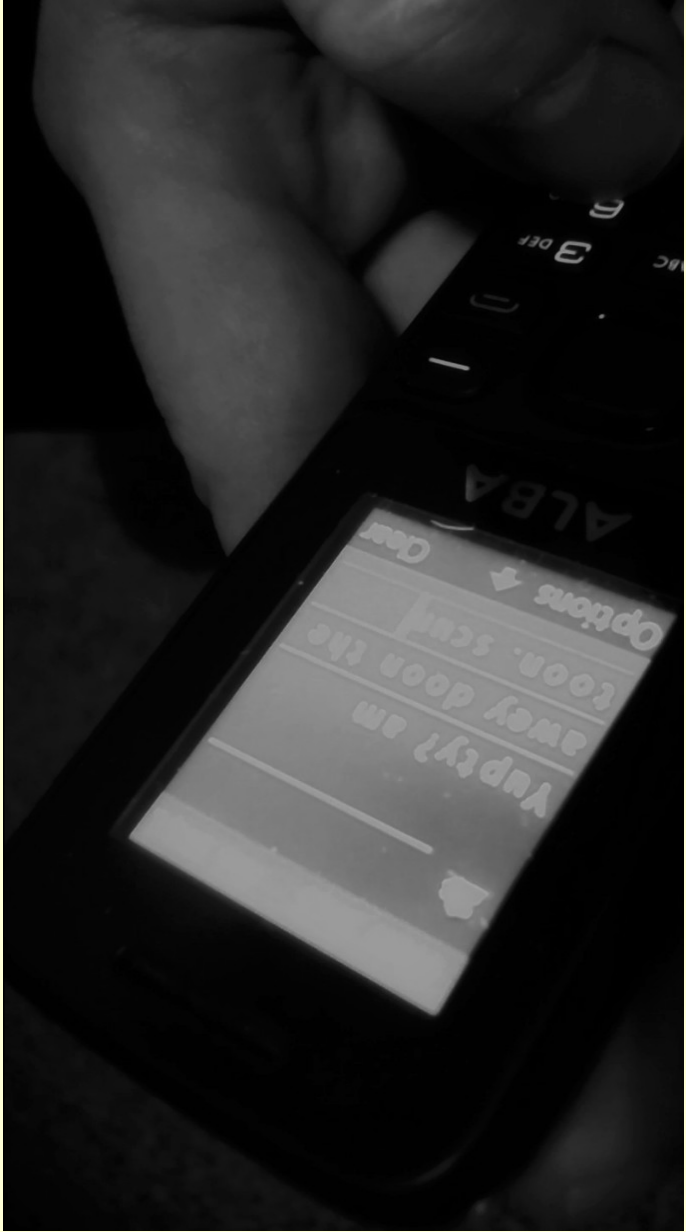
Margaret Laidlaw (Hogg)

in conversation wi Walter Scott as recordit bi James Hogg, her son.

My mother chaunted the ballad of Old Maitlan' to him, with which he was highly delighted, and asked her if she thought it ever had been in print? And her answer was, "O na, na, sir, it never was printed i' the world, for my brothers an' me learned it an' many mae frae auld Andrew Moor, and he learned it frae auld Baby Mettlin, wha was house-keeper to the first laird of Tushilaw. She was said to hae been another nor a guide ane, an' there are many queer stories about hersel', but O, she had been a grand singer o' auld songs an' ballads."

The first laird of Tushilaw, Margaret?" said he, "then that must be a very old story indeed?"

"Ay, it is that, sir! It is an auld story! But mair nor that, excepting George Warton an' James Stewart, there war never ane o' my sangs prentit till ye prentit them yourself, an' ye hae spoilt them awthegither. They were made for singing an' no for reading; but ye hae broken the charm now, an' they'll never be sung mair. An' the worst thing of a', they're nouthier right spell'd nor right setten down."



ur the ghil - lie 'at's a fack. A'm full o songs an aye guid crack. A
 ah u i i ae ah ah ah ah u ah ah ah ty i ah ah

p *str.*

U bhv _the _maist'Chin - speck'ar naime _Dhoy'ask' _fir'nie _a - f'road' an' bhainid
 i ae ah ah i ae ae ah i ee ah ah ou ah ae

BEETHOVEN'S IX

AW FREE... ..NBS NO THAE QET GROSS SOUNDS

QIE US SUM MIN BRAW... ..ER WYER AN BOWNE VOICE!

THERE FREE... ..DOM IN THE AIR!

FREEDOM! FREE.... DOM!

FREE DOM SKIMAIN SPARK, BRICHTNESS QUINE-LE FAE E-LY-SI-UM

BRENGE IN FU O BLEEZIN JUSTICE, ANE TAE BE A BILD FOR THAIM

AW YER POODERS PULLS THEGATHER THAIM THIT WERD HAES A-PAIRT, AW

OOK FANK ANE TAE THE TITHER SIBLINS NOO IN FREEDOMS HAIRT.

Dantis Alagherii De Vulgari Eloquentia
I

- i Cum neminem ante nos de vulgaris eloquentie doctrina quicquam invenimus tractasse, atque talem scilicet eloquentiam penitus omnibus necessariam videamus, cum ad eam non tantum viri sed etiam mulieres et parvuli nitantur, in quantum natura permittit, volentes discretionem aequaliter lucidare illorum qui tanquam ceci ambulant per plateas, plerumque anteriora posteriora putantes, - Verbo aspirante de celis - locutioni vulgari gentium prodesse temptabimus, non solum aquam ingeni ad tantum poculum aurientes, sed accipiendo vel compilando ab aliis, potiora miscentes, ut exinde potiorare possimus dalcissimum ydromellum.
- ii Sed quia unamquamque doctrinam oportet non probare, sed suum aperire subiectum, ut sciatur quid sit super quod illa versatur, dicimus, celeriter actondentes, quod vulgarem locutionem appellamus eam qua infantes assuefunt ab assistentibus cum primitus distinguere voces incipiunt; vel, quod brevius dici potest, vulgarem locutionem asserimus quam sine omni regula nutriticem imitantes accipiunt.
- iii Est et inde alia locutio secundaria nobis, quam Romani grammatice vocaverunt. Hanc quidem secundariam Greci habent et alii, sed non omnes: ad habitum vero huius pauci perveniunt, quia non nisi per spatium temporis et studii assiduitatum regularum et doctrinarum in illa.
- iv Harum quoque duarum nobilior est vulgaris: tum quia prima fuit humano generi usitata; tum quia totus orbis ipsa perfruitur licet in diversas pronuntiationes et vocabula sit divisa; tum quia naturalis est nobis, cum illa potius artificialis existat.
- v Et de hac nobilitate nostra est intentio pretractare.

On Vernacular Eloquence

Dante Alighieri 1305

i Seein A fun thit naebdy else, afore masel, haes taen ocht
tae dae wi the Theory o Eloquence in the Vernacular, an seein
we kin see thit sicna eloquence is sair wantit bi awbdy
- acause no juist men, but wimmen an weans an aw
rox for tae ha'e it, sae fair as Nature alloo - A'll try,
bi The Wird fae abuin, for tae say Sumhin usefae about
the language o thaim thit talk in the vulgartung,
howpin for tae enlichten, a weedap the unnersta'in o
thaim thit stot about lik the bliin, e'er hinkin thit whit lies
aheid is ahin them. Yit, in dae in sae, A'll no juist bring
the ony o ma ain thechts, but A'll pit in mair potent stuff
taen fae ithers, sae thit A'll mak aw the mair
Sweeter, this mead.

ii Seein hit's necessar thit onie Theoretical Scrieve
disnae lea hit's basis unsayd, but for tae erae wit
openly, sae thit awthin's clae an oot fae thefore - A say
thit A'icry "The Vernacular Language" the wey thit bairns
lairn for tae speak fae thaim aroon them when first they
kin be able for tae distinguishtween soonds. Or, for tae be
mair succinct, hit's whit we lairn a thit formal lairnin,
imitatin wir mither's.

iii There another language - wan step awa fae wir ain -
The Romans cried, it Grammatica. The Greeks an sawy, bit
no aw, ither fowk hae this Secondary Language tae ge' few
getfu fluency acause the knowledge o hit's rules an aw tak's years
o study.

iv O thir twa languages the mair Nobel is The Vernacular -
hit's the original language, sae icent - acause the tok worldeised hit,
Ano wi dygges in pronunciation an vocabulary; thit acause hit's
natural tae us, an the ither is artificial.

v This mair nobel language is whit A'll discuss.

z

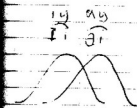
The Brus

John Barbour 1375

A! fredome is a noble thing
Fredome mayis a man to haiff liking
Fredome all solace to man giffis
He levys at es that frely levys
A noble hart may haiff nane es
Na ellys nocht that may him ples
Giff fredome failyhe, for fre liking
Is yharnt our all other thing.
Na he that ay has levyt fre
May nocht know weill the propyrte
The angyr na the wrechyt dome
That is couplyt to foule thyrdome
Bot gyff he had assayit it.
Than all perquer he suld it wyt
And suld think fredome mar to prys
Than all the gold in world that is.
Thus contrar thingis evermar
Discoveringis off the totther ar
And he that thryll is has nocht his
All that he has enbandounyt is.
Till hys lord qn whatever he be
Yheyt has he nocht sa mekill fre
As fre wyll to leyve or do
That at his hart hym drawista.

Z

```
3 </head>
4 <title>0001 Lenth</title>
5 <script src="jpspsych-6.1.0/jpspsych.js"></script>
6 <script src="jpspsych-6.1.0/plugins/jpspsych-html-keyboard-response.js"></script>
7 <script src="jpspsych-6.1.0/plugins/jpspsych-image-keyboard-response.js"></script>
8 <link href="jpspsych-6.1.0/css/jpspsych.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css"></link>
9 </head>
10 <body>
11 </body>
12 <script>
13   /*stert a timeline*/
14   var timeline = [];
15
16   /*gie a welcome message for tae show a trial haes stertit*/
17   var welcome = {
18     type: "html-keyboard-response",
19     stimulus: "Welcome tae wir experiment. Skelp a key tae stert."
20   };
21
22   timeline.push(welcome);
23
24   /*gie the experiment instructions*/
```



heid ↔
 held ↔↔



full phoneme

Scots voices

- contrastive in the Scots
 pey vs pie

Scottish Standard English

- half contrastive in SSE
 - main a sound effect
 price vs Prize

Scottish vowel length rule

Anglic

- Allophones in Awilthie English/Anglic accents
 Tide + Tied ur homophones

Phonemes an vowel length unnae externally measurable

- they'r perceptual categories - Same we're wantin a experiment aff a psychophysics paradigms, no voice analyses.

- hnr the hae Scots spikkers vs SSE spikkers an we cannae no hnr thaim thit speaks a English

althoof that mich exposure the Scots an Scots accents

- Hnuf o the wan for the get a vowel length probe the

English word frequencies

1. The	contractit nae 'e' - used different eg. The Hospital
2. of	o - pronounced aw, ae, ah
3. to	toe - fir toe in infinitives
4. and	an - nd, mb, ng 'loss the straps in general
5. a	- sometimes just 'a' afore vowels, no 'an'
6. in	The same in Scots
7. is	The same in Scots - but Northern Subject rule
8. it	hit in many dialects - emphatic or universal
9. you	ye, yees (pl) you/you(s) emphatic, ya in interjections
10. that	that for pronoun, thit when yin relative clauses.
11. he	The same in Scots what/whilk or aint? thit in RCS
12. was	wis + wisnae
13. for	fir + fur get used
14. on	spelt the same - pronounced 'oan'
15. are	said 'ur' in monic dialects
16. with	wi - commonly 'wae' in WC
17. as	the same yit pronounced 'is'
18. I	A, Ah, ah, in maist dialects I - emphatic in some
19. his	The same in Scots
20. they	The same in Scots - dinnae confasew thae! (those)
21. be	The same - tho usage o thr verb different
22. at	The same in Scots
23. one	wan + Ane (Yn/een) / ae of nae vs naen
24. have	hae / hiv / huv
25. this	The same in NE used in plural
26. from	fae or frae
27. or	The same tho often pronounced ur
28. had	haed / hid / huv
29. by	by + bi - means 'past' no aside.
30. her	het - often juist in fig.
31. word	wird / wurd.



