



PHOTIE

Writing a Monologue in Scots

WRITE A MONOLOGUE IN SCOTS BASED ON A PHOTOGRAPH OF MODERN SCOTTISH LIFE



The Photie

Choose a photograph taken in modern Scotland or of some aspect of contemporary Scottish life. It could be of a famous Scottish actor like David Tennant or someone from your school or your street. (Remember to ask people for their permission before you photograph them.) Or it could be a building like the Glasgow Armadillo Clyde Auditorium or your school.

Or it could be of a city, a village, a standing stone, a river, a beach, a mountain, an old factory, a castle, a football or rugby match; of Scottish foods or drinks (not alcoholic), shops, products, of tidy or messy landscapes



Some Writing Tips

Study the photograph. Don't just look at it. Look around it the same way you would if you were visiting a museum or inspecting a bug under the microscope. Make notes of what you see. This monologue will be in Scots so think about the Scots words for the things you're seeing. (Use the Photie Word Kist to help you.)

Then identify a person or personality in the picture. Choose carefully as this personality will be the voice of your monologue. Through this personality, you will tell a story and/or express feelings and emotions.

The personality does not have to be human. It could be a building or a river or a gravestone.

And it does not need to be in the photograph itself. It could be replying to a person or thing in the photograph.

Armadillo



Ah bide in the city
Caur bizz roon me like midgies
Siller steel blenkin in the sunlight
The auld Clyde warsles by
On its road tae the sea
Ah bide still

The caur park's hauf empty
The back streets are toom
The city turns its back on me wance mair
Siller steel winkin in the moonlicht
Ah'm waitin on them aw tae go tae their beds
Ah'm waitin on them aw gaun tae sleep

Or if you want to use a photograph of a famous Scot, like David Tennant as Doctor Who, that could also work well as a monologue.

Doactor Wha

Doactor? Ah'll gie ye doactor.
Tryin tae fleg me wi yon -
Whit is that? - an egg-timer?
Awa back in yer TARDIS,
Awa hame tae yer Time Lord mammie
Or is that Time Mammie? Time Maw?
Canna fleg me. Cybermen dinnae scare easy.
Sometimes need a wee skoosh o ile
Unner the oxters but we're feart o nothin.
Doactor? Doactor o whit?
Oors, meenits, seconds?
Dinnae mak me lauch.
Ye dinnae even hae a waatch.
Hoo can ye be maister o time
When ye dinnae ken whit time it is
The noo? Haud on,
Staun still. You're no real.
Ah mean, you arenae real.
Ah can pit ma haun richt through ye.
Ye're jist a hologram. Hoo
Can ah skelp a hologram? Whaur are ye?
Yon's no fair. Whaur are ye? It's me masel
Floatin alane in mirk daurk space.
Whaur are ye, doactor?
Whaur are ye?



Scots nouns

aipple apple
baffies slippers
bawheid twit
bogle ghost
bothy hut
brae hill
breeks trousers
brig bridge
burn stream
clachan village
claes clothes
clootie dumpling
coo cow
cowp rubbish dump
craw crow
cuddie horse
cundie drain
dominie teacher
doo dove
dookers swimming trunks
dub puddle
dug dog
eejit idiot
fecht fight
fernietickles freckles
gaberlunzie tramp
gairden garden
ganzie jumper
ginger fizzy juice
glaur mud
ground ground
gutties sneakers
haggis
heid head
hooley party
hoose house
messages shopping
midden mess
pawkies mittens
piece sandwich
polis police
semmit vest
snaw snow
sodger soldier
stookie plaster cast
stovies stewed potatoes & onions
taigle tangle
tap top
toun town
troosers trousers
tumshie turnip
yett gate

Scots Adjectives

auld
bletherie chatty
bonnie beautiful
braw handsome
broon brown
cauld cold
clarty dirty
crabbit grumpy
cutty short
daft silly
dauncin dancing
drookit drenched
glaikit stupid
greetin crying
gowden golden
guid good
hackit ugly
haiverin chatty
haunless clumsy
jaggie spiky
lang long
mair more
mingin smelly
muckle big
peeliewally pale
peerie small
puir poor
reid red
roond round
saft soft
scunnered fed-up
seven seven
siller silver
skinnymalinky thin
sleekit sly
tapsalteerie upside-down
toom empty
tottie tiny
tousie scruffy
tummlin tumbling
twa two
yappin gossiping
yella yellow
yeukie itchy
yin one

Scots verbs

bides lives
birlin spinning
blawin blowing
bletherin chatting
boonces bounces
cannae can't
cairryin carrying
chappin knocking
cowps knocks over
dinnae don't
doesnae doesn't
dook ducking
draps drops
follaein following
gaitheerin gathering
gies gives
gowfin golfing
greetin crying
hingin hanging
howks digs
joukin dodging
keekin looking
lauchin laughing
lowpin jumpin
mairries marries
makkin making
pech pant
pentin painting
pittin putting
pouin pulling
scartin scratching
skelps hits
skites skids
skooshin squirting water
wheechin zooming
yatterin chatting

Mair Scots words

ablow below
afore before
awfie very
aye yes; always
ben in
efter after
oot out
unner under