



# PHOTIE

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## Writing a Monologue in Scots

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



### The Photie

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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

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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