

Welsh English



Definition:

A variety of the English language that is used in Wales.

- Welsh English has been influenced by the Welsh language (*Cymraeg*), an ancient Celtic language spoken today by roughly 600,000 people. As of 2011, the English and Welsh languages officially have equal status in Wales.

Pronunciation

- **Short monophthongs**
- The vowel of *cat* /æ/ is pronounced as a more central near-open front unrounded vowel /æ/ is pronounced as a more central near-open front unrounded vowel In Cardiff, *bag* is pronounced with a long vowel [ai] In Powys is pronounced with a long vowel [ai] In Powys, a pronunciation resembling its New Zealand is pronounced with a long vowel [ai] In Powys, a pronunciation resembling its New Zealand and South African analogue is sometimes heard, i.e. *trap* is pronounced /trɛp/

- The vowel of "kit" /ɪ/ often sounds closer to the schwa sound of *above*, an advanced close-mid central unrounded vowel [ə]
- The vowel of *hot* /ɒ/ is raised towards /ɔ/ and can thus be transcribed as [ɔ̟]
- The vowel of "bus" /ʌ/ is pronounced as [ɜ], which is a shortened version of the vowel in R.P. *bird* and is encountered as a hypercorrection in northern areas for *foot*. It is sometimes manifested in border areas of north and mid Wales as an open front unrounded vowel. It is sometimes manifested in border areas of north and mid Wales as an open front unrounded vowel /a/ or as a near-close near-back vowel. It is sometimes manifested in border areas of north and mid Wales as an open front

Long monophthongs

- The vowel of *car* is often pronounced as a more central open back unrounded vowel is often pronounced as a more central open back unrounded vowel [ä][14] is often pronounced as a more central open back unrounded vowel [ä][14] and more often as a long open front unrounded vowel /a/
- In broader varieties, particularly in Cardiff, the vowel of *bird* is similar to South African is similar to South African and New Zealand is similar to South African and New Zealand, i.e. a lowered close-mid front rounded vowel [o:]
- Most other long monophthongs are similar to that of Received Pronunciation Most other long monophthongs are similar to that of Received Pronunciation, but words with the RP /əʊ/ are sometimes pronounced as [o] and the RP /eɪ/ as [e]. An example that illustrates this tendency is the Abercrave pronunciation of *play-place* [nleɪpləs]

Diphthongs

- Fronting diphthongs tend to resemble Received Pronunciation, apart from the vowel of *bite* that has a more centralised onset [æ̟ɪ]
- Backing diphthongs are more varied:
 - The vowel of *low* in R.P., other than being rendered as a monophthong, like described above, is often pronounced as [o:]
 - The word *town* is pronounced similarly to the New Zealand pronunciation of *tone*, i.e. with a near-open central onset [ɐʊ]
 - The /ju:/ of R.P. in the word *due* is usually pronounced as a true diphthong [ëʊ]

Consonants

- A strong tendency (shared with Scottish English) A strong tendency (shared with Scottish English and some South African) A strong tendency (shared with Scottish English and some South African accents) towards using an alveolar tap [ɾ] (a 'tapped r') in place of an approximant [ɹ] (the r used in most accents in England).
- Some gemination between vowels is often encountered, e.g. *money* is pronounced [mɜ.nɪli]
- In northern In northern varieties influenced by Welsh, *pens* and *pence* merge into /pɛns/ and *chin* and *gin* into /dʒɪn/
- In the north-east, under influence of such accents as Scouse, no coalescence does not take place, so *sing* is

Influence outside Wales

- While other British English accents have affected the accents of English in Wales, influence has moved in both directions. In particular, [Scouse](#) While other British English accents have affected the accents of English in Wales, influence has moved in both directions. In particular, Scouse and [Brummie](#) While other British English accents have affected the accents of English in Wales, influence has moved in both directions. In particular, Scouse and Brummie accents have both had extensive Anglo-Welsh input through migration, although in the former case, the influence of [Anglo-Irish](#) While other British English accents have affected the accents of English in Wales, influence has moved in both directions. In particular, Scouse and Brummie accents have both

Examples:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRGuF5f9DmM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zsgjp0EXlrw>
- How to sound Welsh:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cq-mEejECcU>