



Unit 2 Lesson 1: History of the English Language

The Celts and Celtic Languages: Crib Sheet

Slide 1: Introduce the topic – looking at the rise and fall of the Celtic language and where we find Celtic today with a case study of Welsh.

Slide 2: Click on the video. Pause the clip every 250 years so pupils can see how Celtic spread and in which areas in Europe. They should jot down the information on the timeline in their workbooks.

Date	Where Celtic was spoken
750 BC Southern England	Central Europe, France, Germany, pushing over the channel to Easter and
500 BC and North East Ireland	Pushing down to Spain, spreading East in Europe, England, Wales, into Scotland
250 BC	Pushed into Spain and the whole of Ireland and Scotland. Spreading towards Italy and East into modern-day Romania and Czech Republik.
1 AD	Continued growing in Central and eastern Europe and spread into Turkey.
250 AD France and UK.	Shrunk in Spain and Central and Eastern Europe. Shrunk in Turkey. Strongholds in
500 AD	Gone from Spain, Turkey, Southern and Eastern Europe. Shrunk in Central Europe to central Spain. Strongholds now in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.
750 AD	Gone from Europe apart from Brittany and Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Some still spoken in England along the western coast.
1000 AD	Britany, Western England, Isle of Man, Wales, Western Scotland, Ireland
1500 AD	Being spoken less and less in these areas.
Present Day	Almost wiped out in Cornwall. Celtic remains in Wales, Scotland, Cornwall, Isle of Man and Brittany. The language is experiencing a revival in these areas.

Slides 3, 4 and 5: Read the information to the class. Pupils write down three reasons for why did the spread of Celtic languages stop in Europe.

1. Battles with the Romans were frequent as Celts migrated.
2. Some Celtic tribes formed alliances with Romans.
3. Celts were not one group, but lots of tribes. Some of them became Romanised.

Slide 6: Shows where Celtic is still spoken today.



Slide 7: Introduced the idea that we still see some Celtic influence in our modern English in, for example, place names.

Slide 8: Demonstrates how the place names are found in the West of the UK showing how Anglo-Saxons were so successful in eradicating the Celtic language from Eastern, Southern and Central England. We'll learn about the Anglo-Saxons next week.

Slide 9: Asks the question why Celtic words were not adopted by Anglo-Saxons?

Slide 10 and 11: Matching activity. What do these Celtic words mean? We still use them in English today.

Ass Donkey

Carr Rock

Brock Badger

Hog Pig

Tor Mound

Coombe Valley

Crag Group of cliffs

Slide 12: Click on the video to hear modern Celtic being spoken. Read the information to the class.

Slide 13: Pupils label the map in their workbooks with correct Celtic language spoken in that area.



Scottish Gaelic - Blue

Irish Gaelic - Green

Welsh - Red



Manx - Orange

Breton - Black

Cornish - Yellow

Slide 14: Case study Welsh. Read out the information about mutations in Celtic. This is taken from the UK Linguistics Olympiad.

Slide 15: Show pupils the nuns and phrases with their English translations.



<i>ceffyl</i> 'horse'	<i>tad</i> 'father'	<i>meddyg</i> 'doctor'	<i>bachgen</i> 'boy'	<i>cath</i> 'cat'
<i>ci</i> 'dog'	<i>dafad</i> 'sheep'	<i>darlun</i> 'picture'	<i>beic</i> 'bicycle'	<i>dyn</i> 'man'
<i>Cymru</i> 'Wales'	<i>draig</i> 'dragon'	<i>theatr</i> 'theatre'	<i>Bangor</i> 'Bangor'	

Here are some Welsh sentences with their English translations (Aberystwyth is a city on the central Welsh coast, and Dolgellau is a town in North Wales). Pay attention to the order of words in both Welsh and English!

Aeth Megan i Fangor	Megan went to Bangor	Mae yn Dolgellau Fegan	In Dolgellau is Megan
Aeth Emrys i Aberystwyth	Emrys went to Aberystwyth	Mae Megan yn Dolgellau	Megan is in Dolgellau
Mae dafad yma	A sheep is here	Gwelodd Megan ddarlun	Megan saw a picture
Mae yma ddafad	Here is a sheep	Gwelodd ddarlun	She saw a picture
Mae yn Aberystwyth dad	In Aberystwyth is father	Gwelodd y dyn gath	The man saw a cat

Slide 16: Linguistic puzzle –Pupils work out which is the correct Welsh translation of each of the following English sentences? **Answers 1 = b 2 = a 3 = a 4 = b**

1. He saw a bicycle in the street	2. In the street, he saw a bicycle
a. Gwelodd beic yn y stryd	a. Gwelodd yn y stryd feic
b. Gwelodd feic yn y stryd	b. Gwelodd yn y stryd beic
c. Gwelodd yn y stryd beic	c. Gwelodd beic yn y stryd
d. Gwelodd yn y stryd feic	d. Gwelodd feic yn y stryd
3. In the theatre, she saw a horse	4. The boy's father saw a dog
a. Gwelodd yn y theatr geffyl	a. Gwelodd dad y bachgen gi
b. Gwelodd ceffyl yn y theatr	b. Gwelodd tad y bachgen gi
c. Gwelodd yn y theatr ceffyl	c. Gwelodd tad y bachgen ci
d. Gwelodd geffyl yn y theatr	d. Gwelodd dad y bachgen ci