

KS2 Unit 2 Lesson 4 Clever Celtic

Crib Sheet

Slides 1 and 2: Introduce the aims and objectives of today's lesson which is to look at the history of Celtic languages and to see where Celtic languages are spoken today. We will look at the idea of a proto-language and an extinct language and we will discuss the importance of protecting languages. We will look at how Celtic roots are celebrated today by investigating sports teams.

- We can see that Celtic is still spoken in areas today.
- We can understand what a proto language is.
- We can play with the word, "Celtic" and think about its significance; how and where it is used throughout the world.

Slide 3: This diagram shows the languages that come from Celtic. The diagram may appear tricky, but please focus on the word proto-language and show them where the strands of the diagram lead to: Welsh, Cornish, Manx, Scottish Gaelic, Irish and Breton. Do your students know any words in these languages? Do they have relatives who can speak these languages? Have they visited these countries and heard or seen the language being used?

Slide 4: Ask pupils the quiz question on the board. They could discuss in groups under a thirty second timer for added urgency. The answers will appear on the click of the button. Here they are:

A proto-language is a lost parent language. Other languages are derived from it.

An extinct language no longer has any speakers.

They are all Celtic languages that are spoken today.

Slides 5 and 6: Celtic languages were spoken by Celtic tribes throughout Europe. The map shows blue areas where Celtic was spoken at the height of its spread. Ask pupils if they can recognise the countries in blue. The picture on the right shows where Celtic is spoken today. The decline of Celtic languages is astonishing. Celtic languages are now only spoken in:

- Scotland: Scottish Gaelic
- Ireland: Irish
- The Isle of Man: Manx
- Wales: Welsh





- Cornwall: Cornish
- Brittany: Breton

Slides 7 and 8 provide reasons for the shrinking of Celtic languages.

Slides 9 to 11 ask questions about the areas where Celtic languages are still spoken. Answers are provided at the click of the mouse.

Slide 12: This slide provides an example of a Celtic word meaning “sea”. It shows the different Celtic language variations and pupils can easily spot that they are linked. They may also spot that the word has similarities with some foreign languages e.g., German.

Slides 13 to 18: Here we go a little off piste and start to look at where the word “Celtic” appears. We investigate the Boston Celtics and Celtic Football Club. Divide your class into teams and see how well they can answer out quiz questions. Quiz 1 asks 8 questions linked to Boston Celtics. Pupils discuss in groups. The answers are provided on the next slide. Quiz 2 asks 4 questions about Celtic Football Club. The answers are provided on the next slide.

Slide 14: Discussion slide. Celtic languages have been described by UNESCO as threatened. Do pupils think languages should be protected and dying languages should be taught in schools?

