This soundscape represents the story of the Irish/Gaeilge language. It begins slowly as the language is brought over by the Celts and it slowly takes hold. It grows over time from primitive to old Irish before England comes and occupies Ireland. With English rule of Ireland, English takes over as the main language. There was also the Great Famine that happened under English rule where millions of people lost their lives. The substantial loss of the population also affected the language as many who still knew the language had passed away. After Ireland gained its independence, they began to standardize and revitalize the language. It is now a required subject taught in school, it is the official language of the Republic of Ireland, and they have designated Gaeltacht’s where the primary language spoken is Gaeilge.

For my screenshots, I have included an additional element to the change and occupation section on the soundscape. I included wind to as it felt right to have some forceful motion to signify the invasion of the British before the storm began and the full military force and stomping. I included that screenshot since I appreciate how they not only sounds, but how it feels when you listen to it. It is foreboding at first and then all consuming.

The second screenshot I included was the marching and leaves. I struggled to find the best way to signify the death of the language but have captured it with the marching and the leaves. Just as we walk over the autumn leaves and the plants slowly die as we head into winter, English slowly took hold in Ireland and the Irish language was stamped out of common use.

The last screenshot I included was the ending of the soundscape. There is an optimistic sound that feels hopeful to me and to me signifies the change that Ireland took to make Gaeilge a priority in the country and making it the official language. The optimistic sound fade out as the Irish traditional music fades in. With the resurgence of the language you get joy and happiness, but also the soul of the country.

Thank you!