

The Scottish English Podcast

E06 The Scottish Parliament

Transcript

*Vocabulary and grammar structures you should know.
*= meaning used in the podcast if there is more than
one meaning.*

*Collocations, idioms and
other useful phrases.*

Claire | Kilted English:

Scotland's Parliament is one of the oldest in the world, with its origins dating back to the 13th century.

However, its journey has been anything but smooth. So, let's travel back in time to where it all began.

Hello and welcome to the Scottish English Podcast where we explore Scotland's rich history, vibrant culture and distinctive accents.

If you're an upper intermediate or advanced English learner, this is a perfect place for you to improve your listening skills while learning all about Scotland.

I'm Claire and today we're uncovering the history of the Scottish Parliament, a story of power, struggle and national identity.

Origins of the Scottish Parliament

The first recorded meeting of the Scottish Parliament took place [00:01:00] in 1235, during the reign of Alexander II.

It functioned, mainly as a council of nobles and clergy advising the king and passing laws.

Origin (noun)

/ˈɒrɪdʒɪn/

- the point from which something starts; the cause of something*
- a person's social and family background

Anything but (idiom)

- Definitely not

Reign (noun)

/reɪn/

- the period during which a king, queen, **emperor**, etc. rules*
- the period during which somebody is in charge of an organization, a team, etc.

Council (noun)

/ˈkaʊnsl/

- (especially in the past) a formal meeting to discuss what action to take in a particular situation*
- a group of people who are elected to govern an area such as a city or county

Noble (noun)

/ˈnəʊbl/

- Origin of something
- Sth has its origins in sth
- In origin

Most coughs are viral in origin

*- Of origin
a person's country of origin
(= where they were born)*

*- By origin
He is a Londoner by origin.*

- in/during a reign

- A town council
- On the council

<p>Over the next few centuries, the Parliament evolved, gradually involving representatives from burghs, Scotland's <u>medieval</u> towns, giving ordinary citizens a greater voice in government.</p> <p>Parliamentary evolution.</p> <p>By the late Middle Ages, so roughly 1300 to 1500, the Scottish Parliament had developed into a powerful institution. Unlike the English Parliament, which evolved into a two <u>chamber</u> system, Scotland's Parliament remained a single body. It was responsible for passing laws, raising taxes, And addressing matters of national concern.</p> <p>However, the power of the monarchy often <u>overshadowed</u> parliamentary authority, leading to tensions between the Crown and Scotland's political <u>elite</u>.</p> <p>The Union of the Crowns and the Act of Union.</p> <p>One of the most significant moments in the Parliament's history came in the 17th century during the reign of James the 6th who later became James the 1st of England and top marks if you can tell me in the comments who his mother was.</p> <p>With the union of the crowns in 1603,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a person who comes from a family of high social rank; a member of the nobility <p>Clergy (noun) / ' klɜːdʒi/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the priests or ministers of a religion, especially of the Christian Church <p>Medieval (adjective) / , medi ' iːvl/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - connected with the Middle Ages (about AD 1000 to AD 1450) <p>Chamber (noun) / ' tʃeɪmbə(r)/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a hall in a public building that is used for formal meetings - one of the parts of a parliament* <p>Overshadow (verb) / , əʊvə ' jædəʊ/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overshadow somebody/something to make somebody/something seem less important, or successful* - Overshadow something to make an event less pleasant than it should be 	
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<p>After decades of campaigning, a <u>referendum</u> was held in 1997 and the people of Scotland voted <u>overwhelmingly in favour of</u> devolution, giving Scotland its own Parliament once again.</p> <p>In 1999, after nearly three centuries, the Scottish Parliament was officially <u>reconvened</u> in Edinburgh.</p> <p>The Scottish Parliament today.</p> <p>Today, the Scottish Parliament has <u>significant</u> powers over areas such as education, health, justice and the environment.</p> <p>It meets at Holyrood in a <u>striking</u> modern building at the bottom of the Royal Mile. One of its key responsibilities is <u>debating</u> and passing laws that directly affect the lives of the people in Scotland.</p> <p>Additionally, the parliament has gradually gained more powers since its <u>establishment</u>, particularly in areas such as taxation and <u>welfare</u>. However, many areas are still governed from London, which some Scots disagree with.</p> <p>The future of Scottish politics.</p> <p>Of course, the question of Scotland's</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - govern something to control or influence somebody/something or how something happens, functions, etc. <p>Retain (verb) /rɪˈteɪn/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - retain something to keep something; to continue to have something <p>Distinct (adjective) /dɪˈstɪŋkt/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - easily or clearly heard, seen, felt, etc. - clearly different or of a different kind* - used to emphasize that you think an idea or situation definitely exists and is important <p>Devolution (noun) /ˌdiːvəˈluːʃn/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the act of giving power from a central authority or government to an authority or a government in a local region <p>Home rule (noun) /ˌhəʊmˈruːl/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the right of a country or region to govern itself, especially after another country or region has 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distinct from something <p><i>Jamaican reggae music is quite distinct from North American jazz or blues.</i></p> <p><i>We are talking about rural areas, as distinct from major cities.</i></p>
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<p>political future remains a <u>hot topic</u>.</p> <p>In 2014, Scotland held a referendum on independence with 55 percent of voters choosing to remain in the United Kingdom. However, political shifts in the UK, such as Brexit, have <u>reignited</u> discussions about Scotland's place in the Union.</p> <p>Some believe that full independence is the next step, while others argue that remaining part of the UK offers stability and economic benefits.</p> <p>Looking ahead, what might the future hold for the Scottish parliament?</p> <p>These are questions that continue to shape Scotland's political landscape today.</p> <p>So what do you think? Should Scotland have its own full parliament? Or should it return to being governed <u>solely</u> by Westminster?</p> <p>These debates have been <u>ongoing</u> for centuries and they show no signs of stopping any time soon.</p> <p>That's all for this episode. If you enjoyed today's journey through Scottish history, don't forget to subscribe, share and leave a [00:06:00] review.</p>	<p>governed it</p> <p>Referendum (noun) /ˌrefəˈrendəm/ - an occasion when all the people of a country can vote on an important issue</p> <p>Overwhelmingly (adverb) /ˌəʊvəˈwelmiŋli/ - in a way that is very great or very strong; in a way that is so powerful that you cannot resist it or decide how to react</p> <p>In favour of (idiom) - In favour of somebody/something = if you are in favour of somebody/something, you support and agree with them/it</p> <p>Reconvene (verb) /ˌriːkənˈviːn/ - reconvene (something) if a meeting, parliament, etc. reconvenes or if somebody reconvenes it, it meets again after a break</p> <p>Significant (adjective) /sɪɡˈnɪfɪkənt/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct/Hold a referendum - A referendum on sth - Extremely/fairly/very significant
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<p>And, if you want to practice your English, why not try summarising what you learned today in your own words.</p> <p>Thanks for listening to the Scottish English Podcast. See you later, <u>pals</u>!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - large or important enough to have an effect or to be noticed* - having a particular meaning - having a special or secret meaning that is not understood by everyone <p>Striking (adjective) /ˈstraɪkɪŋ/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - interesting and unusual enough to attract attention* - very attractive, often in an unusual way <p>Debate (verb) /dɪˈbeɪt/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to discuss something, especially formally, before making a decision or finding a solution* - to think carefully about something before making a decision <p>Establishment (noun) /ɪˈstæblɪʃmənt/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the act of starting or creating something that is meant to last for a long time <p>Welfare (noun) /ˈwelfeə(r)/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Significant for - Significant to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Someone bears a striking resemblance to someone - In striking contrast to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hotly debated - Debate an issue - Debate whether... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welfare provision - Welfare services
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the general health, happiness and safety of a person, an animal or a group - practical or financial help that is provided, often by the government, for people or animals that need it* <p>Hot topic (idiom)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - things that are being discussed a lot <p>Reignite (verb)</p> <p>/ˌriːɪɡˈnaɪt/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to start burning again; to make something start burning again (the use here is figurative, e.g. for dramatic effect) <p>Solely (adverb)</p> <p>/ˈsəʊlly/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - only; not involving somebody/something else <p>Ongoing (adjective)</p> <p>/ˈɒŋɡəʊɪŋ/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continuing to exist or develop <p>Pal (noun)</p> <p>/pæl/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a friend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welfare work - Improve welfare - Promote welfare
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