Week 17. Scotland

1. How many languages are indigenous to Scotland?
   - Gaelic
   - Scots
   - English with a Scottish accent

2. Vowel system. The missing oppositions:

/u/ (no /ʊ/)   *mood – good, pool – pull, Luke – look*
/ɔ/ (no /ɒ/)   *thought – lot, stalk – stock, dawn – don*
/a/ (no /ɑ/)   *psalm – Sam, father – gather, aunt – ant*

i	ɪ	e	ɛ	a	ʌ	ɔ	o	u
fleece	*kit*	*face*	*dress*	*trap*	*strut*	*thought*	*goat*	*goose*
near		*square*		*start*		*lot*	*force*	*foot*

ʌi	ʌu	ɔi
price	*mouth*	*choice*

3. Rhotic; often no /ɜː/, no /ə/. NURSE words mostly have /ɛr/ or /ʌr/.
   burn   [bʌrn]   –   *stern*   [stɛrn]
   China   [ˈtʃʌinʌ]   –   *father*   [ˈfaðɪr]

4. The **Scottish Vowel Length Rule** (Aitken's Law)

V → [+long] /   _ {[+voi +fric], r, #}

a vowel is: long before a voiced fricative, /r/, or #
              but otherwise short.

greed   [grid]   –   *agree#d*   [əˈgriːd]
brood   [brud]   –   *brew#ed*   [bruːd]
tide   [tʌid]   –   *tie#d*   [taˑed]

See further
   - Wells, *Accents of English,* vol. 2, chapter 5.2–3. CUP, 1982.
   - Aitken, A.J., 'Scottish accents and dialects', in Trudgill, P. (ed.), *Language in the British Isles*, Cambridge University Press, 1984;
   - Abercrombie, David, 'The accents of Standard English in Scotland', in Aitken, A.J. and McArthur, T., *Languages of Scotland*, Edinburgh: Chambers, 1979.
   - Scobbie, J.M., N. Hewlett and A.E. Turk, 'Standard English in Edinburgh and Glasgow: the Scottish Vowel Length Rule revealed'. In Foulkes, P. and Docherty G. (eds.) , *Urban Voices*, London: Arnold, 1999.