

# **Accents of Ireland: Northern Irish Accent**

- **Northern Irish**
- **Southern Irish**
- **Dublin**
- **West of Ireland**
- **etc.**

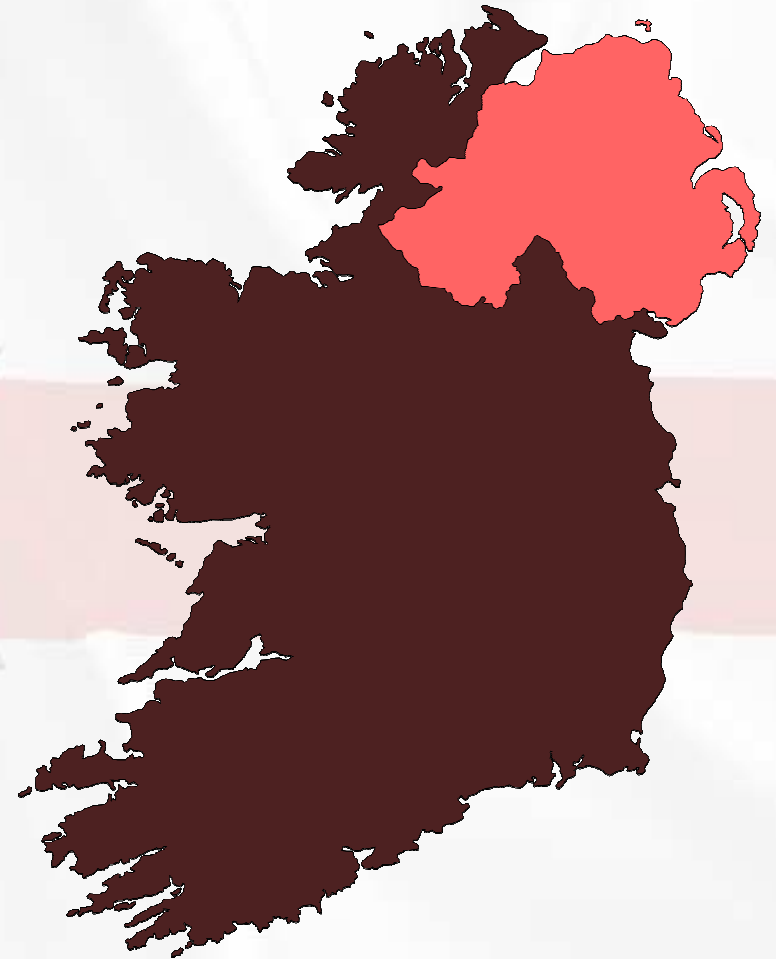




# A GUIDE TO IRISH ACCENTS

# Northern Irish Accent

- **Vowel features**
- **Consonant features**
- **Intonation and prosody**



# Vowel features: differences in pronunciation

	RP	NIrE		RP	NIrE		RP	NIrE
KIT	ɪ	ɪ	FLEECE	i:	i	NEAR	ɪə	ɪr
DRESS	e	ɛ	FACE	eɪ	e*	SQUARE	eə	ɛr
TRAP	æ	a	PALM	ɑ:	a	START	ɑ:	ar
LOT	ɒ	ɒ, ɔ	THOUGHT	ɔ:	ɔ	NORTH	ɔ:	ɔr
STRUT	ʌ	ʌ	GOAT	əʊ	o	FORCE	ɔ:	or
FOOT	ʊ	u	GOOSE	u:	u	CURE	ʊə	ur
BATH	ɑ:	a	PRICE	aɪ	aɪ*	HAPPY	ɪ	e, ɪ
CLOTH	ɒ	ɔ	CHOICE	ɔɪ	ɔɪ	LETTER	ə	ər
NURSE	ɜ:	ɑr	MOUTH	aʊ	au*	COMMA	ə	ə

(Julišová 2013 based on Wells, Accents 120 and 438)

# Vowel features

## Monophthongs:

- /e/ -> [ɛ]
- /ɒ/ -> [ɔ] or [o]
- /ɪ/ -> [i]
- /ʊ/ -> [u]

## Diphthongs:

- /eɪ/ -> [ɛ:] in final position
- **Pre-consonantly** /eɪ/ -> [ɛə] or [iə]
- /aɪ/ -> [əi]
- **realization of the /aʊ/ diphthog**

# Vowel features: vowel length

- **diff. accents of En. language -> pronounce the same phoneme /ɪ/ slightly longer in *kid* than in *kit***  
-> in Nlr accent -> the contrast in vowel length is lost
- ***Ulster Lengthening* = vowel length for /ɛ, a, ɔ/ if used word-finally or before any consonant than /p, t, tʃ, k/ -> longer allophones are used**  
-> /bed/ -> [bɛ:d]

# Consonant features

- strong rhoticity -> "r" pronounced more prominently, esp. at the end of words and before consonants  
-> eg. 'career'
- lack of dark /l/
- Elision: /mother/ -> [mɑ:ə] or [mɔ:ə]  
/d/ -> lost completely in /hand/ or /old/  
/l/ -> in the final position in /call/ or /full/
- Glottalization



# Intonation

- rising / falling intonation patterns
- High rising terminal (HRT)
- the voice-pitch is continually rising and falling

# Derry Girls



# Sources:

- Hickey, R. (2004). The phonology of Irish English. Handbook of varieties of English, 1, 68-97.
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- [https://dspace.cuni.cz/bitstream/handle/20.500.11956/53716/DPTX\\_2013\\_1\\_11410\\_0\\_330031\\_0\\_95958.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://dspace.cuni.cz/bitstream/handle/20.500.11956/53716/DPTX_2013_1_11410_0_330031_0_95958.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)
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