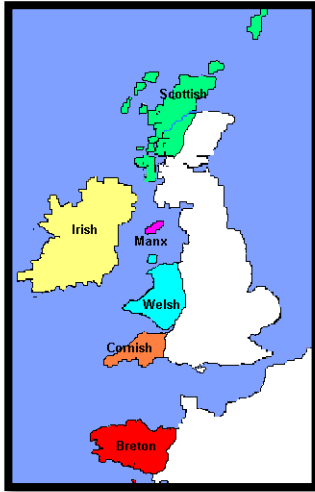


Celtic Languages



There are six Celtic languages still spoken today, divided into two groups.

Goidelic

- Irish (Ireland)
- Scottish Gaelic (Scotland)
- Manx (Isle of Man)

Brythonic

- Welsh (Wales)
- Cornish (Cornwall)
- Breton (Brittany)

Irish Language Phases

- **Ancient Irish** (4th – 6th century, and before)
Found in Ogham inscriptions.
- **Old Irish** (7th – 9th centuries)
Earliest glosses are 7th century, earliest texts in 9th century Book of Armagh.
- **Middle Irish** (10th – 12th centuries)
Origin of modern Irish, Scottish Gaelic and Manx.
- **Early Modern Irish** (12th – 16th centuries)
Spoken Irish during Late Middle Ages.
- **Classical Gaelic** (13th – 18th centuries)
Written Gaelic shared by poets in Ireland and Scotland.
- **Modern Irish** (19th century – present). Irish as written and spoken today.

Irish Dialects



There are currently 3 main dialects of Irish, though vocabulary and usage varies from place to place within each region.

- **Ulster Irish** – North-Western Ireland
- **Connacht Irish** – Western Ireland
- **Munster Irish** – Southern Ireland

At one time there was also a Leinster (Eastern Ireland) dialect, but that is no longer spoken.

Additionally, **Standard Irish** is often used, particularly in writing.