

# CREATIVE WRITING

Tips for writing in Shetland Dialect and writing poetry, help starting stories and word lists with both English-to-Shetland and Shetland-to-English versions





## Contents:

- Tips for writing in Shetland Dialect
- Suggestions for how to spell some words
- Tips for writing poetry
- Story starts
- English to Shetland Word Lists
- Shetland to English Word Lists

# Tips for Writing in Shetland Dialect

## Both poetry and prose

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### SPELLING & USING THE DICTIONARY

There isn't a right way or a wrong way to spell each word.

There isn't a standard written form of Shetland Dialect, like how there is for English. There are Shetland Dictionaries, but they do not need to be used like an English Dictionary.

You should think about each dialect word you want to write and think about the best way to spell it. Your choice does not need to match the one in the dictionary. But the Dictionary is there if you want to use it.

### CONSISTENCY

When writing in dialect you should try and be consistent. If you decide to spell "there" as "dere" you should not go on to write "dare" the next time, that would be wrong.

### APOSTROPHES

Only use an apostrophe to show either possession i.e. "Bruce's hoose", or when a letter has been removed when joining 2 words together.

Don't use an apostrophe for taking a letter off the end i.e. leave it as "greetin" for crying, or "wi" for with, or "o" for of, or "goin" for going. Don't worry that a letter is missing from the end.

You should use an apostrophe when you take letters out for joining 2 words together, like you would in English i.e. "it's" for it is.

Some examples of this in dialect are "Du'll" for you will, or "A'm" for I am, or "dey'll" for they will.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR HOW TO SPELL SOME WORDS

aa	-	all
aet	-	eat
afore	-	before
ain	-	own
alang	-	along
anidder	-	another
byde	-	stay
cam	-	came
canna	-	can't
dan/den	-	then
dat	-	that
dem	-	them
desel	-	yourself
dey	-	they
dis	-	this
dunna	-	don't
eenoo	-	just now
ey	-	always
geed	-	gave; went
git	-	get
ida	-	in the
idder	-	other
ir	-	are
ithoot	-	without
kaen	-	know
laek	-	like
mesel	-	myself
mony	-	many
noo	-	now
o	-	of
ony	-	any
ower	-	over
spæk	-	speak
tae/ta	-	to
whit	-	what
wi	-	with
wye	-	way
yit	-	yet
yun	-	that



In English "th" is pronounced in two different ways; voiced, as in "this" or "that", and unvoiced, as in "thick" or "think".

In Shetland dialect the voiced "th" sound changes to "d", like "dat" or "dem" for "that" or "them".

Unvoiced "th" changes to "t" in Shetland dialect, like "tick" or "tink" for "thick" or "think".

See how many of these words feature this change...



Notice how often the letters "ea" in English words like "speak" get turned around to "ae" in Shetland words, like "spæk", "laek", "kaen"

## Tips for Writing Poetry in Shetland Dialect

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Here are tips and suggestions for writing poetry at 2<sup>nd</sup> Level.

### WHAT IS THE POEM ABOUT?

Before they start writing, it's good for pupils to have an idea of what they are going to write. Many of the Activity Sheets suggest pupils could write a poem in response to the various texts - perhaps using the text as a model.

The first question you should have them ask themselves is: what is MY poem about? Brainstorm possibilities and choose the best.

Some children have an idea straight away, but some have no idea whatsoever. Here are some questions you could ask someone who is having trouble coming up with an idea, or someone who may need to think their idea through:

- Would you like to write a poem about yourself?
  - o If so, what words would you use to describe yourself?
  - o What details about yourself would you like to write about?
  - o What can you say about who you are and who you want to be?
- Would you like to write a poem about someone made-up?
  - o If so, what does this person look like?
  - o Where do they live? What do they do?
  - o Why are you writing a poem about this person?
- Would you like to write a poem about where you live, or a place you have been?
  - o If so, what does this place look like?
  - o What do you like about it? What happens in this place?
  - o Why are you writing a poem about this place?

## WHAT FEATURES IS THIS POEM GOING TO HAVE?

It will help their writing a great deal if the class think about a few features of their poem in advance:

- A good starting-point is to brainstorm related vocabulary from words/phrases the pupils know, which could be supplemented by those in Dialect Dictionaries and the Word Lists at the back of this booklet
- From these words (which could be written on the board) the pupils can see if features such as rhyme, alliteration, assonance suggest themselves...and they can make lists as an aid to their writing
  - Is the poem going to rhyme? Many children think a poem isn't a poem unless it rhymes
    - Rhyming is often difficult, but it can help to bring a poem to life - but a forced rhyme can destroy a poem. Be sure the rhyme sounds "natural". If it doesn't go for a free-form poem
      - See 'Rainy Day' by J. B. Eunson for a good rhyming poem
    - Rhyming can give a nice lightsome feel to a poem, and will let the reader know the poem is meant as a fun
      - See 'Da International Press' by Rhoda Bulter
  - Is it going to be a long poem, or a short poem?
    - Short poems can pack a lot of punch
    - Thinking carefully about the exact words is important, and where to end each line
      - See 'Norderly' by Christie Williamson
    - A long poem can have a good conversational-voice
      - See 'Andrew's Sang' by Alec Cluness
    - If you are writing a long poem, it is good to separate it into verses
      - See 'Eence Upon A Time' by Vagaland
    - If the topic is abstract e.g. weather or feelings - consider encouraging the use of personification, simile or metaphor
    - Children enjoy writing short poems like haiku, but need practice first in counting syllables
      - See 'Norderly' by Christie Williamson

# Story-Starts

Here are a selection of story starts that can be offered to a class doing creative writing.

We hope they can help get people off to a good start when writing a story.

The story starts can be adapted in any way the writer wishes!

1. On da mat inside da door wis a postcaird. As I cam in, I trampit ower it wi me guttery trainers. But when I managed ta read whit it said, I couldna believe me eyes...
2. 'Did I no tell dee ta tie up da boat?'
3. Jack wisna at da hoose. Naebody wis at da hoose. Da only thing at wis at da hoose wis a muckle broon dug, sittin on da step, tied ta da door haandle, blyde an freendly an waggin his tail. I wis niver seen him afore in me life.
4. I never ever did understand why Megan laekit Jacqueline/ Bobby/ birds/ lizards/ skateboardin/ bidin in da toon/ country...

5. Da night wis as black as black could be. I couldna see a stime. But da *soond* wis gettin looder an looder...
6. On da wye ta da ferry terminal/ airport/ launch pad, I wis aaful excited.
7. 'Mercy me!' said Auntie Ellen, lookin oot ower da tap o her glesses. 'Whit kind o a gadget is yon?'
8. Robbie wis da peeriest boy in da schöl, an didna say very muckle, but he fairly surprised everybody wan Monday moarnin.
9. When I opened the parcel, I thought it must have been sent to me by mistake. 'Whit's da maitter?' said Mam. 'Dy face is as lang as da day an da moarn!'
10. It was Grandad on the phone. 'Is du döin onything interestin dis mornin?' he asked. 'I hae a veesitor aside me. Somebody interestin. Come ower an see wha it is.'
11. When A'm an aald body, I doot dat da story A'll tell maest ava will be da wan when I geed tae...

12. But he's only a puppy! He didna kaen ony better! A'm aaful sorry but he didna kaen no tae geng in yunder...
13. Weel, A'm blyde tae be oot o yunder - yun plaece wis juist teemin. A'm no seen a plaece as busy as yun fae...
14. My Granddad told me all about things like that. I remember him saying, "Da last een wis seen here fifty year ago - dey shot him! - hit's in da museum in Lerrick noo..."
15. Jamie was 10 now, and when out for a walk he/she didn't like his/her little brother having to come too. Except, one day, when he came running over to her and said, "Du'll niver giss whit A'm funn? I wis clearin oot da aald boat noost, an doon in among da peerie stons wis somtin A'm niver seen afore..."
16. Da night afore me seeventh birthday wis wan A'll niver firgit. Dat night, juist as I wis aboot tae faa asleep den...

17. Daday at school, a new boy [or lass] came intae wir class. He's [or she's] juist moved in dis weekend. Bet you canna giss whit da first thing dey said wis?
18. Wir telly brook on Saturday. I couldna believe it, right in da middle o X Factor! But it wisna dat bad. Instead o waatchin TV we aa sat an...

**WORD LISTS**  
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**ENGLISH TO SHETLAND**

**CONTENTS:**

- **Descriptive words**
- **Weather words**
- **Clothes**
- **Animals**
- **Fish**
- **Sheep**
- **The Seashore**
- **Creepy Crawlies**
- **Birds**

## WORD LISTS (ENGLISH TO SHETLAND)

### DESCRIPTIVE WORDS

\* Many of these are dialect expressions rather than dialect words

big	-	muckle
cheerful	-	lightsome
dark-haired with dark eyes and dark skin - looks like they've been starved of food -	-	dark-advised fanted-laek
poorly	-	poor-aamos
pretty	-	boannie
quite good-looking	-	weel-laek, no ill-laek
slim	-	smaa
sour-faced	-	soor-faced
small, short	-	peerie
smart	-	smert
stout, fat	-	stoot
thin	-	tin
thin, as if wasted by illness	-	scraepit-laek
thin <i>and</i> ungainly	-	wenglit
ugly	-	ill-laek
untidy-looking	-	trussit-laek
well dressed	-	weel-riggit
witless	-	glakit

*You can modify your description by saying*

rather	-	kinda
quite	-	braaly
very	-	aaful, awful

### Cold

cold	-	caald, cowl'd
stone cold	-	ston cowl'd
becoming stiff with cold	-	stivvenin
very cold	-	freezin, pinnishin, starvin

## Hot

a sultry heat; stuffy atmosphere  
choking with heat; overcome  
close, or stuffy  
hot  
luke warm  
roasting  
tepid  
very hot  
working/moving so very hot

- a haet ön  
- scomfishin  
- closs  
- haet  
- loobit  
- rostin  
- loo (*of food or liquid*)  
- in a loch o swaet  
- da swaet wis runnin  
aff o me/ hailin aff o him

## Mood

angry, bad-tempered  
annoyed  
barmin  
displeased  
elated  
feeling sorry about something  
glad, happy  
rampin  
very angry  
worried

- tirn  
- taen aff  
- seething with anger  
- ill-plaesed  
- uplifted  
- vexed  
- blyde  
- boiling with anger  
- mad  
- annoyed

## Qualities

active and lively  
bad-tempered  
calm, moderate  
cheerful, of people or places  
clumsy, lacking in technique  
fit and active  
forgetful  
full of thought  
given to excessive talking  
given to extravagant behaviour  
high spirited, frisky  
inclined to vicious gossip

- veeve  
- crabbit  
- mooderate  
- lichtsome  
- vyndless  
- kniff, nyiff  
- mindless  
- towtfoot  
- sheeksit  
- overly  
- filsket  
- ill-spaekin

keen, eager	-	aaber
kindly	-	blydely
lacking manners and care	-	graceless
lively, energetic	-	yasp
mischeivous	-	ill-trickit
nice	-	fine
no use at skilled/physical tasks	-	haandless
obedient	-	biddable
over boisterous	-	owre-steer
prim and priggish	-	perskeet, pernyim
purposefully nasty	-	ill-döin
slovenly	-	slushit
sly	-	sleekit
sulky	-	dorty
sympathetic and sensitive	-	feelin-herted
thoughtful	-	towtful/tochtful
trouble making	-	ill-makkin
tough	-	tyoch
untidy	-	trusset

## Taste

burnt	-	brunt
scorched	-	scoodered
sour as opposed to sweet e.g. when describing rhubarb or lemon -		shilpit
sour; gone off or gone bad	-	soor

## Touch

a hard but uneven surface	-	ruckly
easily broken, feeble	-	bruckly, brucky
hairy	-	birsie
rough	-	coorse
smooth	-	slight
soaking wet	-	sabbin, sabbitt
soft	-	saft
sticky and mushy	-	clatchy
wet	-	weet
woolly	-	ooie

## Sound

a bellow	-	bröl	
a creak	-	snyirk	
a creak or squeak	-	neester	
a deep sigh, the sighing of the wind	-	soch	
a low whirring sound, as of a spinning wheel	-	birr	
a loud knock	-	bong	
a loud noise, like thunder	-	dunder	
a tinkling noise	-	rinkle	
bleat, like a sheep	-	nyaarm	
cackle, as a hen	-	claag	
croak, as a crow	-	kirrup	
sound of someone clearing their throat	-	crex	
sound made by a light engine	-	snirr	
the low persistent sound of a rolling sea	-	hush	
the sound of liquid gently splashing within a container	-	swinkle	
to bang on a surface looking for an echo	-	rong	
to moan or wail	-	oob	
to splash gently in water	-	swittle	
to wheeze	-	whassel	
whinny or neigh, like a horse	-	nyicker	
yelp or bark, like a dog	-	yalk	

## Movement

blow, thud, strike, dart	-	doose	
bumble	-	boofel	
to crawl	-	oag	
to duck, as from a blow; dip in water	-	dook	
to go quickly	-	stend alang, stend on/ stoor alang, stoor on	
to grasp	-	mitten (a hadd o)	
to grasp firmly, to grab	-	yock (a hadd o)	
to jump	-	jimp, jamp, jimpit	
to move in a great hurry, vibrate or shake	-	dirl	
to row gently against the tide in order to maintain a boat's position. Also used metaphorically to describe slow walking	-	aandoo	
to snatch	-	cleek, click (a hadd o something)	

to snatch quickly away	-	wheech ('ch' as in 'loch)
to stagger	-	swaander
to strike; to slam, as a door	-	dadd
to walk jauntily	-	link alang
to whirl round rapidly, as in a square dance	-	birl
to walk slowly and aimlessly	-	drittle
to walk with a limp	-	hirple
to walk with long, purposeful strides	-	stend
wander		

## WEATHER WORDS

### Mist

a thick mist	-	stumba
dense fog	-	steekit mist, steekit stimna, steekit stumba
haze, mist	-	ask
mist which gathers in valleys at night	-	daalamist
thick mist or light drizzle	-	dag
wet mist, almost a drizzle	-	raag

### Cold

a very severe frost	-	bonfrost
an extremely cold bout of weather	-	pinnishin
cold, stormy weather	-	bitterness
cold, stormy weather	-	bittersie
very cold and chilly	-	caald-rife

### Wind

a biting cold wind	-	snitter
a light breeze of wind	-	laar
a strong gale	-	gowster
a sudden squall of wind	-	flann
a very light breeze	-	pirr
a violent gale, very stormy weather	-	vaelensi
extremely calm with the surface of sea as smooth as cream	-	raem calm

having a good drying quality	-	sooky
squally	-	flanny
the sighing of the wind	-	soch
to die down, as in wind	-	dill
to dry by exposure to wind	-	sook
to increase in the wind	-	ta tak up ida wind
to lull, as in bad weather	-	daachen
windy, drying weather	-	drocht

## Lightning

a flash, as of lightning	-	flaacht
lightning	-	lichtnin
sudden flashes of lightning common at hairst-	-	blashy blinks
summer/autumn lightning	-	hairst blinks

## Sun

short gleam of sunshine	-	simmer blink
sultry heat	-	ön

## Rain

a deluge of rain	-	uplowsin
a downpour of rain	-	doontöm, tömald, vaanloop
a heavy shower	-	plump
a heavy shower of rain	-	speet
an interval between showers	-	slud
fine rain	-	drush
light drizzle	-	röd
heavy, as of showers	-	slashy
heavy rain along with thunder	-	thunder speet
misty drizzle	-	skub
rainy	-	weety
small, driving rain	-	slurd
to pour	-	töm
wet and windy	-	blashy

## Snow

a heavy fall, as of snow	-	onlay
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a light fall of snow	-	feevil
a thaw	-	upslaag
a thaw with heavy rain	-	uplowsin
drift	-	fann
drifting	-	bearin
hailstone	-	haily-puckle, hail-puckle
snow falling gently in large flakes	-	flukra
snow falling in large wet flakes	-	skalva
to drift	-	bear, moor
to drive, as snow	-	caav
to snow heavily with drifting	-	moor
to snow quietly	-	sneeb
to thaw; a thaw	-	towe

## Blizzards

a blizzard	-	moorie
a blizzard	-	caavie
a violent blizzar	-	moorie-caavie
a snowstorm with violent flurries of fine powdery snow	-	mell-moorie
blinding snowstorm/blizzard	-	blinnd-moorie

## CLOTHES

apron	-	peenie
braces	-	strops
cap	-	kep
coat	-	cot
corsets	-	stays
fisherman's waterproof smock	-	smookie
garter	-	gerteen
gloves	-	glives
hanky	-	sneet-cloot
headsquare, hanky	-	nyepkin
jumper	-	gansey
shawl (knitted)	-	hap
mask	-	faase face
nappy	-	hippen
night dress, nightie	-	goonie
ragged garments	-	plags
scarf (thick)	-	graavit

shirt	-	sark
shoes	-	shön
slippers	-	smucks
underpants	-	draaers
underwear	-	inside claes
socks (very thick and long)	-	sea-buit socks
vest	-	slip, simmit
woollen hat	-	toorie

## ANIMAL NAMES

cattle	-	kye
cow	-	coo
duck	-	deuk
gander	-	genner
goose	-	gös
gosling	-	gaeslin
kitten	-	kettlin
otter	-	dratsi
pig	-	grice
puppy	-	whalp
rabbit	-	kyunnen
stoat	-	whitrit

## FISH NAMES

coalfish (adult), saithe	-	saed
coalfish (baby)	-	sillock
coalfish (teenager)	-	piltock
halibut	-	turbot
ling	-	olick
pilot whale	-	caain whale
piked dogfish	-	hoe
porpoise	-	neesick
sea scorpion	-	plucker
seal	-	selkie, sel
stickleback	-	banstickle, benistickle
turbot	-	roond turbot

## SHEEP

### Names for sheep

a sheep that jumps over or breaks through fences	-	almark
a weaned lamb that has been added to the flock of breeding ewes	-	setnin
barren female animal that does not bear young	-	yield
ewe	-	yowe
male sheep (castrated)	-	hug
male lamb (castrated)	-	wadder
		lamb
young female sheep that has not yet had a lamb	-	gimmer

### Sheep Descriptions/Phrases

a drive of sheep, to drive sheep	-	caa
a sheep mark in which the back part of the ear is cut off	-	half oot ahint
a sheep mark in which the upper half of the foreside of the ear is cut off	-	half oot afore
an earmark consisting of a vertical slit in the ear	-	rit
coloured thread through sheep's ear or round neck for identification purposes, to put a coloured thread on	-	caddel
having a white ring round the neck	-	byelsit
having a white streak down the forehead	-	blissit
having both ears off (as a mark of ownership)	-	minister's mark
having dark spots on a white fleece	-	blaegit
having drooping ears	-	lavilugget
having light-coloured body with dark-coloured belly	-	catmoagit
having the head, or face, a different colour from the body-	-	kranset
sheep-fold	-	crö
short-haired	-	snug-ooed
sheep tick	-	ked
tags of matted wool hanging, usually from rear end of sheep	-	dill-bells
three strips of wood placed round the neck of a sheep in triangular fashion to prevent it going through fences	-	branks, byoag, hems
time of year when sheep are gathered in from the hill	-	caain-time

to bleat	-	nyaarm, yaarm
to pluck the wool off a sheep	-	roo
to reject from flock	-	cast
tufts of wool lost from sheep's backs and gathered from pasture	-	hentilagets
two lambs tied together with a cringle round the neck,		
to tie two lambs together	-	cring

## THE SEASHORE

horse mussel	-	yoag
limpet	-	lempit
lower part of seashore	-	da ebb
razor shell	-	spoot
sand gaper	-	smisslin
scallop	-	harpie-shall
seaweed (bladderwrack)	-	tang
seaweed (growing in the water)	-	lukki lines
seaweed (large, broad-leaved like kelp)	-	waar, waary bleds
seaweed (long thin strands)	-	drooie lines
water's edge	-	shoormal
whelk	-	bucky
winkle	-	wylk

## CREEPIE CRAWLIES

ant	-	mooratoog or mooritoog
beetle	-	black klock
bumble bee	-	stingy bee
centipede	-	thoosan taes
daddy-long-legs	-	willy-lang-legs
earwig	-	forkietail or spurrytail
fly	-	fishy flee
great winged beetle	-	hundiclock
moth	-	moch
spider	-	speeder
woodlouse	-	slater

## BIRD NAMES

\* A longer list, including the less common birds, is also available

artic skua	-	aalin or skooty aalin
black guillemot	-	tystie
black-headed gull	-	hoodie maa
common gull	-	tina maa or tanyick, peerie maa
cormorant	-	lorin, big skarf or brungawheedie
corn bunting	-	dokken sparrow
curlew	-	whaap
dunlin	-	plover's page
eider duck	-	dunter
fulmar	-	maalie
gannet	-	solan
great black-backed gull	-	swaabie
great northern diver	-	emmer-gös
great skua	-	bonxie
gull	-	maa (except in Lerwick where all gulls are scories)
guillemot	-	loom or longwie
heron	-	hegri
hooded crow	-	hoodie craa
kittiwake	-	rippack maa, weeg
lapwing	-	tieves nacket, plivver
lesser black-backed gull	-	peerie swaabie or herring gull
mallard	-	stock deuk
manx shearwater	-	leerie or baakie craa
meadow pipit	-	hill sparrow or teetick
merlin	-	peerie hawk
owl	-	cotogle
oystercatcher	-	shalder
peregrine	-	stock hawk
puffin	-	tammie norie
raven	-	corbie
razorbill	-	sea craa or wilkie
redshank	-	ebb-cock
red-breasted merganser	-	herald deuk
red-throated diver	-	rain-gös
ringed plover	-	saandiloo
rock dove	-	doo or blue doo

rock pipit	-	banks sparrow
rook	-	scotch craa
shag	-	skarf
skylark	-	laverek or ladyin
snipe	-	snippeck or horse-gok
storm petrel	-	alamootie or oilymootie
tern	-	tirrick
twite	-	lintie
wheatear	-	stenshakker
whimbrel	-	peerie whaap or tang whaap
wren	-	stenkie or robbie cuddie
young gull	-	scorie

**WORD LISTS**  
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**SHETLAND TAE ENGLISH**

**CONTENTS:**

- Descriptive words
- Weather words
- Clothes
- Animals
- Fish
- Sheep
- The Seashore
- Creepy Crawlies
- Birds

## WORD LISTS (SHETLAND TO ENGLISH)

### DESCRIPTIVE WIRDS

\* Many of these are dialect expressions rather than dialect words

boannie	-	pretty
peerie	-	small, short
muckle	-	big, much
stoot	-	stout, fat
tin	-	thin
smaa	-	slim
scraepit-laek	-	thin, as if wasted by illness
wenglit	-	thin <i>and</i> ungainly: "all elbows and knees".
Also used for shakily-made chairs, etc! (think 'Basil Fawlty')		
weel-laek	-	good-looking
ill-laek	-	ugly
no ill-laek	-	quiet good-looking really!
soor-faced	-	sour-faced
dark-advised	-	dark-haired with dark eyes and dark skin
weel-riggit	-	well dressed
smert	-	smart
fanted-laek	-	looks like they've been starved of food
lightsome-laek	-	looks like they'd be a cheery sort
glakit-laek	-	looks witless
trussit-laek	-	untidy-looking
poor-aamos-laek	-	looks downright poorly

*You can modify your description by saying*

kinda	-	rather
braaly	-	quite
aaful, awful	-	very

### Caald

caald, cowld	-	cold
freezin	-	very cold
pinnishin	-	very cold
starvin	-	very cold
stivvenin	-	becoming stiff with cold

ston cowld - stone cold

## Hot

a haet ön - a sultry heat; stuffy atmosphere  
closs - close, or stuffy  
da swaet wis runnin aff o me/ hailin aff o him - working/moving  
so very hot  
haet - hot  
in a loch o swaet - very hot  
loobit - loo (*of food or liquid*)  
rostin - roasting  
scomfishin - choking with heat; overcome

## Mood

annoyed - worried  
blyde - glad  
ill-plaesed - not-pleased  
mad - very angry  
taen aff - annoyed  
tirn - angry, bad-tempered  
uplifted - happy  
vexed - feeling sorry about something

## Qualities

aaber - keen, eager  
biddable - obedient  
blydely - kindly  
craabit - bad, tempered  
dorty - sulky  
feelin-herted - sympathetic and sensitive  
filsket - high spirited, frisky  
fine - nice  
graceless - lacking manners and care  
haandless - no use at skilled/physical tasks  
ill-döin - purposefully nasty  
ill-makkin - trouble making  
ill-spaekin - inclined to vicious gossip  
ill-trickit - mischevious

kniff, nyiff	-	fit and active
lichtsome	-	cheerful, of people or places
mindles	-	forgetful
moaderate	-	calm, moderate
overly	-	given to extravagant behaviour
owre-steer	-	over boisterous
perskeet, pernyim	-	prim and priggish
sheeksit	-	given to deep thinking
sleekit	-	sly
slushit	-	slovenly
towtful	-	thoughtful
trusset	-	untidy
tyoch	-	tough
veeve	-	active and lively
vyndless	-	clumsy, lacking in technique
yasp	-	lively, energetic

### Taste

brunt	-	burnt
scoodered	-	scorched
shilpit	-	sour as opposed to sweet e.g. when describing rhubarb or lemon
soor	-	sour; gone off or gone bad

### Touch

birsie	-	hairy
bruckly, brucky	-	easily broken, feeble
clatchy	-	sticky and mushy
coorse	-	rough
ooie	-	woolly
ruckly	-	a hard but uneven surface
sabbin	-	soaking wet
saft	-	soft
slight	-	smooth
weet	-	wet

## Soond

bröl	-	a bellow
claag	-	cackle, as a hen
kirrup	-	croak, as a crow
nyaarm	-	bleat, like a sheep
nyicker	-	whinny or neigh, like a horse
yalk	-	yelp or bark, like a dog
birr	-	a low whirring sound, as of a spinning wheel
bong	-	a loud knock
dunder	-	a loud noise, like thunder
hush	-	the low persistent sound of a rolling sea
neester	-	a creak or squeak
oob	-	to moan or wail
rinkle	-	a tinkling noise
rong	-	to bang on a surface looking for an echo
crex	-	sound of someone clearing their throat
snirr	-	sound made by a light engine
snyirk	-	a creak
soch	-	a deep sigh, the sighing of the wind
swinkle	-	the sound of liquid gently splashing
swittle	-	to splash gently in water
whassel	-	to wheeze

## Movement

aandoo	-	to row gently against the tide in order to maintain a boat's position. Also used metaphorically to describe slow walking
birl	-	to whirl round rapidly, as in a square dance
boofel	-	bumble
cleek, click (a hadd o something)	-	to snatch
dadd	-	to strike, to slam, as a door
dirl	-	moving in a great hurry
dook	-	to duck, as from a blow; dip in water
doose	-	strike, dart

drittle	-	to walk slowly and aimlessly
hirple	-	to walk with a limp
jimp, jump, jimpit	-	to jump
link alang	-	to walk jauntily
mitten (a hadd o)	-	to grasp
oag	-	to crawl
stend	-	to walk with long, purposeful strides
stend alang, stend on	-	to go quickly
stoor alang, stoor on	-	to go quickly
swaander	-	to stagger
waander	-	wander
wheech ('ch' as in 'loch')	-	to snatch quickly away
yock (a hadd o)	-	to grasp firmly, to grab

## WADDER WORDS

### Mist

ask	-	haze, mist
daalamist	-	mist which gathers in valleys at night
dag	-	thick mist or light drizzle
raag	-	wet mist, almost a drizzle
steekit mist	-	dense fog
steekit stimna	-	dense fog
steekit stumba	-	dense fog
stumba	-	a thick mist

### Caald

bitterness	-	cold, stormy weather
bittersie	-	cold, stormy weather
bonfrost	-	a very severe frost
caald-rife	-	very cold and chilly
pinnishin	-	an extremely cold bout of weather

### Wind

daachen	-	to lull, as in bad weather
dill	-	to die down, as in wind
drocht	-	windy, drying weather

flan	-	a sudden squall of wind
flanny	-	squally
gowster	-	a strong gale
laar	-	a light breeze of wind
pirr	-	a very light breeze
raem calm	-	extremely calm with the surface of sea as smooth as cream
snitter	-	a biting cold wind
soch	-	the sighing of the wind
sooky, sook	-	having a good drying quality
ta tak up ida wind	-	to increase in the wind
vaelensi	-	a violent gale, very stormy weather

## Lichtnin

blashy blinks	-	sudden flashes of lightning common at hairst
flaacht	-	a flash, as of lightning
hairst blinks	-	summer/autumn lightning

## Sun

ön	-	sultry heat
simmer blink	-	short gleam of sunshine

## Rain

blashy	-	wet and windy
doontöm	-	downpour of rain
drush	-	fine rain
plump	-	a heavy shower
röd	-	light drizzle
skub	-	misty drizzle
slashy	-	heavy, as of showers
slud	-	an interval between showers
slurd	-	small, driving rain
speet	-	a heavy shower of rain
thunder speet	-	heavy rain along with thunder
töm	-	to pour
tömal	-	a downpour of rain
uplowsin	-	a deluge of rain

vaanloop	-	a downpour of rain
weety	-	rainy

## Snaa

bear	-	to drift
bearin	-	drifting
blinnd-moorie	-	blinding snowstorm/blizzard
caav	-	to drive, as snow
fan	-	drift
feevil	-	a light fall of snow
flukra	-	snow falling gently in large flakes
haily-puckle	-	hailstone
moor	-	to snow heavily with drifting
onlay	-	a heavy fall, as of snow
skalva	-	snow falling in large wet flakes
sneeb	-	to snow quietly
towe	-	to thaw; a thaw
uplowsin	-	a thaw
upslaag	-	a thaw

## Blizzards

blinnd-moorie	-	blinding snowstorm/blizzard
mell-moorie	-	a snowstorm with violent flurries of fine powdery snow
moorie, caavie	-	a blizzard
moorie-caavie	-	a violent blizzar

## CLAES

buits	-	boots
cot	-	coat
cöttikins	-	short socks/ ankle socks
cotts	-	skirts
draaers	-	underpants
faase face	-	mask
gansey	-	jumper
gerteen	-	garter

glives	-	gloves
goonie	-	night dress
graavit	-	scarf
hap	-	knitted shawl
hippen	-	nappy
inside claes	-	underwear
kep	-	hat
loren shön	-	shoes not boots
nyepkin	-	headsquare, hanky
peenie	-	apron
plags	-	ragged garments
sark	-	shirt
sea-buit socks	-	very thick socks
shön	-	shoes
simmit	-	vest
slip	-	vest
smookie	-	fisherman's waterproof smock
smucks	-	slippers
sneet-cloot	-	hanky
stays	-	corsets
strops	-	braces
toorie	-	woollen hat

## ANIMAL NAMES

coo	-	cow
deuk	-	duck
dratsi	-	otter
gaeslin	-	gosling
genner	-	gander
grice	-	pig
gös	-	goose
kettlin	-	kitten
kye	-	cattle
kyunnen	-	rabbit
whalp	-	puppy
whitrit	-	stoat

## FISH NAMES

banistickle, benistickle	-	stickleback, banstickle
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caain whale	-	pilot whale
hoe	-	piked dogfish
neesick	-	porpoise
olick	-	ling
plucker	-	sea scorpion
piltock	-	coalfish (teenager)
roond turbot	-	turbot
saed	-	coalfish (adult), saithe
selkie, sel	-	seal
sillock	-	coalfish (baby)
turbot	-	halibut

## SHEEP

### Names for sheep

almark	-	a sheep that jumps over or breaks through fences
gimmer	-	a female sheep, between the first and second shearing and not yet had a lamb
hug	-	male sheep (castrated)
setnin	-	a weaned lamb that has been added to the flock of breeding ewes
wadder lamb	-	a wether or castrated male sheep
yield	-	barren female animal that does not bear young
yowe	-	ewe

### Sheep Descriptions/Phrases

blaegit	-	having dark spots on a white fleece
blissit	-	having a white streak down the forehead
branks, byoag, hems	-	three strips of wood placed round the next of a sheep in triangular fashion to prevent it going through fences
byelsit	-	having a white ring round the neck
caa	-	a drive of sheep, to drive sheep
caain-time	-	time of year when sheep are gathered in from the hill
caddel	-	coloured thread through sheep's ear or round neck for identification purposes, to put a coloured thread on
cast	-	to reject from flock

catmoagit	-	having light coloured body with dark- coloured belly
cring	-	two lambs tied together with a cringle round the neck, to tie two lambs together
crö	-	sheep-fold
dill-bells	-	tags of matted wool hanging, usually from rear end of sheep
half oot afore	-	a sheep mark in which the upper half of the foreside of the ear is cut off
half oot ahint	-	a sheep mark in which the back part of the ear is cut off
hentilagets	-	tufts of wool lost from sheep's backs and gathered from pasture
ked	-	sheep tick
kranset	-	having the head, or face, a different colour from the body, see 'cring'
lavilugget	-	having drooping ears
moorit	-	brown
nyaarm	-	to bleat
rit	-	an earmark consisting of a vertical slit in the ear
roo	-	to pluck the wool off a sheep
snug-ooed	-	short-haired
yaarm	-	to bleat

## DA SEASHORE

bucky	-	whelk
da ebb	-	lower part of seashore
dilse	-	seaweed, the common dulse
drooie lines	-	seaweed (long thin strands)
harpie-shall	-	scallop
lempit	-	limpet
lukki lines	-	seaweed (growing in the water)
shoormal	-	water's edge
smisslin	-	sand gaper
spoot	-	razor shell
tang	-	seaweed (found above the low water)
waar, waary bleds	-	seaweed (large, broad-leaved weed growing in the sea)
wylk	-	winkle

yoag - horse mussel

## CREEPIE CRAALIES

black klock	-	beetle
fishy flee	-	fly
forkietail or spurrytail	-	earwig
hundiclock	-	great winged beetle
moch	-	moth
mooratoog or mooritoog	-	ant
slater	-	woodlouse
stingy bee	-	bumble bee
speeder	-	spider
thoosan taes	-	centipede
willy-lang-legs	-	daddy-long-legs

## BIRD NAMES

\* A longer list, including the less common birds, is also available

aalin or skooty aalin	-	artic skua
alamootie or oilymootie	-	storm petrel
banks sparrow	-	rock pipit
bonxie	-	great skua
corbie	-	raven
cotogle	-	owl
dokken sparrow	-	corn bunting
doo or blue doo	-	rock dove
dunter	-	eider duck
ebb-cock	-	redshank
emmer-gös	-	great northern diver
herald deuk	-	red-breasted merganser
hegri	-	heron
hill sparrow or teetick	-	meadow pipit
hoodie craa	-	hooded crow
hoodie maa	-	black-headed gull
laverek or ladyin	-	skylark
leerie or baakie craa	-	manx shearwater
lintie	-	twite
loom or longwie	-	guillemot

lorin, big skarf or brungawheedie	-	cormorant
maa	-	gull (except in Lerwick where all gulls are scories)
maalie	-	fulmar
peerie hawk	-	merlin
peerie swaabie or herring gull	-	lesser black-backed gull
peerie whaap or tang whaap	-	whimbrel
plover's page	-	dunlin
rain-gös	-	red-throated diver
rippack maa, weeg	-	kittiwake
saandiloo	-	ringed plover
scorie	-	young gull
scotch craa	-	rook
sea craa or wilkie	-	razorbill
shalder	-	oystercatcher
skarf	-	shag
snippeck or horse-gok	-	snipe
solan	-	gannet
stenkie or robbie cuddie	-	wren
stenshakker	-	wheatear
stock deuk	-	mallard
stock hawk	-	peregrine
swaabie	-	great black-backed gull
tammie norie	-	puffin
tieves nacket, plivver	-	lapwing
tina maa or tanyick, peerie maa	-	common gull
tirrick	-	tern
tystie	-	black guillemot
whaap	-	curlew