SCOTTISH – General Characteristics
(Adapted from David Alan Stern’s Acting With An Accent: Scottish)
For more in-depth study, see Stern’s CD and booklet

http://web.ku.edu/~idea/europe/scotland/scotland6.mp3 - Listen to this sample from the International Dialects of English Archive web site.

GENERAL FOCUS OF TONE: Behind lower gum ridge, under tongue; muscular speech impulse

VOWEL SUBSTITUTIONS:

ʊ becomes ʊ as in: look, book, foot
ɑʊ becomes ɔʊ as in: town, house, out
ɑ becomes ɚ as in: raindrops, Scotland, upon
æ becomes a as in: castle, back, handsome
ɛɛ becomes ɛɛ as in: were, burn, her
ɛi becomes ɛi (with an upward inflection) as in: weight, play, refrain
i becomes i (with an upward inflection) as in: tea, seen, hero
ou becomes o (with an upward inflection) as in: know, going, home
and sometimes
ou becomes o (diphthong becomes a pure monophthong) as in: go, bow,
ʊ becomes ʊ (with an upward inflection) as in: June, moon, shoes
ɪ tends towards ε as in: different, sit, pity

CONSONANTS

Medial t can become glottal, ʔ as in: glottal, pity, cattle
r is rolled or tapped, as in: red, rosebud, whether
ŋ endings dropped to n, as in: runnin’, goin’, sayin’
A Red, Red Rose

O my Luve's like a red, red rose
That's newly sprung in June;
O my Luve's like the melodie
That's sweetly played in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,
So deep in luve am I;
And I will luve thee still, my dear,
Till a' the seas gang dry:

Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
And the rocks melt wi' the sun;
I will luve thee still, my dear,
While the sands o' life shall run.

And fare thee weel, my only Luve,
And fare thee weel awhile!
And I will come again, my Luve,
Tho' it ware ten thousand mile.

Robert Burns

Loch Lomond - traditional Scottish song

By yon bonnie banks and by yon bonnie braes
Where the sun shines bright on Loch Lomon'
Where me and my true love were ever wont tae gae
On the bonnie, bonnie banks o' Loch Lomon'

Oh you tak' the high road and I'll tak the low road
An' I'll be in Scotland afore ye,
But me and my true love will never meet again
On the bonnie, bonnie banks o' Loch Lomon'

Twas there that we parted in yon shady glen.
On the steep, steep side of Ben Lomon,,'
Where in purple hue, the hielan' hills we view,
An' the moon comin' out in the gloamin'.
Oh you tak' the high road and I'll tak the low road
An' I'll be in Scotland afore ye,
But me and my true love will never meet again
On the bonnie, bonnie banks o' Loch Lomon'

The wee birdies sing, and the wild flowers spring,
While in sunshine the waters are sleepin'
But the broken heart it kens nae second spring again,
Tho' the waefu' may cease free their greetin'.

braes=hillsides  gae=go  gloamin'=twilight  waefu'=woeful