

Scots language and culture teacher CPD
Unit 4.4 Activity 3A Source 2

The Death of the Maid of Norway c.1290, selected verses from Sir Patrick Spens (anonymous). The poem describes the events of the drowning of the Maid of Norway.	
In Scots To Noroway, to Noroway, To Noroway o'er the faem; The King's daughter of Noroway 'Tis thou maun bring her hame..... They hadna sail'd a league and league A league but barely three When the lift grew dark, and the wind blew loud And gurly grew the sea..... Half ower, half ower to Aberdour, 'Tis fifty fathoms deep And there lies good Sir Patrick Spens, Wi' the Scots Lords at his feet.	In English

The Wallace, by Blind Harry 1470s. Describing the attraction of people to his movement.	
Thus Wallace straiff agayne that gret barnage Sa he begane with strength and stalwart hand To chewys agayne sum rowmys of Scotland. The worthi Scottis that semblit till him their Chaesit him for cheyff, thar chyftayne and ledar.	[Strove against; barons] [So] [Recover; parts] [Flocked to] [Chose]

The Brus, by John Barbour, 1375, written in Old Scots. The poem highlights the vision that lay behind the need to defend Scotland.	
A! Fredome is a noble thing! Fredome mayss man to haiff liking, Fredome all solace to man giffis: He levys at ess that frely levys. A noble hart may haiff name ess, Na ellys nocht that may him pless, Gyf fredome failyhe: for fre liking Is yharnyt our all other thing.	Ah! Freedom is a noble thing! Freedom gives man pleasure, Freedom gives all solace to man: He lives at ease who freely lives. A noble heart may have no comfort, Nor anything else that will please him, If freedom fails: for free decision Is yearned for above any thing.