

**ceumannan  
cànain**



# Cànan

## Glossary of language terms

<b>Adjective</b>	a describing word ( <b>dearg, beag, mòr, math, furasta, doirbh, àrd, crosta</b> )
<b>Adjective modifier</b>	a word that comes before the adjective to qualify it. ( <b>gu math dearg, ro bheag, glè mhòr, fìor mhath, cho furasta, beagan doirbh, caran àrd, uabhasach crosta</b> )
<b>Article</b>	Like <i>the</i> in English. Gaelic has more than one word for <i>the</i> depending on the gender and spelling of the noun that comes after it. ( <b>an geansaidh, a' bhròg, Am Màrt, An t-Sultain</b> )
<b>Broad vowels</b>	the vowels <i>a, o</i> and <i>u</i> .
<b>Cardinal numbers</b>	simple numbers and quantities ( <b>aon, trì-deug, fichead, còig notaichean deug, fichead sgillinn 's a ceithir, trithead cat 's a sia</b> )
<b>Gender</b>	tells you whether a noun is masculine or feminine ( <b>MacLeòid, NicLeòid, a' phiuthar, am bràthair</b> )
<b>Imperative</b>	the form of the verb that you use when you are telling someone to do something – a command word. ( <b>Suidh! Bruidhinn! Leugh! Sgrìobh! Èist! Bi modhail! Dùin an doras!</b> ). Gaelic has a polite/plural form too ( <b>Suidhibh! Sgrìobhaibh! Èistibh! Bithibh modhail! Dùinibh an doras!</b> )
<b>Lenition</b>	adding the letter <i>h</i> after the first letter of a word ( <b>A Mhàiri, mo bhràthair, do chòta, anns a' Mhàrt, anns a' chafaidh</b> )
<b>Noun</b>	a word which names a thing or a person. ( <b>peann, Calum, Catriona, бага, seacaid, càise, Diluain</b> )
<b>Plural</b>	more than two of something in Gaelic ( <b>piseagan, eich, coin, cuileanan, briosaidean, brògan, cuspairean</b> )
<b>Polite/plural</b>	Pronouns, prepositional pronouns and commands all have separate forms used when you are speaking to more than one person or when you are speaking to someone older or someone that you don't know well. In the following examples, the first word in each pair is the singular form and the second is the polite/plural form. ( <b>thu/sibh, leat/leibh, ort/oirbh, Dùin an doras/Dùinibh an doras! Suidh/Suidhibh!</b> )
<b>Possessive article</b>	words that show who something belongs to – my, your... ( <b>mo phiuthar, do chù, m' athair, d' uan</b> )
<b>Prepositional pronoun</b>	words that contain a pronoun - I, you, she, he... and a preposition - at, in, with etc ( <b>agam, agad, annam, annad, innte, leam, leat, leibh</b> )
<b>Pronoun</b>	a word that stands in place of a noun - I, you, he, she... ( <b>mi, thu/sibh, e, i</b> )
<b>Singular</b>	referring to only one (or two in Gaelic) persons or things ( <b>cat, cù, piuthar, seacaid, бага, peansail, ugh, briosaid</b> )
<b>Slender vowels</b>	the vowels <i>e</i> and <i>i</i>
<b>Tense</b>	relating to verbs, showing when something is taking place. Mar eisimpleir: The present tense: <b>Tha mi a' snàmh</b> I am swimming. The past tense: <b>Bha mi a' snàmh</b> I was swimming.

<b>Verb</b>	an action word. A word that says what is being done or what is happening. ( <b>snàmh, èisteachd, leughadh, sgrìobhadh, teacsadh, bruidhinn, dannsadh</b> )
<b>Verbal noun</b>	a noun formed from a verb that would end in <i>-ing</i> in English - singing, dancing, watching, talking ( <b>a' seinn, a' dannsadh, a' coimhead, a' bruidhinn</b> ). Used in Gaelic in verbal phrases.
<b>Vocative case</b>	The case used when addressing someone directly: <b>(A Mhàiri, A Chaluim, A Ruairidh, A Chatriona)</b>

Modal	Cànan	Eacarsaich
1.1	Gender – male and female surnames Vocative case	1 2
1.2	Different words for <i>you</i> Pronouns ( <b>mi, thu, sibh</b> ) Prepositional pronouns ( <b>ort/oirbh, leat/leibh</b> )	3
2.1	Imperative (commands) – singular and plural/polite forms	4
2.2	Pronouns ( <b>e/i</b> ) Lenition	5 6
2.3	The preposition <i>in</i> ( <b>ann</b> ) + article ( <b>anns an/a'</b> ) Different words for <i>yes</i> and <i>no</i> Broad and slender vowels ( <b>Taic</b> section)	7 8 9
3	Gender – masculine and feminine nouns	10
3	Using adjectives and nouns together (Lenition of adjectives)	11
3-6	Singular and plural of nouns	12
3	Prepositional pronouns ( <b>orm, ort, oirbh, air, oirre</b> )	13
5.1	Prepositional pronouns ( <b>annam, annad, annaibh, ann, innte</b> )	13
3.2	The definite article ( <i>The</i> ) Possessive articles ( <b>mo</b> and <b>do</b> )	14 15
4.1	Preposition <b>ann</b> before definite articles ( <b>an t-, am, an</b> )	16
4.2	Adjective modifiers	17
4.3	Verbal nouns Past tense	18 19
1-6	Accents	20

## Modal 1 Aonad 1

### 1. Surnames: MacDhòmhnail or NicDhòmhnail?

The word **mac** means *son* in Gaelic. If you are a girl and your surname begins with Mac, then you use **Nic** instead of Mac in the Gaelic version of your name.

MacDonald: **MacDhòmhnail** (son of Donald) and **NicDhòmhnail** (daughter of Donald)

Some names that don't start with *Mac* have male and female forms too.

Campbell: **Caimbeul** (for a boy)      **Chaimbeul** (for a girl)

Surnames beginning with vowels or *l, n, r, sm, sg, sm* and *st* are the same for boys and girls.

Mar eisimpleir:    **Ros**      Ross      **Stiùbhart**      Stewart

### Eacarsaich 1

- Sgrìobh an clàr.
- Cuir na h-ainmean anns a' cholbh cheart.

Copy the table and put the names in the correct column.

Gille/Boy	Nighean/Girl	Nighean no gille/Boy or girl
MacDhòmhnail		

1. Caimbeul
2. Rothach
3. Mac-a-phì
4. Ghreumach
5. Robasdan
6. NicAoidh
7. NicLeòid
8. MacRath
9. Mhoireach
10. Stiùbhart
11. Moireach
12. Chaimbeul
13. Greumach
14. MacLeòid
15. NicRath
16. Nic-a-phì
17. MacAoidh
18. NicDhòmhnail

## 2. Calling people's names - The Vocative Case

You will have used the vocative case in **Modal 1** and you will most likely hear it every day in class when your teacher calls the register or wants your attention. It is used when calling people by name, while you are talking to them or when you write to someone.

**Ò, sin thu, a Dhòmhnail!** Oh, there you are, Donald!

**Hallò, a Mhàiri!** Hello, Màiri!

**A Chaluum, a charaid** Dear Calum

### Eacarsaich 2

- Obraich còmhla ri caraid.
- Sgrìobh do fhreagairtean.
- Chaidh eisimpleir a dhèanamh dhut.

Work with a partner. Put the names below in the vocative case by saying hello to each one. Write your answers. An example has been done for you.

- Martin** Màrtainn **Hallò, a Mhàrtainn!**
- Donald**
- Peggy**
- James**
- Angus**
- Susan**
- Roderick**
- Elizabeth**

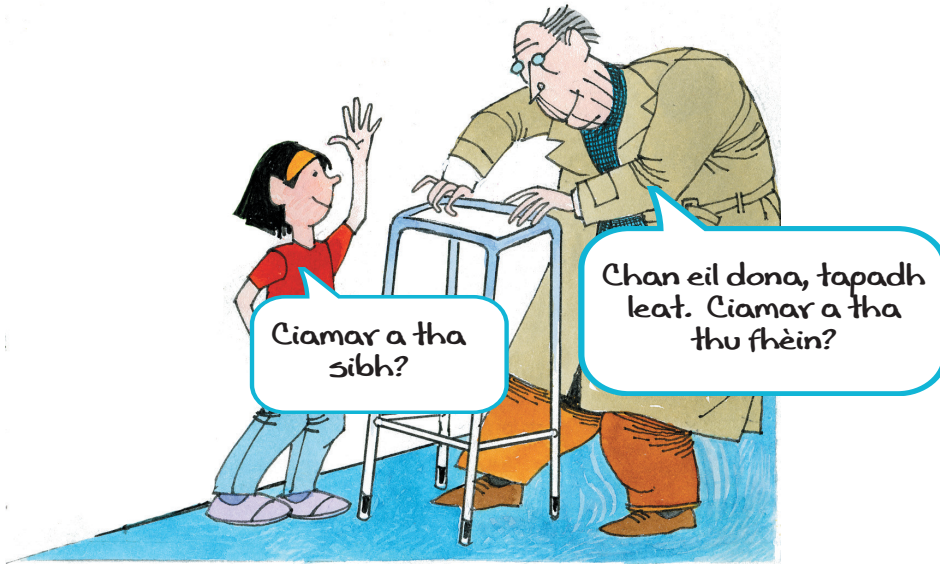
## Modal 1 Aonad 2

### 3. Different words for *you*

In English, there is only one word for *you* and this is used when you are speaking to any number of people (Are you tired? Were you working yesterday? Thank you. See you later!). Gaelic has many words for *you*. You know some already. When asking someone how he/she is, you use **sibh** when you are speaking to more than one person or being polite: **Ciamar a tha sibh?** **Sibh** is used when you are speaking to someone in a position of respect, and especially someone older than you: a minister, a teacher, a customer, parents, grandparents, a shopkeeper etc. Make sure you use the polite forms when talking to adults.

Why are there different words for you?





Remember there are other words for *you* as well as **thu** and **sibh**. This might sound complicated but you have already learned quite a few of them in easy phrases you know well! Think of **Dè an t-ainm a th' ort?** **Dè as toigh leat?** **Mar sin leibh!**

### Eacarsaich 3a Ciamar a tha thu?

Here are some phrases you already know. They all contain words that mean you/your. Can you find the words that mean you?

a. Tapadh leat.

b. An e lain an t-ainm a th' oirbh?

c. Ciamar a tha thu?

d. Dè an t-ainm a th' ort?

e. An toigh leibh?

f. A bheil sibh gu math?

### Eacarsaich 3b

- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

Which phrases used the singular form and which ones are polite/plural? Write the phrases in the correct columns.

You (singular/informal)	You (polite/plural)

## Modal 2 Aonad 1

### 4. The Imperative (Commands)

Imperatives (commands) are all verbs. They tell you to do something. Imperative is a word that means you must do something. Think about its meaning. *It is imperative that you do your homework* means you absolutely must do it!

Imperatives in Gaelic have two forms – singular and plural/polite. You have come across the singular/plural difference in section 3 above, so you should know a bit about when to use both forms.

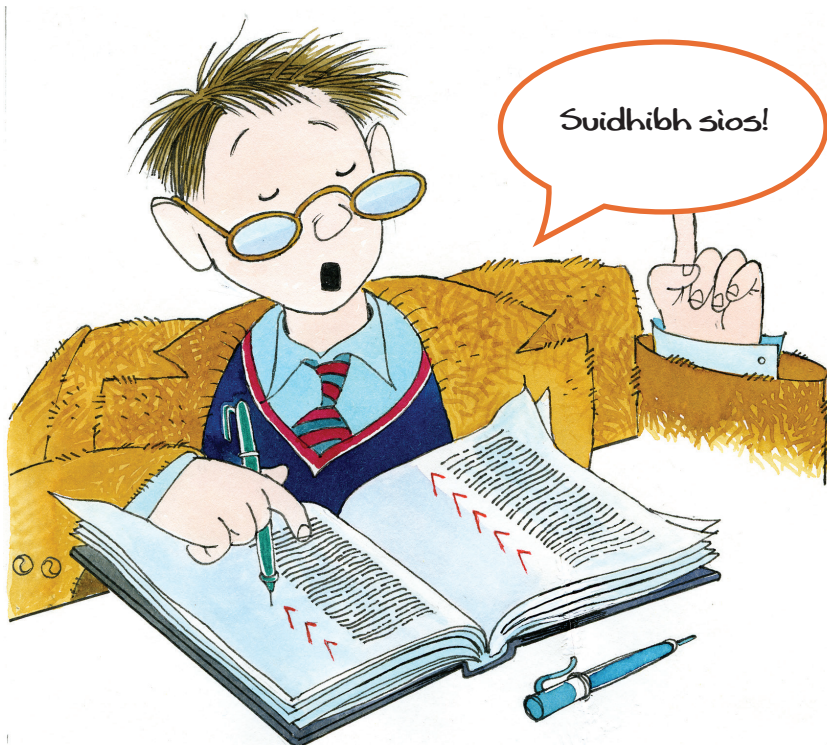
Look at the following:

**Suidh!** **Suidhibh!** They both mean *Sit!*

From your knowledge of commands, you can probably tell that **Suidh!** is used for one person and **Suidhibh!** is used for more than one person, or to be more polite. You will probably have heard your teacher say **Suidhibh sìos!** to your class at the beginning of the lesson.

Here are some more examples you will have seen before:

Singular/informal	Plural/polite	Beurla/English
<b>Thig a-steach!</b>	<b>Thigibh a-steach!</b>	Come in!
<b>Èist!</b>	<b>Èistibh!</b>	Listen!
<b>Sgrìobh!</b>	<b>Sgrìobhaibh!</b>	Write!
<b>Bruidhinn!</b>	<b>Bruidhribh!</b>	Talk!
<b>Leugh!</b>	<b>Leughaidh!</b>	Read!
<b>Dùin an uinneag!</b>	<b>Dùinibh an uinneag!</b>	Close the window!
<b>Bi modhail!</b>	<b>Bithibh modhail!</b>	Behave!
<b>Bi sàmhach!</b>	<b>Bithibh sàmhach!</b>	Be quiet!



## Eacarsaich 4a

Using your knowledge of commands, choose the correct form of the command for the following situations.

1. Your neighbour, Mr MacLeod comes round to visit. You tell him to sit down while you get your dad, saying:  
**Suidh!/Suidhibh!**
2. The teacher is cross because the class is misbehaving. He/she tells everyone to behave by saying:  
**Bi modhail!/Bithibh modhail!**
3. Your friend comes to your house to visit. When he comes in, you tell him to take off his jacket, saying:  
**Cuir dhìot do sheacaid!/Cuiribh dhibh ur seacaid!**
4. You are watching your favourite programme on TV and your little brother keeps talking. You tell him to be quiet, by saying:  
**Bi sàmhach!/Bithibh sàmhach!**
5. The teacher asks the class to write something down. You were the only pupil not listening so she repeats the command for you, by saying:  
**Sgrìobh seo!/Sgrìobhaibh seo!**
6. There is a knock at the classroom door. It is the Head Teacher. Your teacher tells you to let him in. You say:  
**Thig a-steach!/Thigibh a-steach!**
7. You and your friends are running in a cross-country race as a team. Two of the team are trailing behind. You turn and say:  
**Greas ort!/Greasaibh oirbh!**
8. You shout out an answer in class and the teacher reminds you to put up your hand, saying:  
**Cuir suas do làmh!/Cuiribh suas ur làmhan!**

## Eacarsaich 4b

You will notice that the plural/polite forms of all commands end in **-ibh** or **-aibh**. Think about where you have seen this before. What other words have you seen that end like this?

Make a list. Here is one example to get you started:

- oirbh

## Eacarsaich 4c

Why do you think these words end in the same way as the plural/polite form of the imperative? Discuss your answer with your partner before you check with others in the class.





## Modal 2 Aonad 2

### 5. Pronouns

Pronouns are little words used to refer to people when you don't use their names. Pronouns save time. (Where is Anna? Has she gone out? What's wrong with her?) They save you having to repeat someone or something's name, when it is clear what is being talked about. For example, here are some sentences using no pronouns:

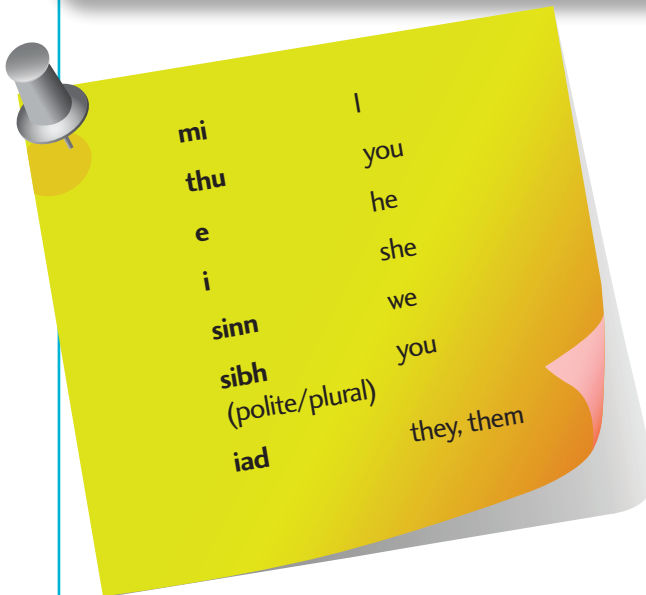
*Mairi is going on holiday to France. Mairi said that Mairi was really looking forward to going to France because Mairi has never been to France and France is really hot just now.*

That sounds very odd, doesn't it? What about this?

*Màiri is going on holiday to France. She said that she was really looking forward to it because she has never been to France and it is really hot just now.*

This works exactly the same way in Gaelic. We need to use pronouns.

The personal pronouns are given below. You will know most of them.



### Eacarsaich 5

- Coimhead air na seantansan.
- Sgrìobh na seantansan a-rithist.

Look at the sentences below. Rewrite the sentences. Instead of the names in bold, use the correct pronoun from the list.

1. Hai, **Iain**! Ciamar a tha **Iain**?
2. Seo Eilidh. Tha **Eilidh** trì-deug.
3. Dè an aois a tha Seòras? A bheil **Seòras** deich?
4. Is mise **Catrìona** agus tha **Catrìona** fichead.
5. Madainn mhath, a Mhaighstir Rois! Ciamar a tha **Maignstir Ros**?

## 6. Lenition

When you are counting, you use the word **dhà** for two (aon, **dhà**, trì ... **dhà**-dheug ... trithead 's a **dhà**...) You only use the word **dà** when you are talking about two things. Notice what else happens when you use the word **dà**:

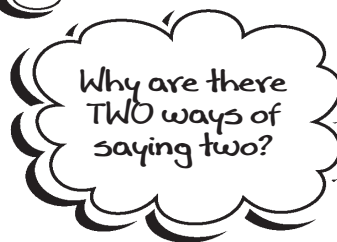
Mar eisimpleir:	<b>fichead</b>	twenty	<b>dà fhichead</b>	two twenties (forty)
	<b>peansail</b>	a pencil	<b>dà pheansail</b>	two pencils
	<b>cù</b>	a dog	<b>dà chù</b>	two dogs

Sometimes you have to add the letter *h* after the first letter in the word that comes after **dà**.

Adding a letter *h* like this is called lenition. This changes the sound of a word.

You have seen lenition already in the vocative case

Mar eisimpleir: **Hallò, a Mhàiri!** **Hai, a Chaluim!** **Feasgar math, a Mhàrtainn!**



### Eacarsaich 6a

- **Obraich còmhla ri caraid.**

With a partner, read and sound out the examples below.

Here are the sounds made when *h* is the second letter in a word:

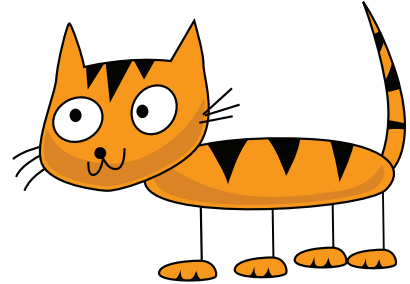
<b>bh</b>	v sound	Mar eisimpleir: <b>dà bhaga</b>
<b>ch</b>	like the <i>ch</i> in loch	Mar eisimpleir: <b>A Chaluim!</b>
<b>dh</b>	soft <i>g</i> or a <i>y</i> sound	Mar eisimpleir: Cuir <b>dhiot</b> do sheacaid!
<b>fh</b>	silent	Mar eisimpleir: <b>dà fhichead</b>
<b>gh</b>	soft <i>g</i> sound	Mar eisimpleir: <b>A Ghòrdain!</b>
<b>mh</b>	v sound	Mar eisimpleir: <b>Glè mhath, a Mhàiri!</b>
<b>ph</b>	<i>f</i> sound	Mar eisimpleir: <b>Hallò, a Phòil!</b>
<b>sh</b>	<i>h</i> sound	Mar eisimpleir: <b>Cuir ort do sheacaid!</b>
<b>th</b>	<i>h</i> sound or silent	Mar eisimpleir: <b>Ciamar a tha thu?</b>

## Eacarsaich 6b

- Obraich còmhla ri caraid.
- Leugh na faclan.

With a partner, read the following words aloud. Where lenition has taken place, the sound will be different. Your teacher will help you with the sounds if you get stuck.

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| a. cat     | dà chat     |
| b. bàta    | dà bhàta    |
| c. seacaid | dà sheacaid |
| d. doras   | dà dhoras   |
| e. mionaid | dà mhionaid |
| f. clas    | dà chlas    |
| g. peann   | dà pheann   |



Lenition can also take place after the word **air** (on):

Mar eisimpleir: **còig air fhichead** twenty five      **ceum air cheum** step by step

Words beginning with vowels or *l, n, r, sm, sg, sm* or *st* cannot be lenited – they don't change in spelling.

Lenition takes place for a number of different reasons in Gaelic. You will find more and more examples of it as you work through the course.

## Eacarsaich 6c

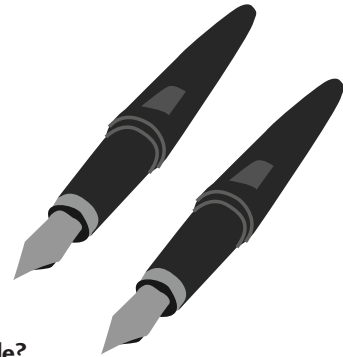
- Sgrìobh na seantansan ann an Gàidhlig.

Write the sentences in Gaelic.

1. Hello, Mary!
2. Hi, James!
3. Put on your coat!
4. Here are two pens!
5. Wait two minutes!

- An urrainn dhut smaoinichadh air eisimpleirean eile?

Can you think of some more examples?



## Modal 2 Aonad 3

### 7. I live in...

You will have noticed that Gaelic has more than one word for *in*. When you say you live in a place, you usually use:

**Tha mi a' fuireach ann an...**, **Tha mi a' fuireach ann am...**, **Tha mi a' fuireach anns a'...**, or **Tha mi a' fuireach anns na...**, **Tha mi a' fuireach anns an...**

Which one do you use? That all depends on the place you are talking about.

<b>Tha mi a' fuireach...</b>	I live...	
<b>ann an</b> Glaschu	in Glasgow	for most place names
<b>ann am</b> Peairt	in Perth	for places beginning with <i>b, f, m, p</i>

If the place name has a little word before it (**an t-**, **na**, **an**, **a'** or **am**) you should use **anns** instead of **ann**. The little word or phrase means *the* in Gaelic. Notice that *the* hardly ever appears in the English version of the place name.

<b>An t-Òban</b>	<b>anns an Òban</b>	in Oban
<b>An Gearasdan</b>	<b>anns a' Ghearasdan</b>	in Fort William
<b>Na Hearadh</b>	<b>anns na Hearadh</b>	in Harris

### Ecarsaich 7

- Leugh na h-ainmean àite.
- Cuir na h-ainmean àite anns a' cholbh cheart.
- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

Put these place names in the correct column.

<b>Baile Dhubhthaich</b>	<b>Am Ploc</b>	<b>Obar Dheathain</b>
<b>Na h-Eileanan Siar</b> (The Western Isles)	<b>Uibhist</b>	<b>Gallaibh</b>
<b>Malaig</b>	<b>An t-Eilean Sgitheanach</b>	<b>Alba</b>
<b>An t-Òban</b>	<b>Glaschu</b>	<b>Sruighlea</b>
<b>Tiriodh</b>	<b>Barraigh</b>	<b>Cille Mheàrnaig</b>
<b>Peairt</b>	<b>Na Hearadh</b>	
	<b>Muile</b>	

Tha mi a' fuireach ann an...	Tha mi a' fuireach ann am...	Tha mi a' fuireach anns...

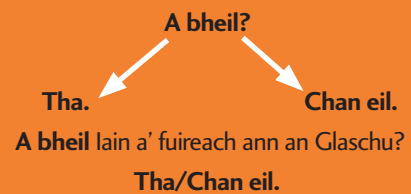
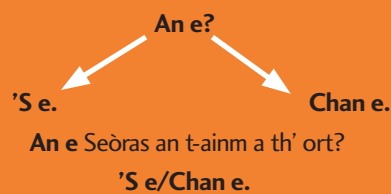


## Modalan 1 agus 2

### 8. Different words for Yes and No

Unlike English, Gaelic doesn't have one particular word for *yes* or *no*. Instead it has many different pairs of words that are used like *yes* and *no*. Choosing which one to use depends on the question you have been asked. Confused? Don't be. They usually follow a very simple pattern.

You have already used two different sets of *yes/no* answers. Can you see how the answers are related to the questions?

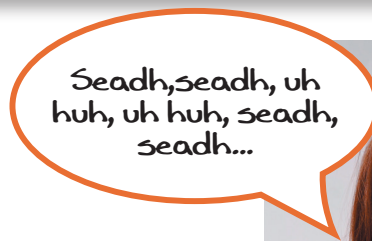


Here is a quick and easy drill you can adapt and use for each set of *yes/no* answers every time you learn new ones:

Whenever a question begins with **A bheil?**, always be ready with the answer **Tha** or **Chan eil**.

Whenever a question begins with **An e?** always be ready with **'S e** or **Chan e**.

Because Gaelic doesn't have only one *yes* and *no*, you have to listen carefully to what people say in order to give the right answer. You can't just switch off as you might sometimes want to do!



## Eacarsaich 8 A bheil Barraigh brèagha?

- Freagair na ceistean.
- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.
- Chaidh eisimpleir a dhèanamh dhut.

Write the correct *yes* or *no* answer in Gaelic to the following questions.

Mar eisimpleir: **An e Diluain a th' ann?** (Answer *no*) ➔ **Chan e.**

- A bheil thu deich? (Answer *yes*)
- An e Seumas an t-ainm a th' oirbh? (Answer *no*)
- A bheil Barraigh brèagha? (Answer *no*)
- A bheil Eilidh a' fuireach ann am Peairt? (Answer *no*)
- An e seo Màiri? (Answer *yes*)
- A bheil Inbhir Ùige ann an ceann a tuath na h-Alba? (Answer *yes*)
- An e seo Aonghas? (Answer *no*)
- A bheil Glaschu beag agus sàmhach? (Answer *no*)
- An e sin Ealasaid? (Answer *yes*)

You will come across more *yes/no* answer pairs throughout **Ceumannan**. Practise asking your partner some questions where the answers are the ones given below:

**Tha/Chan eil.** 'S e/Chan e.

## Modal 2

### 9. Broad and slender vowels

You have already heard about broad and slender vowels and the spelling rule

**Broad to broad** and slender to slender, in the **Taic** section of **Modal 2**. Go back and read through the **Taic** section now if you think you have forgotten this. You will be able to get a little more practice with the spelling rule in the following exercises.

### Eacarsaich 9a

There are five vowels in the Gaelic alphabet, just as there are in English. Which ones are broad and which ones are slender? Try sounding them out. Make two lists:



## Eacarsaich 9b

- Feumaidh tu peansailean dathte.
- Sgrìobh na faclan.

You will need three different coloured pens or pencils for this task. Write the following words in big, clear letters.

Mar eisimpleir: **Litreachadh**

You will see that there are one or more consonants in the word, with vowels on both sides. Use one colour to highlight the consonants so that they stand out.

Mar eisimpleir: **Litreachadh**

Look closely at your highlighted letters. You will see that there are vowels between your highlighted consonants. In the example, you will see that the vowels on either side of the highlighted consonants match each other. They are both broad or both slender. This shows that your word follows the spelling rule.

Now, highlight the slender vowels in the word with one colour and the broad vowels with another colour.

Mar eisimpleir: **Litreachadh**

Now, using your coloured pencils, do the same with the words below. Do they all follow the spelling rule?

- |            |                |            |             |
|------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| a. Mairead | b. Sgitheanach | c. Glaschu | d. madainn  |
| e. ciamar  | f. caogad      | g. fichead | h. Gàidhlig |



## Eacarsaich 9c

Look at the **Faclan agus Abairtean** pages. Pick out a few words. Test the spelling rule on them.

## Eacarsaich 9d

Again, using your **Faclan agus Abairtean** pages, choose three words (the longer the better). Give them to your partner and ask him/her to check they follow the spelling rule.

## Eacarsaich 9e

You should find that most words follow the spelling rule – but there are exceptions. Sometimes people's names or place names don't follow the rule. In your **Faclan is Abairtean** pages there is a girl's name that breaks the spelling rule. Who can find it first?

### 10. Masculine and Feminine Nouns

In Gaelic, all nouns (things) are either masculine or feminine – even a pencil or a window! How do we know when something is masculine or feminine? It is not always easy to tell but there are some ways of telling before you have to look in the dictionary.

#### 1. Male/female

You would expect a male person or animal to be male:

**an t-athair, am bràthair, am mac, an cù**

You would expect the a female person or animal to be female:

**an nighean, a' chailleach, a' chearc**

But there are exceptions: **boireannach** (a woman) is a masculine noun: **am boireannach**

#### 2. The definite article

You can also look at the definite article (*the*), when it appears with the noun.

For more on this see Section 14 on The Definite Article.

#### 3. The following adjective

Another way of telling whether a noun is masculine or feminine is to look at the adjective coming after it. More on this in Section 11 – Using nouns and adjectives together.

#### 4. If you're still not sure, you're always best to check in the dictionary.

### Eacarsaich 10

- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

Are the nouns below masculine or feminine? Use your **Faclan is Abairtean** pages to find out.

Write your answers in a table like this:

miotag	còta	peann	seacaid	taidh	baga
leabhar	lèine	sgoil	peansail	botal	bròg

Masculine	Feminine





## 11. Using Nouns and Adjectives together

In Gaelic, when you use an adjective to describe a noun, the adjective usually comes after the noun.

Mar eisimpleir: **Madainn mhath!** Good morning! **Feasgar math!** Good afternoon!

If the noun is feminine, the sound and spelling of the adjective can change.

**math:** **Madainn mhath!**      **mòr:** **sgoil mhòr**      **beag:** **piseag bheag**

You would never say **Madainn math**, would you?

Masculine nouns (m): **Calum beag** little Calum      **geansaidh mòr** a big jumper

Feminine nouns (f): **Anna bheag** little Anna      **lèine mhòr** a big shirt

This is another example of lenition – more in Section 6 and **Modal 2 Aonad 2**.

Colours are adjectives too and so, the same rules apply.

Mar eisimpleir: **geansaidh dearg** a red jumper      **lèine dhearg** a red shirt

Therefore, we can tell that the word **geansaidh** is masculine and **lèine** is feminine.



## Eacarsaich 11a

- A bheil iad fireannta no boireannta?
- Lion an clàr.
- Chaidh eisimpleir a dhèanamh dhut.

Look at the following. Use the spelling of the adjectives to give you a clue as to whether the nouns are masculine or feminine. Copy the table. Put each phrase in the correct section.

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Calum beag     | 6. Catrìona mhòr   |
| 2. cù dubh        | 7. peansail dearg  |
| 3. piseag gheal   | 8. còta buidhe     |
| 4. peann gorm     | 9. seacaid ghlas   |
| 5. briogais dhonn | 10. tidsear crosta |

	Fireannta/Masculine	Boireannta/Feminine
1.	Calum beag	

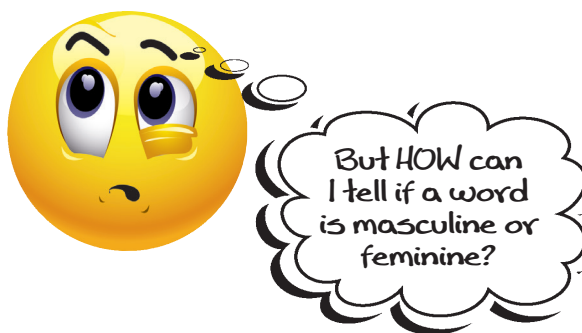
The adjective **uaine** cannot be changed so it doesn't give you a clue as to the gender of the noun it describes. If the adjective doesn't give you a clue, then you must look up the noun in the dictionary to find its gender (whether it is masculine or feminine).

Mar eisimpleir: **briogais uaine**

Some dictionaries will use m/f as their codes for masculine and feminine, but others will use f/b (**fireannta** is **boireannta**): Gaelic for masculine and feminine.

Make sure you know which ones your dictionary uses. Your **Faclan is Abairtean** pages in **Ceumannan** use the code below:

masculine (m)                      feminine (f)



## Eacarsaich 11b

- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

Write the following in Gaelic. Make sure you know which nouns are masculine and which are feminine.

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. a big pencil    | 4. a green pen   |
| 2. a purple dress  | 5. a lovely town |
| 3. a little jacket |                  |

## 12. Singular and plural of nouns

Plural usually means more than one of something. In Gaelic, the plural doesn't start until after two. In English, you usually just add an s on to the end of a noun to make the plural (jumpers, cats, oranges, pencils). In Gaelic, plurals are made in different ways. In **Modal 3** you learned the Gaelic for clothes and for some common classroom objects. Most of these plurals are formed in a similar way – by adding either **-an** or **-ean** onto the end of the word.

Mar eisimpleir:    **bròg**                      **brògan**  
    **seacaid**                      **seacaidean**

### Eacarsaich 12a

- Coimhead air na faclan.
- Sgrìobh an clàr.
- Cuir na faclan ceart còmhla.
- Chaidh eisimpleir a dhèanamh dhut.

Match the singular and plural nouns below.

Copy the table. An example has been done for you.

Singular	Plural
geansaidh	geansaidhean

taidhean	rubairean	geansaidhean	stocainn	miotagan
adan	rùilear	seacaid	bròg	peansailean
brògan	rubair	taidh	miotag	peansail
stocainnean	seacaidean	rùilearan	geansaidh	ad

### Two of something

In Section 6, you saw the effect the word **dà** has on nouns coming after it.

Remember, in Gaelic you don't use the plural until you have three of something. If you have two of something, you use the singular word and lenition, if possible.

Mar eisimpleir:

cat	a cat	dà chat	two cats
geansaidh	a jumper	dà gheansaidh	two jumpers
lèine	a shirt	dà lèine	two shirts



Tha dà gheansaidh agam - geansaidh dearg agus geansaidh buidhe.



## Eacarsaich 12b

- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

Form the plural of these nouns by adding either **-an** or **-ean**. Remember your spelling rule (broad to broad, slender to slender) when you are choosing an ending.

Broad: *a, o, u* plural ending **-an** Slender: *e, i* plural ending **-ean**

Some of the words below come from **Modalan 4 gu 6**. You may not know all these words yet, but you can still follow the rule to make them plural. Check their meanings in your **Faclan is Abairtean** pages.

Mar eisimpleir: **uinneag** a window → **uinneagan** windows

- |                |               |              |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. mìos        | 5. beachd     | 9. partaidh  |
| 2. piseag      | 6. planair    | 10. cèilidh  |
| 3. cuilean     | 7. àireamhair | 11. consairt |
| 4. gearra-mhuc | 8. prògram    | 12. fèis     |

## Eacarsaich 12c

- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

The nouns below come from **Modal 6**. Form the plural of each noun. You will use some of the new plurals in the next exercise.

Mar eisimpleir: **deoch** → **deochan**

- |              |              |             |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. cearc     | 6. tomàto    | 11. cafaidh |
| 2. ubhal     | 7. orainsear | 12. uinnean |
| 3. seòclaid  | 8. reòiteag  | 13. peur    |
| 4. briosgaid | 9. paidh     | 14. pris    |
| 5. cèic      | 10. isbean   | 15. bùth    |

## Eacarsaich 12d

- Lìon na beàrnan.
- Eadar-theangaich gu Beurla.

The following exercise contains phrases from throughout **Ceumannan 1**. Each sentence has a blank for you to insert a suitable plural from **Eacarsaich 12c**. Translate into English. There may be more than one answer. Make sure you have completed **Modal 6** before you complete this exercise.

1. Tha deich \_\_\_\_\_ aig mo mhàthair. Tha na h-uighean math.
2. Tha na \_\_\_\_\_ math ann an Glaschu.
3. An toigh leat \_\_\_\_\_?
4. Euch! Is beag orm \_\_\_\_\_.
5. A bheil \_\_\_\_\_ agaibh?
6. Tha an t-acras orm. Càit a bheil na \_\_\_\_\_ anns a' Ghearasdan?
7. Chan eil \_\_\_\_\_ a' còrdadh rium idir.
8. Nam bheachd fhìn, tha \_\_\_\_\_ uabhasach blasta.
9. A bheil sibh ag iarraidh cupa tì is cèic? Tha \_\_\_\_\_ nam bhaga.
10. Tha \_\_\_\_\_ glè mhath anns a' bhùth an-diugh.

## Modal 3 Aonad 1

### 13. Prepositional Pronouns: orm, ort, air, oirre, oirbh

You used the words **orm**, **ort**, **air**, **oirre** and **oirbh** in **Modal 3 Aonad 1** when you talked about people's clothes. These words are called prepositional pronouns. You have already used them.

A prepositional pronoun is a word made up of one preposition – little words like: *on, at, in, with, to ...* and a pronoun. We dealt with personal pronouns before in Section 5.

Look at the information box.

The prepositional pronouns you used when talking about the clothes you are wearing are made up by adding the preposition **air** (on) to the different pronouns. Words like these are real time-savers. Instead of having to write two words, you only have to write one. So if you want to say you have a coat on, instead of

**Tha còta air mi** you would say **Tha còta orm.**

You will come across other prepositional pronouns throughout **Ceumannan**. You will soon start to spot them yourself.

#### Personal Pronouns

<b>mi</b>	I/me
<b>thu</b>	you
<b>e</b>	he
<b>i</b>	she
<b>sinn</b>	we
<b>sibh</b> (polite/plural)	you
<b>iad</b>	they/them

Preposition	+	Pronoun	=	Prepositional pronoun	Example
<b>air</b> (on)	+	<b>mi</b> (me)	=	<b>orm</b> (on me)	<b>Tha còta orm.</b> (I have a coat on.)
<b>air</b> (on)	+	<b>thu</b> (you)	=	<b>ort</b> (on you)	<b>A bheil còta ort?</b> (Do you have a coat on?)
<b>air</b> (on)	+	<b>e</b> (he)	=	<b>air</b> (on him)	<b>Tha còta air.</b> (He has a coat on.)
<b>air</b> (on)	+	<b>i</b> (she)	=	<b>oirre</b> (on her)	<b>Tha còta oirre.</b> (She has a coat on.)
<b>air</b> (on)	+	<b>sinn</b> (we)	=	<b>oirnn</b> (on us)	<b>Tha còtaichean oirnn.</b> (We have coats on.)
<b>air</b> (on)	+	<b>sibh</b> (you – plural/polite)	=	<b>oirbh</b> (on you)	<b>A bheil còta oirbh?</b> (Do you have a coat on?)
<b>air</b> (on)	+	<b>iad</b> (they)	=	<b>orra</b> (on them)	<b>Tha còtaichean orra.</b> (They have coats on.)



### Eacarsaich 13a

- Coimhead air a' chlàr.
- Sgrìobh ann am Beurla.

Look at the table. Write the following in English.

1. A bheil còta gorm ort?
2. Chan eil ad orm.
3. Tha geansaidh pinc oirre.
4. A bheil miotagan oirbh?
5. Tha briogais dhubh air.

### Eacarsaich 13b

- Coimhead air a' chlàr a-rithist
- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

Look at the table again. Write in Gaelic.

1. She has a yellow dress on.
2. I don't have shoes on.
3. Do you have a tie on? (to your friend)
4. He has a jacket on.
5. You don't have boots on. (to an older person)

## Eacarsaich 13c

- Obraich còmhla ri caraid.

Work with a partner. Can you think of any other phrases you know that contain either of the prepositional pronouns **orm** or **ort**? Talk about your ideas with others in the class.

Make sure you have completed **Modal 5 Aonad 1** before you do the next exercise.

The prepositional pronouns you used when talking about the jobs people do are made by adding the preposition **ann** (on) to different pronouns.

Preposition	+	Pronoun	=	Prepositional pronoun	Example
<b>ann</b> (in)	+	<b>mi</b> (me)	=	<b>annam</b> (in me)	<b>'S e nurs a th' annam.</b> (I am a nurse.)
<b>ann</b> (in)	+	<b>thu</b> (you)	=	<b>annad</b> (in you)	<b>An e nurs a th' annad?</b> (Are you a nurse?)
<b>ann</b> (in)	+	<b>e</b> (he)	=	<b>ann</b> (in him)	<b>Chan e nurs a th' ann.</b> (He is not a nurse.)
<b>ann</b> (in)	+	<b>i</b> (she)	=	<b>innte</b> (in her)	<b>'S e nurs a th' innte.</b> (She is a nurse.)
<b>ann</b> (in)	+	<b>sinn</b> (we)	=	<b>annainn</b> (in us)	<b>'S e nursaichean a th' annainn.</b> (We are nurses.)
<b>ann</b> (in)	+	<b>sibh</b> (you – plural/polite)	=	<b>annaibh</b> (in you)	<b>An e nurs a th' annaibh?</b> (Are you a nurse?)
<b>ann</b> (in)	+	<b>iad</b> (they)	=	<b>annta</b> (in them)	<b>An e nursaichean a th' annta?</b> (Are they nurses?)

## Eacarsaich 13d

- Coimhead air a' chlàr a-rithist.
- Sgrìobh na seantansan ann am Beurla.

Using the table, write the following sentences in English.

1. 'S e ministear a th' innte.
2. 'S e rùnaire a th' ann.
3. An e dotair a th' annaibh?
4. Chan e croitear a th' annam.
5. An e tidsear a th' annad?
6. 'S e nursaichean a th' annainn.

## Eacarsaich 13e

- Coimhead air a' chlàr a-rithist.
- Sgrìobh na seantansan ann an Gàidhlig.

Using the table, write the following sentences in Gaelic.

1. I am a fisherman.
2. He is a teacher.
3. She isn't a mechanic
4. I'm not a shop-assistant.
5. Are you a cook? (polite/plural)
6. Is he a policeman?

## 14. The Definite Article - The

Look over the work in **Modal 3 Aonad 2** again.

Below are three words for *the* and rules for masculine nouns:

<b>Am</b>	for masculine nouns starting with <i>b, f, m, p</i>	→	<b>am baile</b>	the town
<b>An t-</b>	for masculine nouns starting with vowels	→	<b>an t-eilean</b>	the island
<b>An</b>	for masculine nouns starting with any other letter	→	<b>an leabhar</b>	the book

Below are three words for *the* and rules for feminine nouns:

<b>A'</b>	for feminine nouns starting with <i>b, c, g, m, p</i>	→	<b>a' bhròg</b>	the shoe
<b>An</b>	for feminine nouns starting with <i>f</i>	→	<b>an fhreagairt</b>	the answer
<b>An</b>	for feminine nouns starting with other letters	→	<b>an sgoil</b>	the school
<b>An t-</b>	for feminine nouns starting with <i>sl, sn, sr, s+vowel</i>	→	<b>an t-seacaid</b>	the jacket



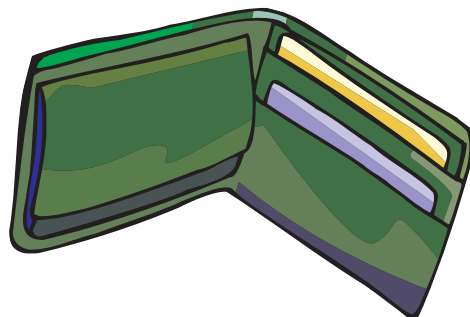
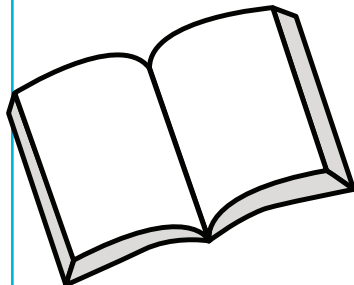
### Eacarsaich 14

- **Coimhead air na faclan.**

All the nouns below have been given the wrong word for *the*. Use the rules to correct them.



- |                  |                  |                   |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. An àireamhair | 5. An t-peansail | 9. Am seacaid     |
| 2. Am sporan     | 6. Am leabhar    | 10. An fòn-làimhe |
| 3. An eilean     | 7. Am aodach     |                   |
| 4. An peann      | 8. An t-baile    |                   |





## Modal 3 Aonad 2

### 15. Possessive Articles

Make sure that you have completed the work in **Modal 3 Aonad 2** on this topic before you do the following exercise. Here is a quick reminder:

A possessive article is a word that shows who someone or something belongs to. You use them to talk about possessions. Possessive articles you have used so far include:

**mo** my and **do** your

**m'** and **d'** are used instead of **mo** and **do** before nouns beginning with a vowel.

Mar eisimpleir: **mo pheansail** my pencil **m' àireamhair** my calculator

**do pheansail** your pencil **d' àireamhair** your calculator

### Eacarsaich 15

- Obraich còmhla ri caraid.
- Dè tha ceàrr?
- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

Work with a partner. What is wrong with the phrases below? Check the possessive article and the following noun.

1. m' pheann
2. mo ad
3. do briogais
4. mo rhubair
5. do àireamhair
6. do còta
7. m' bhaga
8. d' seacaid
9. mo botal uisge
10. do aodach-spòrs



## Modal 4 Aonad 1

### 16. Preposition ann + definite article

You know the Gaelic for all the months of the year. In English, there is no definite article (the) before the months. You don't say *the* January, *the* February... You come across different Gaelic words for *the* in the months.

Mar eisimpleir:      **Am**                      **An**                      and                      **An t-**  
**Am Faoilleach**      **An Gearran**                      **An t-Sultain**

In previous units, you saw place names with *the* in front of them:

**Am Ploc**                      **An Gearasdan**                      **An t-Òban**  
and how they changed when you said you lived in those places:

**anns a' Phloc**      **anns a' Ghearasdan**                      **anns an Òban**

When you want to say that something is happening in a particular month, you use the word **anns**. The spelling and sound of the month can change after the word **anns**. Look at the table below.



Month	Mios	anns...
January	<b>Am Faoilleach</b>	<b>anns an Fhaoilleach</b>
February	<b>An Gearran</b>	<b>anns a' Ghearran</b>
March	<b>Am Màrt</b>	<b>anns a' Mhàrt</b>
April	<b>An Giblean</b>	<b>anns a' Ghiblean</b>
May	<b>An Cèitean</b>	<b>anns a' Chèitean</b>
June	<b>An t-Ògmhios</b>	<b>anns an Ògmhios</b>
July	<b>An t-Iuchar</b>	<b>anns an Iuchar</b>
August	<b>An Lùnastal</b>	<b>anns an Lùnastal</b>
September	<b>An t-Sultain</b>	<b>anns an t-Sultain</b>
October	<b>An Dàmhair</b>	<b>anns an Dàmhair</b>
November	<b>An t-Samhain</b>	<b>anns an t-Samhain</b>
December	<b>An Dùbhlachd</b>	<b>anns an Dùbhlachd</b>

### Eacarsaich 16

Put **anns** (in the) before each of the following nouns. Follow the patterns in the table above to help you.

Mar eisimpleir:

**Am Faoilleach**      →      **anns an Fhaoilleach**      in January

1. an gèam
2. am meadhan
3. an clas
4. An t-Òban
5. an t-ionad-slàinte
6. An Dàmhair
7. am бага

## Modal 4 Aonad 2

### 17. Adjective Modifiers

Make sure you have covered the work on adjective modifiers before you complete this exercise. An adjective modifier is a word that gives more information about an adjective, or emphasises it. An adjective modifier usually comes directly before the adjective.

Adjective modifier	Beurla/English	Eisimpleir/Example	Beurla/English
uabhasach	terribly, really	uabhasach furasta	terribly easy
gu math	quite	gu math mòr	quite big
cho	so	cho tioram	so boring
caran	a bit	caran èibhinn	rather funny
beagan	a little	beagan doirbh	a bit difficult
glè*	very	glè fheumail	very useful
fior*	really	fior mhath	really good
ro*	too	ro bheag	too small

(\*Remember these cause lenition.)

### Eacarsaich 17

- Sgrìobh na seantansan ann an Gàidhlig.

Mar eisimpleir: **Chan eil an còta ro bheag.**

The coat isn't too small.

**Tha Matamataig glè fheumail.**

Maths is very useful.

1. John is rather quiet.
2. Calum is very cross.
3. She's a bit silly.
4. Glasgow is quite nice.
5. He's terribly big.
6. I am too late.
7. Are you really busy?
8. Barra is so beautiful.

Tha Matamataig glè fheumail.



## Modal 4 Aonad 3

### 18. Verbal Nouns

Make sure you have covered the work on verbs in **Modal 4 Aonad 3** before you complete this exercise. Remember that verbs are doing words.

Mar eisimpleir:

<b>Tha mi a' sgrìobhadh seo.</b>	I am writing this.
<b>A bheil sibh a' dannsadh?</b>	Are you dancing?
<b>Tha mi ag obair.</b>	I am working.
<b>Tha mi ag èisteachd ri ceòl.</b>	I am listening.

Remember to use **ag** before verbs beginning with a vowel: **ag èisteachd**.

### Eacarsaich 18

- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

1. I am playing shinty tomorrow.
2. Are you doing anything today?
3. Colin is cooking tonight.
4. Aberdeen is winning.
5. Are you getting up early on Tuesday?
6. I am reading a book, but it's not too good.
7. There is a concert in the school, but I am not singing.
8. She is going to a party at seven o'clock.
9. Catherine and James are dancing.
10. When are you going to bed?

### 19. Past tense

Make sure you have covered the work in **Modal 4 Aonad 3** before you complete this exercise.

Remember: Màiri: **Tha dannsa ann Dihaoine. A bheil sibh a' dol ann?**  
Calum: **Tha.**  
Pòl: **Chan eil.**

You have used this a lot in **Ceumannan**. It's called the present tense.

Do you remember how to form the past tense of the verb *to be*?

Màiri: **Bha dannsa ann Dihaoine. An robh sibh ann?**  
Calum: **Bha.**  
Pòl: **Cha robh.**

## Eacarsaich 19a

- Tagh na seantansan a tha sgrìobhte anns an tràth chaithte.
- Sgrìobh ann am Beurla iad.

Choose only the sentences in the past tense. Write them in English.

1. Chan eil cèilidh ann a-nochd.
2. Dè an t-ainm a th' ort?
3. Cha robh mi ag obair Diciadain.
4. Ciamar a bha an consairt Disathairne?
5. Bha Cruinn-eòlas cho math an-diugh.
6. A bheil Seòras a' tighinn dhachaigh a-màireach?
7. Cuin a tha an sgoil a' dùnadh?
8. Bha mi a' teacsadh lain an-dè.  
Cha robh e gu math.
9. Càit an robh thu Disathairne?
10. An robh co-là-breith agad?  
Dè an aois a bha thu?
11. An robh thu ag obair ann an Alanais?
12. Tha Màiri-Anna a' dol gu partaidh.
13. Càit a bheil Raonaid a' fuireach?
14. Cuin a bha thu ann an Glaschu? An robh thu a' fuireach ann an taigh-òsta?



## Modalan 1 – 6

### 20. Sràcan/Accents

An accent is the little mark you see above vowels in some Gaelic words.

Mar eisimpleir: àireamhair èist sgrìobh bròg rùilear

The Gaelic word for an accent is sràc.

**Sràcan** matter a lot because they not only show us how to pronounce a word, they can also change the meaning of a word. If you see an accent above a vowel, you should make that vowel sound

**I-o-n-g-e-r** when you say the word.

Mar eisimpleir: car (a quick, short 'a' sound)

but càr (sounds like caaar)

Forgetting to put accents on words can sometimes cause confusion, as well as a giggle or two!



What are accents  
and do they  
matter?



## Eacarsaich 20a

- Coimhead ann am faclair.
- Dè tha na faclan seo a' ciallachadh?

Look up the following words, with and without accents. What do they mean?

1. sabaid/Sàbaid
2. bata/bàta
3. car/càr

## Eacarsaich 20b

- Coimhead air na faclan.
- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.
- Dè tha na faclan a' ciallachadh?

Look at the words below. They all need accents. Put the accents in the correct places. Write the words in Gaelic. Write the English meaning beside each one.

- |         |             |               |
|---------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. brog | 5. brathair | 9. Am Mart    |
| 2. cu   | 6. mathair  | 10. tri       |
| 3. geam | 7. leine    | 11. ceilidh   |
| 4. fon  | 8. siucar   | 12. An t-Oban |

## Eacarsaich 20c

- Obraich còmhla ri caraid.
- Sgrìobh ann an Gàidhlig.

Go through the vocabulary you have learned so far. Choose ten words – some with accents and some without. Write them with no accents and give them to your partner. See if he/she can sound out the words and put the accents in the right places. Your partner should do the same for you. Once you have both finished you should correct and discuss each other's work. Write a comment on your partner's work. Ask your teacher or another pair to listen to you.