

GAELIC LEARNERS HANDBOOK



RUARAI DH MacTHÓMAIS

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491.
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LEARNERS'

HANDBOOK

A compendium of vocabulary,
phrases, sentences and passages
arranged under subject-headings,
with Glossary.

New and enlarged edition

Ruairaidh MacThómais

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Pronunciation Guide

(It should be emphasised that this is only a rough guide, designed to give you a quick start to using the sounds of the language. For further guidance, consult any of the standard handbooks, and listen to as much Gaelic as you can, in speech, on record, or in broadcasts.)

- (1) **Vowels:**
- | | |
|--|--|
| <i>a</i> as in Scottish English | <i>cap</i> |
| <i>à</i> as in Scottish English | <i>bar</i> |
| <i>o</i> as in Scottish English | <i>cot</i> ; also as
<i>oa</i> in Sc. Eng. <i>coat</i> |
| <i>ò</i> as in Scottish English | <i>order</i> |
| <i>ó</i> as in Scottish English | <i>bore</i> |
| <i>u</i> as in <i>oo</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>loop</i> |
| <i>ù</i> as in <i>oo</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>moor</i> |
| <i>e</i> as in Scottish English | <i>set</i> |
| <i>è</i> as in Scottish English | <i>err</i> |
| <i>éi, eu</i> as <i>ai</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>pain</i> |
| <i>i</i> as <i>ea</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>eat</i> ; occasionally as in
<i>hit</i> (e.g. <i>is</i> "and" etc.). |
| <i>ì</i> as <i>ee</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>seem</i> |

(When marked with an accent, the vowel sound is distinctly *long*.)

- (2) **Consonants:** d, t, l, ll, n, nn: When these are preceded or followed by a broad vowel (i.e. by *a, o* or *u*), press the tip of the tongue, flattened, against the backs of the front teeth, so that the tongue protrudes slightly. Practice this with words like *dol* "going", *là* "day", *gann* "scarce", *talamh* "ground", *a-null* "over".

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| c (+ broad vowel) | as in Sc. Eng. | <i>cat</i> |
| c (+ slender vowel) | as <i>k</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>king</i> |
| d (+ slender vowel) | as <i>j</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>jeans</i> |
| g (+ broad vowel) | as in Sc. Eng. | <i>got</i> |
| g (+ slender vowel) | as <i>s</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>get</i> |
| s (+ slender vowel) | as <i>sh</i> in Sc. Eng. | <i>she</i> |

bh and *mh* are pronounced as *v* (but sometimes silent as in *dubh* "black").

fh is pronounced as *h* or is silent

th is pronounced as *h* or is silent as in *thu* "you".

ch (+ broad vowel) as in Sc. Eng. *loch*
ch (+ slender vowel) as in Sc. Eng. *Michie*
dh and *gh* as in Sc. Eng. exclamation *ugh*
-aidh, -idh, -aigh, -igh as *y* in Sc. Eng. *funny*

(For diphthongs and larger combinations of sounds, consult the hand-books. Where a consonant is not listed above, its pronunciation is roughly similar to that of Sc. Eng.)

Some Common Adjectives

Gaelic				English
<i>math</i>	-	-	-	good
<i>dona</i>	-	-	-	bad
<i>mòr</i>	-	-	-	big
<i>beag</i>	-	-	-	small
<i>aosda</i>	-	-	-	old
<i>òg</i>	-	-	-	young
<i>fada</i>	-	-	-	long
<i>goirid</i>	-	-	-	short
<i>saor</i>	-	-	-	cheap
<i>daor</i>	-	-	-	dear
<i>soilleir</i>	-	-	-	bright
<i>dorch</i>	-	-	-	dark
<i>beairteach</i>	-	-	-	rich
<i>bochd</i>	-	-	-	poor
<i>glic</i>	-	-	-	wise
<i>gòrach</i>	-	-	-	foolish
<i>tioram</i>	-	-	-	dry
<i>fliuch</i>	-	-	-	wet
<i>teth</i>	-	-	-	hot
<i>fuar</i>	-	-	-	cold
<i>blàth</i>	-	-	-	warm
<i>trom</i>	-	-	-	heavy
<i>aotrom</i>	-	-	-	light
<i>slàn</i>	-	-	-	well
<i>tinn</i>	-	-	-	ill
<i>pailt</i>	-	-	-	plentiful
<i>gann</i>	-	-	-	scarce
<i>milis</i>	-	-	-	sweet
<i>searbh</i>	-	-	-	sour
<i>eile</i>	-	-	-	other
<i>iomadh</i>	-	-	-	many

Some Common Nouns

Gaelic	English
<i>biadh</i>	food
<i>deoch</i>	drink
<i>tigh</i>	house
<i>rathad</i>	road
<i>duine</i>	man
<i>fear</i>	man
<i>boireannach</i>	woman
<i>gille</i>	boy
<i>caileag</i>	girl
<i>nighean</i>	girl
<i>ainm</i>	name
<i>adhar</i>	sky
<i>talamh</i>	ground
<i>baile</i>	village; town
<i>posta</i>	postman
<i>pàipear</i>	paper
<i>uisge</i>	water
<i>bàta</i>	boat
<i>eaglais</i>	church
<i>sgoil</i>	school
<i>tombaca</i>	tobacco
<i>gloinne</i>	glass
<i>loch</i>	loch
<i>càr</i>	car
<i>trèana</i>	train
<i>itealan</i>	plane
<i>leabhar</i>	book
<i>seic-leabhar</i>	cheque-book
<i>dùthaich</i>	country
<i>réidio</i>	radio
<i>telebhisean</i>	television
<i>slàinte</i>	health
<i>flùr</i>	flower
<i>feur</i>	grass
<i>craobh</i>	tree
<i>sporan</i>	purse

Some Common Conjunctions

Gaelic	English
<i>agus</i>	and
<i>is</i>	and
<i>ach</i>	but, except, only
<i>ge/ged</i>	though
<i>gu/gun/gum</i>	that
<i>ma</i>	if
<i>nam/nan</i>	if
<i>mur/mura</i>	unless
<i>mun/mum</i>	before
<i>mus/mas</i>	before
<i>o/on/bho/bhon</i>	since, seeing that
<i>oir</i>	since, for
<i>mar</i>	like, as
<i>no</i>	or
<i>(air) neo</i>	or else
<i>far am/an</i>	where
<i>gus am/an</i>	until
<i>nach</i>	that not

Some Common Interrogatives

<i>a/an/am?</i>	is? was? were?
<i>nach?</i>	is not? was not? were not?
<i>càite?</i>	where?
<i>cuin?</i>	when?
<i>có?</i>	who?
<i>co mheud?</i>	how many?
<i>ciamar?</i>	how?
<i>carson?</i>	why?
<i>cuige?</i>	why?
<i>dé</i>	what?

Some Common Prepositions

Gaelic	English
à/às	out of
aig	at
air	on
an/ann	in
de	of
do	to
eadar	between
fo	under
gu	to
gun	without
le	with
mar	as
mu	about
o	from
os/os cionn	above
ri	to, against, towards
roimh	before
thar	over
troimh	through
seach	past
an déidh	after
air son	for

Many simple prepositions are declined, e.g.:

aig at *agam* at me *agad* at you *aige* at him *aice* at her *againn* at us
agaibh at you (pl.) *aca* at them.
ri to etc. *rium* to me *riut* to you *ris* to him *rithe* to her *ruinn* to us
ruibh to you (pl.) *riutha* to them.
 Similarly: *air/orm* etc.; *do/dhomh* etc.
le/leam etc.; *ann/annam* etc.

Some Common Adverbs and Adverbial Phrases

The commonest way of forming an adverb is by using *gu* before the adjective, e.g.:

<i>gu math</i>	well
<i>gu dona</i>	badly
<i>gu bochd</i>	poorly
<i>gu mòr</i>	greatly

Some common adverbs:

<i>còmhla</i>	together
<i>glé</i>	very
<i>ro</i>	very, exceedingly, too
<i>seachad</i>	past
<i>idir</i>	at all

Some Adverbial Phrases formed from prepositions and nouns, etc.:

<i>da-rìribh</i>	truly
<i>air ais</i>	backwards
<i>air adhart</i>	forward
<i>air fad</i>	altogether
<i>air leth</i>	apart
<i>an uair</i>	when
<i>a mhàin</i>	only
<i>às ùr</i>	afresh
<i>gu dearbh</i>	certainly
<i>gu léir</i>	entirely
<i>gu leòr</i>	enough
<i>gun teagamh</i>	doubtless
<i>a nis</i>	now
<i>a-null</i>	over
<i>an dràsda</i>	just now
<i>an toiseach</i>	at first
<i>an còmhnaidh</i>	always
<i>a-bhos</i>	here, on this side
<i>a-steach</i>	inwards
<i>a-stigh</i>	inside
<i>a-mach</i>	outwards
<i>a-muigh</i>	outside
<i>dhachaigh</i>	home

Some Common Verbs

Gaelic	English
<i>tha</i>	is, are
<i>is</i>	is, are
<i>dèan; dèanamh</i>	do; doing
<i>falbh</i>	go; going
<i>theirig; dol</i>	go; going
<i>thig; tighinn</i>	come; coming
<i>thoir; toirt</i>	give; giving
<i>tog; togail</i>	lift; lifting
<i>coisich; coiseachd</i>	walk; walking
<i>ruith</i>	run; running
<i>ceannaich; ceannachd</i>	buy; buying
<i>reic</i>	sell; selling
<i>pàigh; pàigheadh</i>	pay; paying
<i>ith; ithe</i>	eat; eating
<i>òl</i>	drink; drinking
<i>abair; ràdh</i>	say; saying
<i>bris; bris(t)leadh</i>	break; breaking
<i>caidil; cadal</i>	sleep; sleeping
<i>dùisg; dùsgadh</i>	wake; waking
<i>cuir; cur</i>	put; putting
<i>ruig; ruigheachd</i>	reach; reaching
<i>tuig; tuigsinn</i>	understand; understanding
<i>seall; sealltainn</i>	look; looking
<i>cluinn; cluinntinn</i>	hear; hearing
<i>dùin; dùnadh</i>	shut; shutting
<i>fosgail; fosgladh</i>	open; opening
<i>faigh; faighinn</i>	get; getting
<i>cluich</i>	play; playing
<i>faic; faicinn</i>	see; seeing
<i>gabh; gabhail</i>	take; taking
<i>fuirich; fuireachd</i>	wait; waiting
<i>till; tilleadh</i>	return; returning
<i>lìon; lìonadh</i>	fill; filling
<i>sgriobh; sgrìobhadh</i>	write; writing
<i>leugh; leughadh</i>	read; reading

A Hundred Words frequently used in Gaelic

1. <i>an</i>	the	37. <i>mór</i>	big
2. <i>air</i>	on	38. <i>dol</i>	going
3. <i>a</i>	who, which, that (relative)	39. <i>latha</i>	day
4. <i>agus/is</i>	and	40. <i>mu</i>	about
5. <i>tha</i>	is	41. <i>thig</i>	come, will come
6. <i>bha</i>	was	42. <i>gu</i>	to
7. <i>e; i</i>	he, it; she	43. <i>cho</i>	as
8. <i>ann/an</i>	in	44. <i>faigh</i>	get
9. <i>cha/chan</i>	(negative) not	45. <i>thu</i>	you
10. <i>mi</i>	I	46. <i>duine</i>	man
11. <i>a; an/am</i>	his, her; their	47. <i>aon</i>	one
12. <i>ach</i>	but	48. <i>abair</i>	say
13. <i>gu/gun</i>	that	49. <i>is</i>	is
14. <i>bu/robh</i>	was	50. <i>faic</i>	see
15. <i>iad</i>	they	51. <i>gabh</i>	take
16. <i>ri</i>	to	52. <i>dà</i>	two
17. <i>sin</i>	that	53. <i>fear</i>	man
18. <i>le</i>	with	54. <i>biodh</i>	would be
19. <i>nach</i>	that not	55. <i>chaidh</i>	went
20. <i>de</i>	of	56. <i>toirt</i>	taking
21. <i>mar</i>	like	57. <i>an diugh</i>	today
22. <i>seo</i>	this	58. <i>sam bith</i>	at all
23. <i>cuir</i>	put, etc.	59. <i>saoil</i>	think, suppose
24. <i>an</i>	(interrog. particle),	60. <i>thug</i>	gave
25. <i>thoir</i>	give	61. <i>beag</i>	small
26. <i>dèan</i>	do, make	62. <i>bliadhna</i>	year
27. <i>mo</i>	my	63. <i>cuid</i>	part, share
28. <i>féin</i>	self	64. <i>fhuair</i>	got
29. <i>aig</i>	at	65. <i>fo</i>	under
30. <i>no/neo</i>	or	66. <i>gun</i>	without
31. <i>sinn</i>	we	67. <i>math</i>	good
32. <i>eil/bheil</i>	is	68. <i>bithidh</i>	will be
33. <i>bhith</i>	to be; being	69. <i>dà</i>	two
34. <i>uair</i>	hour, time	70. <i>tigh</i>	house
35. <i>do</i>	to	71. <i>obair</i>	work
36. <i>eile</i>	other	72. <i>faod</i>	be able
		73. <i>uile</i>	all

74. <i>o/bho</i>	from
75. <i>nuair</i>	when
76. <i>fada</i>	long
77. <i>aca</i>	at them
78. <i>feum(aidh)</i>	need
79. <i>na</i>	than
80. <i>a nis</i>	now
81. <i>ceann</i>	head
82. <i>fàg</i>	leave
83. <i>àite</i>	place
84. <i>a-mach</i>	out(side)
85. <i>(an) déidh</i>	after
86. <i>làmh</i>	hand
87. <i>móran</i>	many, much
88. <i>orra</i>	on them
89. <i>suas</i>	up
90. <i>taobh</i>	side
91. <i>tog</i>	lift
92. <i>ùr</i>	new
93. <i>bithidh</i>	will be
94. <i>luchd</i>	people
95. <i>thuir</i>	said
96. <i>thàinig</i>	came
97. <i>ged</i>	although
98. <i>ma</i>	if
99. <i>nì</i>	thing
100. <i>dhomh</i>	to me

(This list is based on researches carried out by Mr. Finlay MacNeill, and presented as an undergraduate thesis in the Department of Celtic, University of Glasgow.)

Numbers up to 100

<i>aon</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>one</i>
<i>dhà</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>two</i>
<i>trì</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>three</i>
<i>ceithir</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>four</i>
<i>còig</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>five</i>
<i>sia</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>six</i>
<i>seachd</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>seven</i>
<i>ochd</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>eight</i>
<i>naoi</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>nine</i>
<i>deich</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>ten</i>
<i>aon-deug</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>eleven</i>
<i>dhà-dheug</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>twelve</i>
<i>trì-deug</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>thirteen</i>
.....					
<i>fichead</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>twenty</i>
<i>aon-ar-fhichead</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>twenty-one</i>
<i>dhà-ar-fhichead</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>twenty-two</i>
.....					
<i>dà fhichead</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>forty</i>
<i>dà fhichead 's a h-aon</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>forty-one</i>
<i>dà fhichead 's a dhà</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>forty-two</i>
<i>dà fhichead 's a trì</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>forty-three</i>
.....					
<i>trì fichead</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>sixty</i>
<i>trì fichead 's a h-aon</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>sixty-one</i>
.....					
<i>ceithir fichead</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>eighty</i>
.....					
<i>ceud</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>a hundred</i>

Divisions of time, etc.

<i>mionaìd</i>	-	-	-	minute
<i>uair</i>	-	-	-	hour
<i>là</i>	-	-	-	day
<i>seachdain</i>	-	-	-	week
<i>mìos</i>	-	-	-	month
<i>ràith</i>	-	-	-	season, quarter
<i>bliadhna</i>	-	-	-	year

(b)	<i>madainn</i>	-	-	-	morning
	<i>meadhon-latha</i>	-	-	-	midday
	<i>tràth-nòin</i>	-	-	-	afternoon
	<i>feasgar</i>	-	-	-	evening
	<i>oidhche</i>	-	-	-	night
	<i>meadhon-oidhche</i>	-	-	-	midnight

(c)	<i>Di-luain</i>	-	-	-	Monday
	<i>Di-Màirt</i>	-	-	-	Tuesday
	<i>Di-ciadain</i>	-	-	-	Wednesday
	<i>Di-ar-daoin</i>	-	-	-	Thursday
	<i>Di-h-aoine</i>	-	-	-	Friday
	<i>Di-Sathurna</i>	-	-	-	Saturday
	<i>Di-Dòmhnaich; Là na Sàbaid</i>	-	-	-	Sunday

(d)	<i>Earrach</i>	-	-	-	Spring
	<i>Samhradh</i>	-	-	-	Summer
	<i>Foghar</i>	-	-	-	Autumn
	<i>Geamhradh</i>	-	-	-	Winter

Money

Gaelic				English
<i>airgead</i>	-	-	-	silver; money
<i>òr</i>	-	-	-	gold
<i>sgillinn</i>	-	-	-	penny
<i>dà sgillinn</i>	-	-	-	two pence
<i>trì sgillinn</i>	-	-	-	three pence
.....				
<i>deich sgillinn</i>	-	-	-	ten pence
<i>aon sgillinn deug</i>	-	-	-	eleven pence
<i>dà sgillinn dheug</i>	-	-	-	twelve pence
<i>trì sgillinn deug</i>	-	-	-	thirteen pence
.....				
<i>fichead sgillinn</i>	-	-	-	twenty pence
<i>sgillinn air fhichead</i>	-	-	-	twenty-one pence
<i>dà sgillinn air fhichead</i>	-	-	-	twenty-two pence
.....				
<i>dà fhichead sgillinn</i>	-	-	-	forty pence
<i>dà fhichead sgillinn 's a h-aon</i>	-	-	-	forty-one pence
<i>dà fhichead sgillinn 's a dhà</i>	-	-	-	forty-two pence
.....				
<i>trì fichead sgillinn</i>	-	-	-	sixty pence
.....				
<i>ceithir fichead sgillinn</i>	-	-	-	eighty pence
<i>nota; punnd Sasunnach</i>	-	-	-	one pound
<i>dà nota</i>	-	-	-	£2
<i>trì notaichean</i>	-	-	-	£3
.....				
<i>aon nota deug</i>	-	-	-	£11
.....				
<i>fichead nota</i>	-	-	-	£20

Phrases, etc.: Counting, Time, Money

<i>Bha dà leabhar aig a' ghille bheag</i>	The little boy had two books
<i>Tha seachd là ann an seachdain</i>	There are seven days in a week
<i>Tha dà-mhìos-dheug ann am bliadhna</i>	There are twelve months in a year
<i>Co mheud mìos a tha ann am bliadhna?</i>	How many months are there in a year?
<i>Dhà-dheug</i>	Twelve
<i>Tha an tràna a' tighinn aig fichead mionaide gu ochd</i>	The train is coming at twenty minutes to eight
<i>Bithidh òrain Ghàidhlig air an telebhisean aig leth-uair an déidh sia</i>	There will be Gaelic songs on TV at half-past six
<i>Bha a' chaileag a' coiseachd air an rathad anns a' mhadainn</i>	The girl was walking on the road in the morning
<i>Tha an sgoil a' dùnadh aig ceithir uairean</i>	The school closes at four o'clock
<i>Tha trì notaichean agus dà sgillinn dheug 'na mo sporan</i>	There is £3.12 in my purse
<i>Thoir deich notaichean do'n duine a cheannaich na leabhraichean sin</i>	Give £10 to the man who bought these books
<i>Dh'fhalbh an nighean dhachaigh oidhche Di-luain aig deich uairean</i>	The girl went home at 10 o'clock on Monday night

Food and Drink ✓

Gaelic			English
<i>biadh</i>	-	-	food
<i>aran</i>	-	-	bread
<i>pios arain</i>	-	-	a piece of bread
<i>aran flùir</i>	-	-	scones
<i>aran coirc</i>	-	-	oatcakes
<i>aran eòrna</i>	-	-	barley bread
<i>aran milis</i>	-	-	tea-bread; cakes
<i>bonnach</i>	-	-	bannock
<i>(bonnach flùir, eòrna, etc.)</i>			
<i>bainne</i>	-	-	milk
<i>blàthach</i>	-	-	buttermilk
<i>bàrr, uachdar, cé</i>	-	-	cream
<i>càis</i>	-	-	cheese
<i>geir</i>	-	-	suet, fat
<i>tea</i>	-	-	tea
<i>cofaidh</i>	-	-	coffee
<i>uisge-beatha</i>	-	-	whisky
<i>fìon</i>	-	-	wine
<i>leann</i>	-	-	beer
<i>siùcair</i>	-	-	sugar
<i>salann, salainn</i>	-	-	salt
<i>piobar/peabar</i>	-	-	pepper
<i>feòil</i>	-	-	meat
<i>feòil-caorach</i>	-	-	mutton
<i>mairt-fheòil</i>	-	-	beef
<i>muic-fheòil</i>	-	-	pork
<i>stéic</i>	-	-	steak
<i>sitheann</i>	-	-	game (in general), venison
<i>cearc</i>	-	-	hen, "chicken"
<i>ugh</i>	-	-	egg
<i>iasg</i>	-	-	fish
<i>isbean</i>	-	-	sausage
<i>marag</i>	-	-	suet pudding

<i>marag dhubh</i>	-	-	black pudding
<i>marag gheal</i>	-	-	white pudding
<i>ceann-caorach</i>	-	-	sheep's head
<i>adha</i>	-	-	liver
<i>min</i>	-	-	flour, meal
<i>min-choirc</i>	-	-	oatmeal
<i>uinnean</i>	-	-	onion
<i>buntàta</i>	-	-	potato
<i>snèip</i>	-	-	turnip
<i>curran</i>	-	-	carrot
<i>càl</i>	-	-	cabbage
<i>peasair</i>	-	-	peas
<i>pònair</i>	-	-	beans
<i>an t-acras</i>	-	-	hunger
<i>am padhadh</i>	-	-	thirst. Also <i>tart</i> (rather stronger)
<i>Tha an t-acras orm</i>	-	-	I am hungry
<i>Tha am padhadh orm</i>	-	-	I am thirsty
<i>Slàinte mhath!</i>	-	-	Good health!

Food: Ordering a Meal

Bracaist:

Bheil am biadh deiseil? : Is the food ready?
Tha : Yes *Chan eil* : No
Bheil am biadh air a' bhòrd? : Is the food/meal on the table?
Tha ar bracaist deiseil : Our breakfast is ready
Tha aran is im air a' bhòrd : There is bread and butter on the table
An gabh thu ugh? : Will you have an egg?
Cuir a-null an siùcair : Pass the sugar

Tha bainne anns ^{an} tea : There is milk in the tea/coffee
a' chofaidh

An d'fhuair thu màrmalad? : Did you get marmalade?
Tha lite/brochan ann : There is porridge
Gabhaidh mi hama is ugh : I'll have ham and egg
Bheil iasg agaibh an diugh? : Do you have fish today?
Tha an tea a' fàs fuar : The tea is getting cold
Tha sinn ag iarraidh tuilleadh cofaidh : We would like more coffee
Cha tàinig an tost fhathast : The toast hasn't come yet

Dìnnear

Gabhaidh mi sùgh/brot an toiseach : I'll have juice/soup to begin with
A bheil feòil-caorach/mairtfheòil/muicfheòil agaibh? : Do you have
mutton/beef
pork?

air a dheagh ròstadh? : Do you like your steak
An toil leibh stéic letheach? well done/medium/rare?
amh?

Is toil leinn stéic : We like steak
Gabhaidh sinn buntàta ròsda/Frangach/pronn : We'll have roast/
French-fried/
mashed potatoes

Bheil curranan/asparagas/pònair agaibh? : Do you have carrots/
asparagus/beans

Tha sinn ag iarraidh botal leann/fion : We would like a bottle of beer/
wine

Dé na mìlseanan a th'agaibh? : What sweets do you have?

Gabhaidh mise càis : I'll have cheese

Colours

Gaelic	English
<i>dath</i>	colour
<i>geal</i>	white
<i>bàn</i>	white, fair (of hair, complexion)
<i>liath</i>	grey (of hair, frost)
<i>glas</i>	grey (of a horse, of complexion)
<i>dubh</i>	black
<i>dorch</i>	dark
<i>odhar</i>	dun, yellow-ish
<i>donn</i>	brown
<i>ruadh</i>	reddish (of hair) (<i>Scots Roy</i>)
<i>buidhe</i>	yellow
<i>buidhe-ruadh</i>	reddish-fair
<i>dearg</i>	red
<i>còrcair</i>	crimson
<i>purpaidh</i>	purple
<i>uaine</i>	green
<i>gorm</i>	blue (also "green" of grass, etc.)
<i>pinc; bàn-dhearg</i>	pink

Names for Parts of the Body

Gaelic	English
<i>ceann</i>	head
<i>eanchainn</i>	brain
<i>falt</i>	hair
<i>aodann</i>	face
<i>gruaidh</i>	cheek
<i>maoil</i>	brow
<i>mala</i>	eyebrow
<i>rosg</i>	eyelid, eyelash
<i>sùil</i>	eye
<i>sròn</i>	nose
<i>beul</i>	mouth
<i>cluas</i>	ear
<i>fiacal</i>	tooth
<i>teanga</i>	tongue
<i>smiogaid</i>	chin
<i>amhach</i>	throat
<i>broilleach</i>	chest, breast
<i>cridhe</i>	heart
<i>gualainn</i>	shoulder
<i>druim</i>	back
<i>uileann</i>	elbow
<i>cnàmh</i>	bone
<i>làmh</i>	hand
<i>meadhon</i>	waist
<i>stamag; broinn</i>	stomach
<i>sliaaid</i>	thigh
<i>màs</i>	bottom
<i>glùn</i>	knee
<i>calpa</i>	calf
<i>aobrann</i>	ankle
<i>cas</i>	foot, leg
<i>òrdag</i>	toe (also "thumb")
<i>òrdag mhór</i>	big toe
<i>dòrn</i>	fist
<i>caol an dùirn</i>	wrist
<i>bois</i>	palm of hand

<i>iongna</i>	-	-	-	-	nail
<i>meur</i>	-	-	-	-	finger

Articles of Dress

Gaelic	English
<i>bonaid</i>	bonnet
<i>ad</i>	hat
<i>léine</i>	shirt
<i>seacaid</i>	jacket
<i>peitean</i>	waistcoat
<i>briogais</i>	trousers
<i>còta</i>	coat
<i>còta bàn</i>	petticoat, slip
<i>féile, féileadh, éileadh</i>	kilt
<i>sporan</i>	sporrán, purse
<i>crios</i>	belt
<i>muinchill, muilchinn</i>	sleeve
<i>stocainn</i>	stocking, sock
<i>miotag, làmhainn</i>	glove
<i>bròg</i>	shoe, boot
<i>cuaran</i>	sandal
<i>iall</i>	thong
<i>barr-iall</i>	lace (for shoes, etc.)
<i>geansaidh</i>	jersey
<i>froca, dreasa</i>	frock, dress
<i>sgiorta</i>	skirt
<i>drathais</i>	drawers, pants

Phrases, etc.: Parts of the body, Dress, Colours

- Ceann mòr air duine glic* : A wise man has a large head. (There is also a proverb which states the opposite view)
- Dé an dath a tha air falt na caileig?* : What is the colour of the girl's hair?
- Tha falt bàn air a' ghille òg* : The young boy has fair hair
- Tha sùilean gorma aig a' bhoireannach* : The woman's eyes are blue
- Bha sròn mhór air an duine sin* : That man had a large nose
- Tha mo dhruim fuar* : My back is cold
- Cuir ort do sheacaid* : Put on your jacket
- Càite bheil mo stocainnean dubha* : Where are my black socks?
- Tha léine uaine air a' ghille* : The boy is wearing a green shirt
- Tha an sgiorta ghorm sin glé ghoirid* : That blue skirt is very short
- Bha miotagan air mo làmhan* : I was wearing gloves (lit. There were gloves on my hands)
- Tha iomadh dath anns an fhéileadh* : There are many colours in the kilt
- Dùin do bhrògan* : Tie your shoes
- Dùin do bheul* : Close your mouth
- Dùin do chab* : Shut your gob
- Suidh air do mhàs* : Sit on your bottom
- Thug e sùil-dhubh dhomh* : He gave me a black eye
- Cùm do theanga* : Be quiet (lit. Keep your tongue)
- Thoir dhomh do làmh* : Give me your hand (Shake hands)
- Thuirt e sin rium ann an clàr an aodainn* : He told me that to my face
- Air do chasan* : Stand up (lit. On your feet)
- Tha cóig òrdagan air mo chois* : There are five toes on my foot
- Bha sgillinn aige 'na dhòrn* : He had a penny in his fist
- Cuiridh mi airgead 'na do bhois* : I'll put silver in your palm

The Weather

Gaelic	English
<i>aimsir</i>	weather; season
<i>sìde</i>	weather

Good weather adjectives and their opposites:

<i>math/dona</i>	good/bad
<i>blàth/fuar</i>	warm/cold
<i>teth</i>	hot
<i>tioram/fliuch</i>	dry/wet
<i>ciùin/fiadhaich</i>	calm/wild
<i>fèathail/stoirmeil</i>	calm/stormy
<i>àluinn/grànda</i>	lovely/dirty
<i>gaoth</i>	wind
<i>uisge</i>	rain
<i>sneachd</i>	snow
<i>reothadh</i>	frost
<i>tàirneanach</i>	thunder
<i>dealanach</i>	lightning
<i>clachan-meallain</i>	hailstones
<i>liath-reothadh</i>	hoar-frost
<i>deigh</i>	ice
<i>cabhadh</i>	sleet
<i>aiteamh</i>	thaw
<i>fras</i>	shower
<i>tuil</i>	downpour
<i>turadh</i>	dry spell after rain; cessation of rain

Weather Phrases and Sentences

<i>Tha sìde bhlàth ann an diugh</i>	: The weather is warm today
<i>Bha i blàth an dé</i>	: It was warm yesterday
<i>Bha sìde dhona ann a' bhòn-dé</i>	: The weather was bad the day before yesterday
<i>Bheil e tioram a-muigh?</i>	: Is it dry outside?
<i>Tha an t-uisge ann</i>	: It is wet
<i>Tha fras ann</i>	: There is a shower
<i>Rinn i fras</i>	: There has been a shower (lit. it made a shower)
<i>Tha sneachd ann</i>	: There is snow
<i>Tha i a' cur an t-sneachda</i>	: It is snowing
<i>Rinn i aiteamh</i>	: It has thawed
<i>Chuala mi an tàirneanach</i>	: I heard the thunder
<i>Chunnaic mi an dealanach</i>	: I saw the lightning
<i>Tha an t-adhar dorch</i>	: The sky is dark
<i>Tha coltas uisge oirre</i>	: It looks like rain (lit. there is an appearance of water on it)
<i>Thòisich fras aig cóig uairean feasgar</i>	: A shower began at 5 p.m.
<i>Bha tuil ann aig sia uairean</i>	: There was a downpour at 6
<i>Rinn i turadh aig ochd uairean</i>	: It dried up at 8
<i>An dùil am bi uisge ann a-màireach?</i>	: Do you think it will rain tomorrow?
<i>Nach ann ann tha an droch shìde!</i>	: What bad weather it is! (lit. Isn't it in it there is the bad weather)
<i>Dh'fhàs e soilleir</i>	: It has grown bright
<i>Bidh feum agad air brògan móra</i>	: You will need heavy boots
<i>Bha mi bog fliuch</i>	: I was quite soaked
<i>Is math gun tàinig aiteamh</i>	: It is good that the thaw has begun
<i>Tha a' ghaoth gu math làidir</i>	: The wind is pretty strong

Greetings, Partings, etc.

Gaelic	English
<i>Tha là math ann</i> - - -	Good day
<i>Tha madainn bhrèagha ann</i> -	Lovely morning
<i>Tha i fuar</i> - - -	It's cold
<i>Là math dhuibh</i> - - -	Good day (to you)
<i>Feasgar math dhuibh</i> - - -	Good afternoon (to you)
<i>Là math leibh</i> - - -	Good day (with you)—used in leave-taking
<i>Oidhche mhath leibh</i> - -	Good night (with you)—used in leave-taking
<i>Ciamar a tha thu?</i> - -	How are you?
<i>Ciamar a tha sibh?</i> - -	How are you? (used to older people —the less familiar form of address)
<i>Tha gu math. Ciamar a tha sibh fhéin?</i>	Well. How are you?
<i>Slàn leibh</i> - - -	Good-bye
<i>Beannachd leibh</i> - - -	Good-bye (lit. blessing with you)
<i>Soraidh leibh</i> - - -	Farewell

Points of Time in the Year

Gaelic	English
<i>Am Faoilleach</i> - - -	January
<i>An Gearran</i> - - -	February
<i>Am Màrt</i> - - -	March
<i>An Giblean</i> - - -	April
<i>An Cèitean/A' Mhàigh</i> - -	May
<i>An t-Ogmhios</i> - - -	June
<i>An t-Iuchar</i> - - -	July
<i>Lùnasdal</i> - - -	August
<i>An t-Sultuine</i> - - -	September
<i>An Dàmhair</i> - - -	October
<i>An t-Samhainn</i> - - -	November
<i>An Dùbhlachd</i> - - -	December

(But the terms used in English are very frequently heard in Gaelic also)

<i>A' Challuinn</i> - - -	Hogmanay
<i>A' Bhliadhna Ur</i> - - -	New Year
<i>A' Chàisg</i> - - -	Easter
<i>Carghas</i> - - -	Lent
<i>Bealltainn</i> - - -	1st May
<i>Oidhche Shamhna</i> - - -	Hallowe'en
<i>Nollaig</i> - - -	Christmas

Relationships

Gaelic	English
<i>athair</i>	father
<i>màthair</i>	mother
<i>piuthar</i>	sister
<i>bràthair</i>	brother
<i>seanair</i>	grandfather
<i>seanmhair</i>	grandmother
<i>mac</i>	son
<i>nighean</i>	daughter
<i>ogha</i>	grandchild
<i>iar-ogha</i>	great-grandchild
<i>bràthair-athar</i>	uncle (on father's side)
<i>bràthair-màthar</i>	uncle (on mother's side)
<i>piuthar-athar</i>	aunt (on father's side)
<i>mac/nighean piuthar-màthar</i>	son/daughter of aunt (mother's side), i.e., first cousin
<i>fear</i>	man; husband
<i>bean</i>	woman; wife
<i>céile</i>	spouse (of either sex)
<i>màthair-céile</i>	mother-in-law
<i>bràthair-céile</i>	brother-in-law
<i>piuthar-céile</i>	sister-in-law
<i>muime</i>	step-mother
<i>cliamhainn</i>	son-in-law

House: Furniture

Gaelic	English
<i>tigh</i>	house
<i>tigh dubh</i>	black house, i.e., thatched house
<i>tigh-òsda</i>	hotel
<i>balla</i>	wall
<i>mullach</i>	roof; ceiling
<i>dorus</i>	door
<i>glag an doruis</i>	door-bell
<i>uinneag</i>	window
<i>cùrtairean</i>	curtains
<i>seòmar</i>	room
<i>seòmar-cadail</i>	bedroom
<i>seòmar-ionnlaid</i>	bathroom
<i>seòmar-suidhe</i>	sitting-room
<i>rùm</i>	room
<i>cidsin</i>	kitchen
<i>àite-teine</i>	fireplace
<i>similear</i>	chimney
<i>staidhre</i>	stairs
<i>làr, ùrlar</i>	floor
<i>brat-ùrlair</i>	carpet
<i>lobhta</i>	floor; storey
<i>bòrd</i>	table
<i>cathair</i>	chair
<i>cathair-ghàirdeanach</i>	arm-chair
<i>being</i>	bench
<i>preas</i>	press; cupboard
<i>sgeilp leabhraichean</i>	bookshelf
<i>leabaidh</i>	bed
<i>ciste-dhràraichean</i>	chest-of-drawers
<i>sgàthan</i>	mirror

In and about the House

- Tha tigh mòr geal aig m'athair* : My father has a big white house
Tha sglèat air mullach an tìghe : The roof of the house is slated
Tha ballachan geala air tigh Dhòmhnail : Donald's house has white walls
Tha na h-uinneagan fosgailte : The windows are open
Tha Màiri, mo phiuthar, 'na suidhe aig an uinneig : Mary my sister is sitting at the window
Bha Iain bràthair m'athar 'na sheasamh aig an doras : My Uncle John was standing at the door
Tha àite-teine ùr anns a' chidsin : There's a new fireplace in the kitchen
Bha an dà phreas làn de bhiadh : The two cupboards were full of food
A bheil am biadh air a' bhòrd? : Is the meal on the table?
Tha an cat 'na laighe ri taobh na cathrach : The cat is lying beside the chair
Tha mo mhàthair anns an leabaich : My mother is in bed
Falbh suas a staidhre : Go upstairs
Dean suidhe aig a' bhòrd : Sit down (lit. make sitting at the table)
Cluinn glag an doruis : Listen, the door-bell (is ringing)
Seall riut fhéin anns an sgàthan : Look at yourself in the mirror

Shopping

Gaelic	English
<i>bùth</i>	shop
<i>bùth a' bhèiceir</i>	baker's shop
<i>bùth an éisg</i>	fish-shop
<i>bùth a' bhùidseir</i>	butcher's shop
<i>bùth a' chemist</i>	chemist's shop
<i>bùth-leabhraichean</i>	bookshop
<i>banca</i>	bank
<i>oifis a' phuist</i>	post-office
<i>litir</i>	letter
<i>parsal</i>	parcel
<i>stampa</i>	stamp
<i>bùth-aodaich</i>	dress-shop
<i>glasraich</i>	vegetables
<i>measan</i>	fruit
<i>deoch</i>	liquor
<i>ceannaich</i>	buy
<i>a' ceannach</i>	buying
<i>reic</i>	sell
<i>a' reic</i>	selling
<i>sanas-reic</i>	advertisement
<i>pris</i>	price
<i>daor</i>	dear
<i>saor</i>	cheap

Shopping Phrases

- Tha mi a' dol do'n/dhan bhùth* : I am going to the shop
- Chaidh Màiri a-steach do bhùth an éisg* : Mary went into the fish-shop
- Cheannaich i punnd adagan (sgoilte)* : She bought a pound of (filleted) haddock
- Bha mi ann am bùth a' bhùidseir an dé* : I was in the butcher's yesterday
- Feumaidh mi dhol innte an diugh a rithist* : I must go (into it) today again
- Tha mi ag iarraidh trì puinnnd de mhairt-fheòil* : I want 3 lbs. of beef
son ròstadh for roasting
- A bheil isbeanan agaibh?* : Do you have sausages?
- Bheil iad math?* : Are they good?
- Feumaidh mi buntàta a cheannach* : I must buy potatoes
- Thoir dhomh lofa gheal agus canastair de dh'aran-coirc* : Give me a
white loaf
and a tin of
oatcakes
- Tha an t-aran-milis sin a' coimhead glé mhath* : These cakes look very
nice
- Tha mi ag iarraidh bocsa fudair. A bheil Coty agaibh?* : I want a box of
powder. Do you
stock Coty?
- Tha siabunn a dhìth orm* : I want some soap
- Tha mi a' cur air falbh parsal an seo gu Canada* : I'm sending a parcel
here to Canada
- Thoir dhomh leabhar stampaichean fiach leth-cheud sgillinn* : Give me a
50p stamp-
book
- Trì ùbhlán is punnd bananas* : Three apples and a pound of bananas
(please)
- A bheil sibh a' reic Gairm?* : Do you sell Gairm?

Topography

Gaelic					English
<i>cnoc</i>	-	-	-	-	hill
<i>beinn</i>	-	-	-	-	mountain
<i>gleann</i>	-	-	-	-	glen
<i>mòinteach</i>	-	-	-	-	moor
<i>tràigh</i>	-	-	-	-	shore (sandy)
<i>cladach</i>	-	-	-	-	shore (rocky)
<i>creag</i>	-	-	-	-	rock; cliff
<i>muir</i>	-	-	-	-	sea
<i>bàgh</i>	-	-	-	-	bay
<i>caladh</i>	-	-	-	-	harbour
<i>loch</i>	-	-	-	-	loch
<i>abhainn</i>	-	-	-	-	river
<i>allt</i>	-	-	-	-	burn, stream
<i>coille</i>	-	-	-	-	wood, forest
<i>craobh</i>	-	-	-	-	tree
<i>pàirc</i>	-	-	-	-	park
<i>rathad</i>	-	-	-	-	road
<i>frith-rathad</i>	-	-	-	-	path, track
<i>drochaid</i>	-	-	-	-	bridge
<i>dám</i>	-	-	-	-	dam
<i>caisteal</i>	-	-	-	-	castle
<i>tursachan</i>	-	-	-	-	standing stones

Animals; Birds; Fishes

	Gaelic		English
A.	<i>ainmhidh</i>	- - -	animal
	<i>cù</i>	- - -	dog
	<i>cat</i>	- - -	cat
	<i>bó</i>	- - -	cow
	<i>tarbh</i>	- - -	bull
	<i>caora</i>	- - -	sheep
	<i>gobhar</i>	- - -	goat
	<i>each</i>	- - -	horse
	<i>fiadh</i>	- - -	deer
	<i>damh</i>	- - -	stag
B.	<i>eun</i>	- - -	bird
	<i>druid</i>	- - -	starling
	<i>uiseag</i>	- - -	lark
	<i>faoileag</i>	- - -	seagull
	<i>iolaire</i>	- - -	eagle
	<i>brù-dhearg</i>	- - -	robin redbreast
	<i>lach</i>	- - -	duck
	<i>ròcais</i>	- - -	crow
C.	<i>iasg</i>	- - -	fish
	<i>adag</i>	- - -	haddock
	<i>sgadan</i>	- - -	herring
	<i>trosg</i>	- - -	cod
	<i>bradan</i>	- - -	salmon
	<i>breac</i>	- - -	trout

Games; Pastimes; Entertainment

	Gaelic		English
	<i>ag iasgach</i>	- - -	fishing
	<i>slat</i>	- - -	rod
	<i>driamlach</i>	- - -	line
	<i>cuileag</i>	- - -	fly
	<i>boiteag</i>	- - -	worm
	<i>a' sealg</i>	- - -	hunting
	<i>gunna</i>	- - -	gun
	<i>peilear</i>	- - -	bullet
	<i>cù</i>	- - -	dog
	<i>ag eunachd</i>	- - -	fowling
	<i>ag iomain</i>	- - -	playing shinty
	<i>a' cluich ball-coise</i>	- - -	playing football
	<i>a' cluich air golf</i>	- - -	playing golf
	<i>a' cluich air tàileasg</i>	- - -	playing chess
	<i>a' cluich air billean</i>	- - -	playing billiards
	<i>a' cluich air na cairtean</i>	- - -	playing cards
	<i>céilidh</i>	- - -	ceilidh
	<i>cuirm-chiùil</i>	- - -	concert
	<i>tigh-cluiche</i>	- - -	theatre
	<i>actair</i>	- - -	actor
	<i>ban-actair</i>	- - -	actress
	<i>film</i>	- - -	film
	<i>réidio</i>	- - -	radio
	<i>telebhisean</i>	- - -	television
	<i>clàr</i>	- - -	record, disc
	<i>seinneadair</i>	- - -	singer (male)
	<i>ban-sheinneadair</i>	- - -	singer (female)
	<i>ceòl</i>	- - -	music
	<i>orcastra</i>	- - -	orchestra

Phrases, etc.

- Tha beanntan móra air a' Ghaidhealtachd* : There are high hills in the Highlands
- Tha sinn a' dol a shealg an fhéidh* : We are going to hunt the deer
- Bha Iain a-muigh ag eunachd leis a' ghunna* : John was out fowling with the gun
- Tha bric gu leòr anns an loch* : There are plenty of trout in the loch
- Chunnaic mi dà each anns a' ghleann an dé* : I saw two horses in the glen yesterday
- Tha an iolair air sgéith os cionn na beinne* : The eagle is on the wing above the mountain
- Bha iasg a' snàmh anns an abhainn* : Fish were swimming in the river
- Tha na gillean ag iomain air an tràigh* : The boys are playing shinty on the sandy shore
- Tha tigh-cluiche anns a' bhaile, agus tha an dealbh-chluich a' tòiseachadh aig leth-uair an déidh seachd* : There is a theatre in the town, and the play begins at 7.30
- Bheil thu dol a chluich air golf an dràsda?* : Are you going to play golf now?
- Dé tha air an telebhisean a-nochd?* : What's on television tonight?
- Bha mi ag éisdeachd ri clàr Gàidhlig a-raoir* : I was listening to a Gaelic record last night
- Có a' bhan-sheinneadair as fheàrr leat?* : Which woman singer do you prefer?

Place Names

Gaelic		English
I. Scottish:		
<i>Alba</i>	- -	Scotland
<i>A' Ghaidhealtachd</i>	- -	The Highlands
<i>A' Ghalltachd</i>	- -	The Lowlands
<i>Na h-Eileanan</i>	- -	The Islands
<i>Innse Gall</i>	- -	The Hebrides
<i>Glaschu</i>	- -	Glasgow
<i>Dun-Eideann</i>	- -	Edinburgh
<i>Obar-Dheadhain</i>	- -	Aberdeen
<i>Dun-dèagh</i>	- -	Dundee
<i>An Eaglais Bhreac</i>	- -	Falkirk
<i>Struighlea</i>	- -	Stirling
<i>Inbhir-Nis</i>	- -	Inverness
<i>Steòrnabhagh</i>	- -	Stornoway
<i>An t-Oban</i>	- -	Oban
<i>An Gearasdan</i>	- -	Fort William
<i>Port-rìgh</i>	- -	Portree
<i>Tobar-Mhoire</i>	- -	Tobermory
<i>Peairt</i>	- -	Perth
<i>Cill-Rìmhinn</i>	- -	St. Andrews
<i>Obar-Bhrothaig</i>	- -	Arbroath

II. Other:

<i>Eirinn</i>	- - -	Ireland
<i>A' Chuimrigh</i>	- - -	Wales
<i>Sasuinn</i>	- - -	England
<i>Lochlainn</i>	- - -	Scandinavia
<i>An Fhraing</i>	- - -	France
<i>A' Ghearmailt</i>	- - -	Germany
<i>An Eadailt</i>	- - -	Italy
<i>An Ruis</i>	- - -	Russia
<i>Canada</i>	- - -	Canada
<i>Ameireaga</i>	- - -	America

Personal Names (Christian)

Boys		Girls	
<i>Ailean</i>	Allan	<i>Anna</i>	Ann, Annie
<i>Alasdair</i>	Alexander	<i>Beathag</i>	Sophia, Rebecca
<i>Anndra</i>	Andrew	<i>Cairistiona</i>	Christina
<i>Aonghas</i>	Angus	<i>Ealasaid</i>	Elizabeth
<i>Calum</i>	Malcolm, Callum	<i>Fionnghal</i>	Flora
<i>Coinneach</i>	Kenneth	<i>Mairead</i>	Margaret
<i>Dàibhidh</i>	David	<i>Màiri</i>	Mary
<i>Diarmad</i>	Dermid	<i>Marsaili</i>	Marjory
<i>Dòmhnall</i>	Donald	<i>Mòr, Mòrag</i>	Marion, Sarah
<i>Donnchadh</i>	Duncan	<i>Muireall</i>	Muriel
<i>Dùbhghlas</i>	Douglas	<i>Oighrig</i>	Euphemia, Effie
<i>Dùghall</i>	Dugald	<i>Raonaid</i>	Rachel
<i>Eachann</i>	Hector	<i>Sèdraid</i>	Janet, Jessie
<i>Eòghann</i>	Ewan, Ewen, Hugh	<i>Sìlis</i>	Julia, Cicely
<i>Fearchar</i>	Farquhar	<i>Sìne</i>	Jane, Jean
<i>Fionnlagh</i>	Finlay	<i>Sorcha</i>	Clara
<i>Gilleasbuig</i>	Archie		
<i>Iain</i>	John		
<i>Maolmoire</i>	Myles		
<i>Niall</i>	Neil		
<i>Pàdraig</i>	Peter, Patrick		
<i>Raghnall</i>	Ranald		
<i>Raibeart</i>	Robert		
<i>Ruairidh</i>	Roderick		
<i>Seumas</i>	James		
<i>Somhairle</i>	Somerled, Samuel		
<i>Teàrlach</i>	Charles		
<i>Tormod</i>	Norman		
<i>Torcall</i>	Torquil -?		
<i>Uilleam</i>	William		
<i>Uisdean</i>	Hugh		

Personal Names (Surnames)

Gaelic				English
<i>Bochanan</i>	-	-	-	Buchanan
<i>Caimbeul</i>	-	-	-	Campbell
<i>Camshron</i>	-	-	-	Cameron
<i>Friseal</i>	-	-	-	Fraser
<i>Grannnda</i>	-	-	-	Grant
<i>Mac a' Ghobhainn</i>	-	-	-	Smith
<i>Mac a' Phearsain</i>	-	-	-	Macpherson
<i>Mac a' Phì</i>	-	-	-	MacPhee
<i>MacAmhlaigh</i>	-	-	-	MacAulay
<i>Mac an Aba</i>	-	-	-	Macnab
<i>Mac an t-Saoir</i>	-	-	-	Macintyre
<i>Mac an Tòisich</i>	-	-	-	Macintosh
<i>MacAoidh</i>	-	-	-	Mackay
<i>MacAonghais</i>	-	-	-	Macinnes
<i>MacArtair</i>	-	-	-	MacArthur
<i>MacAsgaill</i>	-	-	-	MacAskill
<i>MacCalmain</i>	-	-	-	Murchison
<i>MacCoinnich</i>	-	-	-	Mackenzie
<i>MacDhòmhnail</i>	-	-	-	MacDonald
<i>MacDhonnchaidh</i>	-	-	-	Robertson
<i>MacFhearghuis</i>	-	-	-	Ferguson
<i>MacFhionghuin</i>	-	-	-	Mackinnon
<i>MacGhillEathain</i>	-	-	-	Maclean
<i>MacGillÌosa</i>	-	-	-	Gillies
<i>MacGilleMhoire</i>	-	-	-	Morrison
<i>MacGriogair</i>	-	-	-	MacGregor
<i>MacIomhair</i>	-	-	-	Maciver
<i>MacLeòid</i>	-	-	-	MacLeod
<i>MacMhaoilein</i>	-	-	-	Macmillan
<i>MacMhathain</i>	-	-	-	Matheson
<i>MacNeacail</i>	-	-	-	Nicolson
<i>MacNèill</i>	-	-	-	NacNeill

Gaelic			English
<i>MacPhàil</i>	-	-	MacPhail
<i>MacRath</i>	-	-	Macrae
<i>MacSuain</i>	-	-	MacSween
<i>MacThòmais</i>	-	-	Thomson
<i>Ros, Rosach</i>	-	-	Ross
<i>Rothach</i>	-	-	Munro
<i>Stiùbhart</i>	-	-	Stewart
<i>Urchardan</i>	-	-	Urquhart

Trades, occupations, professions

Gaelic			English
<i>bean-tighe</i>	-	-	housewife
<i>croitear</i>	-	-	crofter
<i>tuathanach</i>	-	-	farmer
<i>iasgair</i>	-	-	fisherman
<i>sealgair</i>	-	-	hunter
<i>geamair</i>	-	-	gamekeeper
<i>maraidhe</i>	-	-	seaman, sailor
<i>saor</i>	-	-	joiner
<i>gobha</i>	-	-	blacksmith
<i>greusaiche</i>	-	-	shoemaker
<i>innleadair</i>	-	-	engineer
<i>fear-teagaisg</i>	-	-	teacher (male)
<i>bean-teagaisg</i>	-	-	teacher (female)
<i>banaltrum</i>	-	-	nurse
<i>fear-lagha</i>	-	-	lawyer
<i>lighiche</i>	-	-	medical doctor
<i>dotair</i>	-	-	
<i>ceannaiche</i>	-	-	merchant
<i>gille-bùtha</i>	-	-	shop assistant (male)
<i>nighean-bùtha</i>	-	-	shop assistant (female)
<i>ban-rùnaire</i>	-	-	secretary (female)
<i>còcaire</i>	-	-	cook
<i>plumair</i>	-	-	plumber
<i>aittire</i>	-	-	architect
<i>posta</i>	-	-	postman

Reading and Writing

Gaelic			English
<i>leughadh</i>	-	-	reading
<i>sgriobhadh</i>	-	-	writing
<i>pàipear</i>	-	-	paper
<i>pàipear-naidheachd</i>	-	-	newspaper
<i>iris</i>	-	-	periodical
<i>ràitheachan</i>	-	-	quarterly
<i>duilleag</i>	-	-	page
<i>peann</i>	-	-	pen
<i>peansail</i>	-	-	pencil
<i>dubh</i>	-	-	ink
<i>biro</i>	-	-	biro
<i>sgèulachd</i>	-	-	story
<i>nobhail</i>	-	-	novel
<i>bàrdachd</i>	-	-	poetry
<i>dealbh-chluich</i>	-	-	play
<i>òran/amhran</i>	-	-	song
<i>aiste</i>	-	-	essay
<i>litir</i>	-	-	letter
<i>faclair</i>	-	-	dictionary
<i>sgriobhadair</i>	-	-	writer (male)
<i>ban-sgrìobhadair</i>	-	-	writer (female)
<i>clò-sgrìobhadair</i>	-	-	typewriter

A Short Selection of Scientific Terms

Gaelic			English
<i>ealdhain</i>	-	-	science
<i>obair-lann</i>	-	-	laboratory
<i>matamataic</i>	-	-	mathematics
<i>fisic</i>	-	-	physics
<i>ceimiceachd</i>	-	-	chemistry
<i>bith-eòlas</i>	-	-	biology
<i>tìr-eòlas</i>	-	-	geography
<i>gas</i>	-	-	gas
<i>dealan</i>	-	-	electricity
<i>gintinneachd</i>	-	-	genetics
<i>gine</i>	-	-	gene
<i>cealla</i>	-	-	cell
<i>vìoras</i>	-	-	virus
<i>reul-eòlas</i>	-	-	astronomy
<i>niùclasach</i>	-	-	nuclear
<i>ùir-ealdhain</i>	-	-	soil science
<i>àrsaidheachd</i>	-	-	archaeology
<i>innleadaireachd</i>	-	-	engineering
<i>miol-eòlas</i>	-	-	zoology
<i>lèigh-eòlas</i>	-	-	medicine

Phrases: Trades, Occupations, etc.

- Dé an t-ainm a th' ort?* : What's your name?
Tha Dòmhnall MacCoinnich : Donald Mackenzie
Tha Sìne NicCoinnich : Jean Mackenzie
Tha m'athair 'na chroitear, agus tha mo bhràthair 'na mharaiche, agus mo phiuthar 'na ban-rùnaire : My father is a crofter, and my brother a sailor, and my sister a secretary
Cheannaich an saor fiodh, agus rinn e uinneagan agus dorsan do'n tigh againn : The joiner bought wood, and made windows and doors for our house
Tha am fear-lagha a' cur seachad an latha fada a' leughadh agus a' sgrìobhadh : The lawyer spends the whole (lit. long) day reading and writing
Bha an greusaiche a' càradh mo bhrògan dhomh : The shoemaker was mending my shoes for me
Thàinig an dotair an dé agus mo mhàthair tinn : The doctor came yesterday, as my mother was ill
Bha na h-innleadairean trang a' cur einnsean ùr anns a' chàr agam : The engineers were busy putting a new engine in my car
Tha an ceimicear ag obair anns an obair-lann : The chemist is at work in the laboratory
Tha mòran matamataic a dhìth air duine a tha ag obair air fisic niùclasach : The nuclear physicist needs a wide knowledge of mathematics
Tha an sgrìobhaiche toilichte a bhi a' deanamh bàrdachd no sgeulachdan : The writer is happy making poetry or stories

Going on Holiday

Gaelic	English
<i>làithean-saora</i>	holidays
<i>saor-làithean</i>	
<i>trèana</i>	train
<i>càr</i>	car
<i>pleuna</i>	plane
<i>laimrig-adhair</i>	airport
<i>aerphort</i>	
<i>bàta</i>	boat
<i>bileag</i>	ticket
<i>tigh-òsda</i>	hotel
<i>a' dol mu thuath</i>	going north
<i>a' dol a-null thairis</i>	going abroad
<i>a' tilleadh dhachaidh</i>	coming back home
<i>motor-shlighe</i>	motorway
<i>cead-dol-thairis</i>	foreign passport
<i>treallaichean</i>	luggage
<i>seòmar-fuirich</i>	waiting-room

Holiday Phrases

Cuin a bhios na làithean-saora agad? : When do you get your holidays?

A' chiad dà sheachdain de'n Iuchar : The first two weeks of July

Càite bheil thu dol? : Where are you going?

Tha mi a' dol mu thuath : I am going north

Tha mo bhràthair a' dol a-null thairis : My brother is going abroad

Tha mi dol a cheannach bileag na trèana : I am going to buy my train ticket

Tha mise dol air a' phleuna : I am going by plane

Tha is mise. Chì mi aig an aerphort thu : I am too. I'll see you at the airport

Na dìochuimhnich a dhol do'n bhanc : Don't forget to go to the bank

Agus faigh do chead-dol-thairis : And get your passport

Bithidh mi air a' bhàta oidhche Di-h-aoine : I will be on the boat on Friday night

Tha mi 'n dòchas gu faigh thu bradan no dhà : I hope you get a salmon or two

Seadh, no 's dòcha fiadh : Yes, or perhaps a deer

Verses and Translations from some Gaelic Songs

(1) *Suas leis a' Ghàidhlig*

Togaibh i, togaibh i, cànan ar dùthcha,
Togaibh a-suas i gu h-inbhe ro chliùitich,
Togaibh gu daingeann i 's bithibh rith' bàidheil,
Hi ho-ro togaibh i, suas leis a' Ghàidhlig.

Si cànan na h-òige, si cànan na h-aois,
Si cànan ar sinnsrean, si cànan ar gaoil,
Ged a tha i nis aosd tha i reachdmhor is treun,
Cha do chaill i a clì 's cha do strìochd i fo bheum.

Translation

Uphold it, uphold it, the speech of our country,
Raise it up to a most honourable state,
Uphold it steadfastly and show your love for it,
Hi ho, uphold it, uphold the Gaelic.

The speech for youth and the speech for age,
Our ancestors' speech, the speech we love,
Though it is old, it is spirited, strong,
It still has its power, has not yielded to blows.

(2) *Soraidh leibh is oidhche mhath leibh*

Soraidh leibh is oidhche mhath leibh,
Oidhche mhath leibh 's beannachd leibh,
Guidheam slàint a ghnàth bhith mar ruibh,
Oidhche mhath leibh 's beannachd leibh.

Chan eil inneal ciùil a ghleusar
Dhùisgeas smuain mo chléibh gu aoidh
Mar ni duan o bheòil nan caileag,
Oidhche mhath leibh 's beannachd leibh.

Translation

Fare you well and good-night to you,
Good-night to you, blessings too,
Health, I pray, be always with you,
Good-night to you, blessings too.

No instrument of music 's tuned
That wakes to joy thoughts in my breast
As does a song from lips of lassies,
Good-night to you, and be blessed.

(3) *U-bhi, à-bhi*

U-bhi, à-bhi, ù-bhi, à-bhi,
Air do shlàint, a Mhàiri 'n doctair,
U-bhi, à-bhi, ù-bhi, à-bhi,
Siud ort fhéin, a Mhàiri.

Bidh an t-òr a' gliogadaich
Air banais rìomhach Màiri 'n doctair,
Bidh an t-òr a' gliogadaich
Air banais rìomhach Màiri.

Translation

U-bhi, à-bhi, ù-bhi, à-bhi,
Here's to Màiri, doctor's daughter,
U-bhi, à-bhi, ù-bhi, à-bhi,
Here's to you, my Màiri.

Golden sovereigns will be clinking
At the doctor's daughter's wedding,
Golden sovereigns will be clinking
At Màiri's lovely wedding.

(4) *Crodh Chailein*

Gun tugadh crodh Chailein
Dhomh bairinn' air an raon,
Gun chuman, gun bhuarach,
Gun luaircean, gun laogh.

Séisd Crodh Chailein mo chridhe,
Crodh Chailein mo ghaoil,
Gun tugadh crodh Chailein
Dhomh bairinn' air an fhraoch.

Gu bheil sac air mo chridhe,
'S tric snigh' air mo ghruaidh,
Agus smuaircean air m'aigne
Chùm an cadal seo bhuam.

Cha chaidil, cha chaidil,
Cha chaidil mi uair,
Cha chaidil mi idir
Gus an tig na bheil uam.

Translation

Colin's cattle would give me
Plenty milk in the field,
Without pail, without fetter,
With neither fetter nor calf.

Chorus Colin's cattle my dear ones,
Colin's cattle beloved,
Colin's cattle would give me,
In the heather, their milk.

My heart is weighed down,
And my cheek marked by tears,
And dejection of spirit
Has kept sleep away.

I'll not sleep, no I'll not sleep,
I'll not sleep an hour,
I will not sleep at all now
Till the missing one comes.

(5) *Fear a' Bhàta*

'S tric mi sealltainn o'n chnoc as àirde
Dh'fheuch am faic mi fear a' bhàta,
An tig thu 'n diugh no an tig thu màireach,
'S mur tig thu idir, gur truagh a tà mi.

Séisd Fhir a' bhàta 's na hó-ro éile,
Fhir a' bhàta 's na hó-ro éile,
Fhir a' bhàta 's na hó-ro éile,
Mo shoraidh slàn leat gach àit' an téid thu.

Tha mo chridhe-sa briste, brùite,
'S tric na deòirean a' ruith o m' shùilean,
An tig thu nochd, no 'm bi mo dhùil riut,
No 'n dùin mi 'n dorus le osna thùrsaich.

Gheall mo leannan dhomh gùn dhe'n t-sioda,
Gheall e sin agus breacan riomhach,
Fàinn' òir anns am faicinn iomhaigh,
Ach 's eagal leamsa gun dèan e dì-chuimhn'.

Thug mi gaol duit 's chan fhaod mi àicheadh,
Cha ghaol bliadhna 's cha ghaoil ràithe,
Ach gaol a thòisich nuair bha mi 'm phàisde
'S nach searg a chaoidh gus an claidh am bàs mi.

Free Translation (by Lachlan Macbean)

I climb the mountains and scan the ocean,
For thee, my boatman, with fond devotion,
When shall I see thee? today? tomorrow?
Oh, do not leave me in lonely sorrow.

Chorus O my boatman, na hó-ro éile,
O my boatman, na hó-ro éile,
O my boatman, na hó-ro éile,
Happy be thou where'er thou sailest.

Broken-hearted I droop and languish,
And frequent tears show my bosom's anguish,
Shall I expect thee tonight to cheer me,
Or close the door, sighing sad and weary?

My lover promised to bring his lady
A silken gown and a tartan plaidie,
A ring of gold which would show his semblance,
But, ah! I fear me for his remembrance.

I may not hide it — my heart's devotion
Is not a season's brief emotion;
Thy love in childhood began to seize me,
And ne'er shall fade until death release me.

Continuous Narration

The passages of Continuous Narration, and the complete Vocabulary for these, are written in the revised Gaelic spelling which has newly been recommended (1979) by a specially constituted committee of the Examinations Board. The revised spelling uses only one accent (the grave) to mark vowel length, makes less use of apostrophes, and more use of the hyphen to join closely bound words or elements, e.g. *a-null*, *a-rithist*. Among other small changes, it uses *a* rather than *u* for the obscure vowel, thus *comann* rather than *comunn*.

Each passage is loosely based on named sections of the Handbook, but expands the vocabulary of these sections and introduces new idiom. Consult the Vocabulary for any unfamiliar words: in fact, all the words in the passages are included in the Vocabulary. Remember in looking up the Vocabulary that you have usually to disregard the aspiration (-h) at the beginning of a word, e.g. for *dhùisg*, the past tense, consult *dùisg*; for *bhrèagh* (the feminine adjective) consult *brèagh*.

1

(See pages 12 and 13)

Dhùisg mi aig fichead mionaid gu ochd. Bha madainn bhrèagh ann. Chuimhnich mi gur h-e Disathairne a bh'ann, agus gun robh mi an dùil dol air an trèana a-null a Ghlaschu. Cheannaich mi bileag nuair ràinig mi an stèisean. Chosg i dà nota. Bha mi uair-a-thìde anns an trèana, agus ràinig mi Glaschu aig deich mionaidean an dèidh deich. Bha là sona agam an sin, agus thill mi dhachaigh aig ceithir uairean.

2

(See pages 15-17)

Nuair thill mi dhachaigh á Glaschu, thòisich mi a' dèanamh mo dhinneir. Bha mi air stèic a cheannach anns a' bhaile, agus an dèidh dhomh am buntàta a rùsgadh, chuir mi anns a' phana iad, agus thòisich mi a' ròstadh na stèic. Chuir mi rud beag piobair agus salainn oirre an toiseach, agus gheàrr mi uinnean na phiosan is chuir mi sin air a' phana cuideachd. Bha aran coirc agam, agus im is càis, agus rinn mi poit de chofaidh. Nuair a bha an dinnear deiseil, shuidh mi aig a' bhòrd, agus chòrd e rium fìor mhath, ged nach robh brot no mìlsean agam. Cha robh feum agam air tuilleadh.

3

(See pages 18-21)

Nuair a dh'èirich Màiri bheag thuir a màthair rithe gum feumadh iad a dhol don bhùth-aodaich a cheannach aodach samhraidh.

"Aodach-samhraidh dhòmhsa?" dh'fhaighnich Màiri.

"Dhutsa", thuir a màthair, "agus is dòcha do Mhamaidh cuideachd."

"Tha mise ag iarraidh aodach brèagh le dathan ann," thuir Màiri, "buidhe is uaine is gorm is pinc; chan eil mi ag iarraidh aodach dorch lachdann idir."

Thug a màthair sùil oirre, is chuir i an uair sin a làmh air a ceann: "Socair ort," ars ise. "Cha do ràinig sinn a' bhùth fhathast. Cùm do theanga na do phluic greiseag fhathast. Agus gabh do bhracaist. 'S fheàrrde do stamag grèim bidhe bhith innte mus fhalbh sinn."

Ach bha eanchainn Màiri air bhoil, is cha robh fois air cas no làmh, 's i smaoineachadh air dreasachan pinc is stocainnean purpaidh is còta gorm is cuarain dhonna is bonaid le riobanan còrcair ann.

Ach bha i fada ro chiallach son smaoineachadh gun tigeadh gach dath dhiubh sin a-rèir a chèile air an aon là samhraidh.

4

(See pages 22-26)

Aig deireadh an Og-mhìos chaidh Calum agus a bhràthair Tormod is a phiuthar Seònaid, còmhla ri an athair 's am màthair gu taigh an seanar 's an seanmhar. Bha an t-side blàth agus tioram, is an t-adhar soilleir gorm nuair a thog iad orra anns a' chàr, agus a-rèir coltais 'se là àlainn samhraidh a bha gu bhith ann.

Chuimhnich iad air an turas mu dheireadh a chaidh iad gu taigh an seanar, aig àm na Bliadhn' Uire, nuair a bha an Dùbhlachd a' tighinn gu ceann le uisge 's le clachan-meallain, is bha iad toilichte leis an aimsir seo a bh'aca.

Bha mòran dhaoine an còmhnaidh timcheall air taigh an seanar: bràithrean is peathraichean-màthar, agus Màiri is Anna is Uilleam is Seòras, na co-oghaichean aca fhèin.

Abair èigheachd nuair a ràinig iad. "Ciamar a tha thu?" is "Ciamar a tha thu fhèin?" "Greas ort 's thèid sinn dh'an chladach" agus "Tha uan beag dubh ann am bliadhna." "Tha trì piseagan aig Ciarag is laogh aig Sealbhag," agus mòran eile de n t-seòrsa sin gus an do leig iad oidhche mhath le chèile.

Bha barrachd tìde aig an athair 's am màthair an uair sin airson còmhraidh a dhèanamh ri Seanair 's ri Seanmhair.

(See pages 27–31)

Chaidh sinn a dh'fhuireach gu taigh ùr o chionn ghoirid. 'Sann ann am baile beag air a' Ghaidhealtachd a tha e, agus ged a tha bùithtean gu leòr ann, tha an dùthaich mun cuairt oirnn, is chì sinn cnuc is beanntan, uillt is craobhan air gach taobh dhinn. Tha loch faisg oirnn cuideachd, le tràigh bhrèagh gainmhich, ach tha sinn ag ionndrain na mara. Co-dhiù, tha a' mhòinteach is na beanntan àlainn cuideachd.

Tha dà lobhta anns an taigh, agus sglèat air a mhullach. A thuilleadh air seòmar-suidhe, seòmar-ithe is seòmar-leughaidh, tha trì seòmraichean-cadail ann, cidsin le uinneig mhòir às am faic thu an gàrradh is na beanntan, agus seòmar-ionnlaid.

Tha oifis-puist is banca anns a' bhaile bheag, agus bùithtean anns am faigh sinn gach goireas. Tha bùth-èisg ann cuideachd, agus an là mu dheireadh bha mi ann am bùth an èisg, bha bradain bhrèagha aca. Dh'èirich mo chridhe — gus am faca mi a' phrìs! Tha bùth bheag ann anns am faigh sinn glasaich is measan, agus ged a tha bùth a' bhèiceir beag tha i math. Chan fhaic thu sanasan-reic air na ballachan air an t-sràid, mar a chì thu anns a' bhaile-mhòr, agus cha mhisde duine sin.

(See pages 32–34)

Nuair a bhios duine a' fuireach ann am baile mòr chan fhaic e, anns a' chumantas, de ainmhidhean ach cat is cù is corra each. Feumaidh e dhol gu sutha airson ainmhidhean eile fhaicinn. Ach air an dùthaich an seo tha crodh is caoraich is eich timcheall oirnn, agus tha na rabaidean glè phailt. Chì thu feòrag an dràsda 's a-rithist, agus neas corra uair, agus tha fèidh anns an fhrith, is an damh donn air an ceann. Tha bric is bradain anns an h-aibhnichean cuideachd, is tha a' chearc-fhraoich pailt air na monaidhean. Mar sin, ma tha toil aig duine a bhith ri sealg no ri iasgachd, tha gu leòr mu a choinneamh.

Bha mi anns a' ghàrradh an oidhche roimhe, nuair a chaidh sgaoth dhruidean seachad. Bha an t-adhar dubh leo airson mionaid, agus thuirt mi rium fhìn: "Tha seo thugad, a Ghlaschu nan stiopall!"

Tha goilf agus ball-coise a' dol an seo cuideachd, agus sgitheadh air uisge. Agus nuair a thig an gheamhradh, ged nach eil taigh-cluiche no taigh-dhealbh faisg oirnn, tha fhios gum bi corra chèilidh ann, agus tha an telebhisean gar ruighinn nuair a chuimhniceas sinn air.

(See pages 39–44)

Ann am baile beag den t-seòrsa seo, chuireadh e iongnadh ort a liuthad dreuchd agus ceàird a tha aig daoine. Tha innleadairean ann, dotairean is luchd-teagaisg, ban-rùnairean is gillean-bùtha is fir-lagha, bancairean is plumairean. Tha saoir ann cuideachd, is aon chlachair, agus tha geamair a' fuireach faisg air a' bhaile.

Tha comann anns a' bhaile a bhios a' cur air adhart chlasaichean, agus tha coinneamh aca gach seachdain. Air an t-seachdain seo chaidh bha fear-teagaisg aca às an Oilthigh as fhaisge 's e a' bruidhinn air reul-eòlas. An ath-sheachdain bidh fear á Dun Eideann aca a' bruidhinn air na seann dùin is na togalaichean a bh'ann o chionn suas ri dà mhìle bliadhna, oir tha mòran a' gabhail suim ann an àrsaidheachd. Tha dùil againn a-rithist ri sgrìobhadair ainmeil a bheir dhuinn a bheachd air na nobhailean 's na sgeulachdan a tha gan sgrìobhadh an Albainn an diugh, agus tillidh sinn an uair sin gu eachdraidh no tìr-eòlas, agus bheir sinn cuairt, air film, gu dùthchannan fad-às.

Cuiridh sin pàirt den gheamhradh seachad dhuinn, agus nuair a thig an samhradh is dòcha gun teid sinn cuairt air làithean-saora. Tha mise airson an Roinn Eòrpa fhaicinn, An Fhraing is dòcha, no An Eadailt, agus ma theid sinn an sin feumaidh sinn cead-dol-thairis no cèin-chead fhaighinn. Ach ma theid sinn a Shasainn cha bhi feum air sin — fhathast co-dhiù!

Vocabulary of Continuous Narration Passages

(Abbreviations used are: dat.-dative, gen.-genitive, inf.-infinitive, lit.-literally, phr.-phrase, pl.-plural. The plural form is often added after the singular e.g. *ainmhidh*, -*ean*)

A

a his, her, its, their
a that, who
a (reduced form of *do*) to
á from
a', *ag* particle used with verbal noun
 e.g. *a' dèanamh* making
a' the
a-null over
a-rèir according to
a-rithist again
abair what (a)!
aca at them
ach but
adhar sky
adhart in phr. *air adhart* forward
agam at me; *bha* --- *agam* I had
agus and
aibhnichean pl. of *abhainn* river
aig at
aimsir weather
ainmeil famous
ainmhidh, -*ean* animal
air on; *air an dùthaich* in the country
air after; *bha mi air* I was after (= I had)
airson for, in order to
àlainn lovely
Albainn dat. of *Alba* Scotland
allt stream
am the
àm time
an the

an in
an dèidh after
an sin then, there
an toiseach at first
ann in (it)
Anna Ann, Annie
anns a'/an in the
aodach clothes; *aodach-samhraidh*
 summer clothes
aon one, the same
aran coirc oatcake(s)
ars said
àrsaidheachd archaeology
às an from the
ath-sheachdain next week
athair father

B

baile village, town
baile-mòr city
ball-coise football
balla, *ballachan* wall
ban-rùnaire, -*an* secretary (female)
banca bank
bancair banker
barrachd more
beachd opinion, view
beag little, small
beanntan pl. of *beinn* mountain
bèicear baker
bh'ann was in it
bha (it) was
bheir will give

bhios is/are (accustomed to)
bhith to be, being; *bha gu bhith ann*
 it was to be
bidh there will be
bidhe gen. of *biadh* food
bileag ticket
blàth warm
bliadhna year; *am bliadhna* this
 year
boil turmoil; *air bhoil* in a turmoil
bonaid bonnet
bracaist breakfast
bradan, *bradain* salmon
bràthair, *bràithrean* brother
brèagh fine, bonny
bric pl. of *breac* trout
brot soup
bruidhinn talking
buidhe yellow
buntàta potatoe(s)
bùth, *bùithean* shop
bùth-aodaich clothes shop
bùth-èisg fish-shop

C

càis cheese
Calum Callum, Malcolm
caoraich pl. of *caora* sheep
càr car
cas foot
cat cat
cead-dol-thairis passport
ceàird trade
ceann head, end; *air an ceann* at
 their head, leading them
ceannach buying; *bha mi air stèic a*
cheannach I had bought a steak
ceannaich buy

cearc-fhraoich grouse (female)
cèile fellow, spouse; *a chèile* each
 other; *le chèile* with each other
cèilidh ceilidh
cèin-chead passport
ceithir four
chaidh went; *air an t-seachdain seo*
chaidh this past week
cha(n) not; *chan eil mi* I am not
chì see, will see
chuireadh it would put
ciallach sensible
ciamar? how?
Ciarag Darcy
cidsin kitchen
clachair mason
clachan-meallain hailstones
cladach shore
clasaichean pl. of *clas* class
cnuic pl. of *cnoc* hill
co-dhiù however, at any rate
co-ogha pl. *co-oghaichean* cousin
 (lit. co-grandchild)
cofaidh coffee
coinneamh meeting; *mu a ch.*
 facing him, available
coltas appearance; *a-rèir coltais* it
 seems
comann society
còmhla ri along with
còmhnaidh in phr. *an còmhnaidh*
 always
còmhradh talk, conversation
còrcair crimson
còrd please; *chòrd e rium*
 I enjoyed it (lit. it pleased to me)
corra (an) occasional
cosg cost

còta coat
 craobh, -an tree
 cridhe heart; *dh'èirich mo chridhe*
 my spirits rose
 crodh cattle
 cù dog
 cuairt circuit, trip; *mun cuairt*
 (oironn) around (us)
 cuaran, pl. *cuarain* sandal
 cuideachd also, as well
 cuimhnich remember; *nuair a*
chuimhnicheas sinn air when we
 remember it
 cuir put
 cuiridh will put
 cùm keep
 cumantas usualness, normality;
anns a' ch. normally
 cur putting; *cur air adhart*
 arranging, promoting

D
 dà two
 damh stag
 daoine pl. of *duine* man, person
 dath, -an colour
 de of; *den* of the
 dèanamh making, doing
 deich ten
 deireadh end; *mu dheireadh* last
 deiseil ready
 dh' used with past tense and inf. of
 verbs beginning with *f* or vowel
 dh'an to the
 dhachaigh home
 dhinn of us
 dhiubh of them

dhomh to me; *an dèidh dhomh am*
buntàta a rùsgadh after I had
 peeled the potatoes
dhòmhsa for me
dhuinn to us, for us
dhutsa for you
 dinnear dinner
 Disathairne Saturday
diugh in phr. *an diugh* today
 do particle used sometimes with
 past tense of verb
 do your (singular)
 do to; *don* to the
 dòcha likely, probable; *is dòcha*
 perhaps
 dol going, to go
 donn pl. *donna* brown
 dorch dark
 dotair, -ean doctor
 dràsda in phr. *an dràsda* now
 dreasa, -chan dress
 dreuchd profession
 druid starling
 dubh black
 Dùbhlachd December
 dùil expectation; *bha mi an dùil*
 I expected
 dùisg waken
 dùn pl. *dùin* fort, dun
 Dun Eideann Edinburgh
 dùthaich, pl. *dùchannan* country,
 countryside

E
 e he, it
 each horse
 eachdraidh history
 Eadailt, An Italy

eanchainn brain
eich pl. of *each* horse
èigheachd shouting
eil am, is, are
eile other, besides
èirich rise, get up
èisg gen. of *iasg* fish

F
faca saw
fad-às far away
fada far
faic see
faicinn seeing
faigh get
faighinn getting, to get
faighnich ask
faisg near
faisge nearest
falbh go
feàirde better (of it); 's *fheàirde* do
stamag your stomach is the better
 of
fear a man
fear-teagaisg teacher
feidh pl. of *fiadh* deer
fèin self
feòrag squirrel
feum need
feumadh in phr. *gum feumadh iad*
 that they would need; *feumaidh e*
 he will need
fhathast yet, still, so far
fhèin, fhin self
Fhraing, An France
fichead twenty
film film

fios knowledge; *tha fios gum bi*
 undoubtedly there will be
fior true, truly, excellently
fir-lagha pl. of *fear-lagha* lawyer
fois rest
frith deer forest
fuireach waiting, staying

G
gabh take
gabhail taking
gach each, every
Gaidhealtachd, A' Ghaidhealtachd
 the Highlands
gainmheach sand
gar at our
gàr radh garden
geamair gamekeeper
geamhradh winter
geàrr cut; *gheàrr mi* I cut
ged though
gille-bùtha, pl. *gilleann-b.* shop
 assistant (male)
Glaschu Glasgow
glasraich vegetables
glè very
goireas requirement
goirid short
goilf golf
gorm blue
greas hurry; *greas ort* you hurry up
grèim a bite, particle
greiseag a short while
gu to
gun that
gur that
gus until

I

i she, it
iad they, them
iarraidh want, wanting
iasgachd fishing
idir at all
im butter
innleadair, -ean engineer
inntè in her
iongnadh wonder, amazement
ionndrain missing
is and
is it is
ise she (emphatic)

L

là day
lachdann dark, dingy
làithean-saora holidays
làmh hand
laogh calf
le with
leig let; *leig iad oidhche mhath le chèile* they bade each other good-night/said good-night
leis an with the
leo with them
leòr sufficient; *gu leòr* enough, plenty
liuthad in phr. *a liuthad* how many
lobhta storey
loch loch
luchd-teagaisg teachers

M

ma if
madainn morning
Màiri Mary

Mamaidh Mummy
mar sin so, thus
mara gen. of *muir* sea
math good, well
màthair mother
meas, -an fruit
mi I, me
mìle thousand
mìlsean sweet, pudding
mise I (emphatic)
mionaid, -ean minute
mìse worse (of it); *cha mhisde duine sin* a man is none the worse of that
mo my
mòinteach moor
monaidhean, pl. of monadh moor
mòran many
mu about; *mu dheireadh* last
mullach top, roof
mus before

N

na (gen. of fem. def. art., pl. of def. art.) the
na in it, in his, in her; *na do* in your
nach not, that - - - not; *ged nach robh brot agam* though I did not have soup
neas weasel
no or
nobhail, -ean novel
nota note, £1
nuair when

O

o from; *o chionn* since; *o chionn ghoirid* a short time ago

ochd eight
Og-mhios June
oidhche night
oifis-puist post office
Oilthigh University
oirnn on us
oirre on her, on it
orra on them
ort on you (singular)

P

pailt plentiful
pàirt part
pana pan
peathraichean-màthar, pl. of piuthar-màthar aunt (lit. mother's sister)
pinc pink
piobar pepper
pìos, -an piece
piseag, -an kitten
piuthar sister
pluic cheek
plumair, -ean plumber
poit pot
pris price
purpaidh purple

R

rabaid rabbit
ràinig reached, arrived
rèir in phr. *a-rèir* according to
reul-eòlas astronomy
ri to, at (engaged in)
rinn made
rioban, -an ribbon
rithe to her
rium to me; *rium thin* to myself
ro too

robh was
roimhe previously; *an oidhche roimhe* the other night
Roinn Eòrpa, An Europe
ròstadh roasting, frying
rud thing; *rud beag* a little
ruighinn reaching
rùsgadh peeling

S

's and; is
salann salt
samhradh summer
sanas-reic, sanasan-r. advertisement
saor, pl. saoir joiner
Sasainn England
seachad past
seachdain week
Sealbhag Provident one (a cow's name)
sealg hunting
seanair grandfather
seanmhair grandmother
seann old, ancient
seo this; *an seo* here
seòmar-cadail, pl. seòmraichean-c. bedroom
seòmar-ionnlaid bathroom
seòmar-ithe dining-room
seòmar-leughaidh study
seòmar-suidhe sitting-room
Seònaid Jessie
Seòras George
seòrsa sort, kind
sgaoth flock
sgeulachd, -an story
sgitheadh ski-ing
sglèat slate

sgriobhadair writer
sgriobhadh writing
side weather
sin that, these
sinn we
smaoineachadh thinking
socair easy; *socair ort* hold on, stop
soilleir bright
son for, in order to
sona happy
sràid street
stamag stomach
stèic steak
stèisean station
stìopall steeple
stocainn, -ean stocking
suas ri up to
suidh sit
sùil eye
suim interest
sutha zoo

T

taigh house
taigh-cluiche playhouse, theatre
taigh-dhealbh cinema
taobh side
teanga tongue
tèid, thèid will go
telebhisean television
thig come(s)
thu you (singular)
thug gave; *thug a màthair sùil oirre*
 her mother looked at her (lit. gave
 an eye on her)
thugad to you; *tha seo thugad!* look
 out!
thuirt said

tide time
tig come, suit; *gun tigeadh gach*
 dath a-rèir a chèile that each
 colour would blend with the
 others
tighinn coming
till return
tillidh will return
timcheall (air) round, around
tioram dry
tìr-eòlas geography
tog lift; *thog iad orra* they set out
togalach, pl. *togalaichean* building
toil wish, pleasure
toilichte happy
thòisich begin; *thòisich mi*
 I began
Tormod Norman
tràigh shore (often sandy)
trèana train
trì three
tuilleadh more, any more; *a*
 thuilleadh air in addition to
turas time

U

uaine green
uair, -ean time, hour, o'clock; *an uair*
 sin then
uair-a-thìde an hour (of time)
uan lamb
Uilleam William
uillt pl. of *allt* stream
uinneag window
uinnean onion
uisge rain, water
ùr new

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