














A1

**Speak
Gaelic**



1.  **Caraidean Ùra** | New Friends
2.  **Àitichean** | Places
3.  **An Aimsir** | The Weather
4.  **Teaghlach** | Family
5.  **Dachaigh** | Home
6.  **Tìde** | Time
7.  **Obair** | Work
8.  **Tìde Dheth** | Time Off
9.  **Biadh & Deoch** | Food & Drink
10.  **Ceannachd** | Shopping
11.  **Latha gu Latha** | Day to Day
12.  **Coltas Dhaoine** | Describing People
13.  **Peataichean** | Pets

Cuspair 1

Outcomes

Digital content: speakgaelic.scot

A1

Builean Ionnsachaidh | Learning outcomes

01	I can use simple greetings.	Done? <input type="checkbox"/>
02	I can ask someone their name.	Done? <input type="checkbox"/>
03	I can give basic personal information.	Done? <input type="checkbox"/>
04	I can address people using their name.	Done? <input type="checkbox"/>
05	I can ask what people's names are.	Done? <input type="checkbox"/>
06	I can introduce people around me.	Done? <input type="checkbox"/>
07	I can say how I am.	Done? <input type="checkbox"/>
08	I can ask someone how they are.	Done? <input type="checkbox"/>

1. Fàilte oirbh! | Welcome!

Welcome to your first Gaelic class. Gaelic can be seen and heard in many places throughout Scotland. Do you know of any words used in Scotland that originate in Gaelic?



Fàilte *fem* | Welcome

Slàinte *fem* | Cheers

Bùrach *masc* | Bourach

Cèilidh *fem* | Ceilidh

Clann *fem* | Clan

Gu leòr *adv* | Galore

Beinn *f* | Ben

Uisge-beatha *m* | Whisky

Sasannach *m* | Sasennach

2. Aibidil na Gàidhlig | The Gaelic Alphabet

There are only 18 letters in the Gaelic language. Additional sounds are represented by combinations of these letters. Discuss this as a class and cross out the letters in the English alphabet below which are not used in Gaelic:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



Madainn mhath | Good morning



Feasgar math | Good afternoon



Oidhche mhath | Good night

Còmhradh a h-Aon | Conversation One

Seumas: Haidh! Madainn mhath.

Anndra: Madainn mhath. Dè an t-ainm a th' ort?

Seumas: Is mise Seumas. Dè an t-ainm a th' ort fhèin?

Anndra: Haidh, a Sheumais. Is mise Anndra.

Seumas: Haidh, Anndra!



MÌNEACHADH | EXPLANATION:

Math / Mhath?

?

In the examples we see both **math** and **mhath** meaning 'good'. This is because Gaelic words have grammatical gender, masculine or feminine, which have an effect on adjectives which describe them. As **madainn** and **oidhche** are feminine they cause **math** 'good' to become **mhath**. As **feasgar** is masculine it does not.

Còmhradh a Dhà | Conversation Two

Emma: Halò. Feasgar math.

Catrìona: Feasgar math.

Emma: Dè an t-ainm a th' oirbh?

Catrìona: Is mise Catrìona. Dè an t-ainm a th' oirbh fhèin?

Emma: Halò, a Chatrìona. Is mise Emma.



MÌNEACHADH | EXPLANATION:

Ort no Oirbh

?

In **Còmhradh a h-Aon**, the two men used the form **ort** and in **Còmhradh a Dhà**, the two women used **oirbh** in a more formal setting.

- **Ort** is the singular form for speaking to one person.
- **Oirbh** is the plural, speaking to more than one person, or the polite form.

Sibh fhèin a-nis | Now you

Bruidhinn 🗣️ - Speak to other learners in the class greeting them and asking what their name is with **Dè an t-ainm a th' ort?**, and answering with **Is mise** ___ 'I am ___'. You can use the formal form **oirbh** where addressing someone senior to yourself. When returning a question add **fhèin** 'self' at the end for emphasis.

4. Ainmean sa Ghàidhlig | Names in Gaelic

Sgrìobh ✎ - Can you match the Gaelic names on the left to their English equivalent on the right? What other common Gaelic names can you add to the list?

Raonaid

Mary

Seòras

Donald

Seumas

John

Seonag

George

Iain

Rachel

Dòmhnall

Helen

Màiri

James

Eilidh

Joan



Halò, a Sheumais!

Feasgar math,
a Chatrìona!



A mhàthair!

A ghràidh!

MÌNEACHADH | EXPLANATION:

Tuiseal Gairmeach | Vocative Case

?

People's names change when we are talking directly to them. This is the Vocative Case.

- **Male names:** lenite (soften their initial consonant, shown by adding an **h**) and slenderise (shown by an **i** before the final consonant)
- **Female names:** lenite only (soften their initial consonant, shown by adding an **h**)

There are some other rules we need to learn and remember in the Vocative Case. Go to the **1A Duilleag Mìneachaidh** to learn more.

→ Theirigibh gu [1A Duilleag Mìneachaidh, 1B Duilleag Obrach, 1C Duilleag Geama]

5. Ciamar a tha sibh? | How are you?

Asking how someone is can be done using the exchange below. We will see two ways again, a formal or plural using **sibh** and an informal using **thu**.

Còmhradh a Trì | Conversation Three

Emma: Ciamar a tha sibh, a charaidean?

Caraidean: Tha gu math. Ciamar a tha thu fhèin?

Emma: Chan eil gu dona, tapadh leibh.



Còmhradh a Ceithir | Conversation Four

Anndra: Ciamar a tha thu, a Sheumais?

Seumas: Tha gu math Anndra. Ciamar a tha thu fhèin?

Anndra: Chan eil mi gu dona, tapadh leat.



Sgrìobh ✎ - We have now seen a number of the pronouns in Gaelic, see if you can complete the table on the right as a class, the tutor will help with any you don't know.

MÌNEACHADH | EXPLANATION:

Thu no Sibh

- **thu** is the singular form of 'you', for speaking to one person.
- **sibh** is the plural form of 'you', for speaking to more than one person, or the polite form.

?

I / me _____

you _____

he / him _____

she / her _____

we / us _____

you (pl) _____

they / them _____

Coimhead 📺 - A1 Illustrated Scenarios: www.youtube.com/@SpeakGaelic/playlists

A' Cheist | The Question

Here we can see how the question **Ciamar a tha ___?** can be used with the different pronouns, and how we can give a positive or negative answer:

Ciamar a tha	mi	?	→	✓ Tha	mi	gu math well
	thu			✗ Chan eil	thu	gu dona badly
	e				e	sgìth tired
	i				i	trang busy
	sinn				sinn	toilichte happy
	sibh				sibh	math good
	iad				iad	dona bad

You will hear a variety of phrases to ask how you are. Two other common greetings are:

Dè do chor? | What's your condition? **Deagh chor, taing** | Good condition, thanks
Dè do shunnd? | What's your mood? **Tha mi ann an deagh shunnd** | I'm in a good mood

6. Dè an t-ainm a th' oirbh? | What is your name?

We saw in **Còmhradh a h-Aon** that Alasdair used the informal question;

Dè (What) **an t-ainm** (the name) **a tha** (that is) **ort** (on you) ?



but that in **Còmhradh a Dhà** Anna used the polite or plural form;

Dè (What) **an t-ainm** (the name) **a tha** (that is) **oirbh** (on you(s)) ?

air + mi	_____
air + thu	_____
air + e	_____
air + i	_____
air + sinn	_____
air + sibh	_____
air + iad	_____

Sgrìobh ✎ - We have now seen a number of the prepositional pronouns with **air** 'on', see if you can complete the table on the right as a class, the tutor will help with any you don't know.

A' Cheist | The Question

Here we can see how the question **Dè an t-ainm a th' ___ ?** can be used with different prepositional pronouns, and how we give a positive or negative answer:

Dè an t-ainm a th'	orm	?	→	✓ 'S e	(name)	a th'	orm
	ort			✗ Chan e	Iain		ort
	air				Màiri		air
	oirre				Seumas		oirre
					Seonag		
PLURALS							
Dè na h-ainmean a th'	oirnn						oirnn
	oirbh						oirbh
	orra						orra

7. Beannachdan | Greetings & Goodbyes

There are many phrases used to part company in Gaelic, **Beannachd leat / leibh** 'Blessing with you' and **Slàn leat / leibh** 'Health with you' are typical blessings, with the response **Mar sin leat / leibh** 'Like that with you' commonly used. **Tìoraidh** is a very common informal goodbye as a Gaelic version of 'Cheerio'. **Oidhche mhath** 'Goodnight' is, like the English, used when parting company of an evening.

Beannachd leat / leibh	Blessing with you
Slàn leat / leibh	Health with you
Mar sin leat / leibh	Like that with you
Oidhche mhath (leat)	Goodnight



Feumaidh mi falbh I need to leave	Tha mi air mo dhòigh I am really happy
'S e do bheatha You're welcome	Chan eil mi cinnteach I'm not certain

→ Theirigibh gu [1A Duilleag Mìneachaidh, 1B Duilleag Obrach, 1C Duilleag Geama]