

Gaelic 1

The primary language structures and how they will be used

**Course content is © Sabhal Mòr Ostaig 2016
and may not be re-used or published in any other form, for any other purpose.**

Gaelic 1	
Description of main language structure	What it does
The vocative case with male and female names, e.g. <i>Ciamar a tha thu a Sheumais; Seall a Phàdraig; Hallo Eòghainn, Iain, a Mhòrag, a Pheigi, Anna.</i>	To address people by their first names, e.g. <i>How are you James; Look Peter, Hello Màiri.</i>
'S e structures of the verb 'to be' introduced with a weather phrase: <i>'S e feasgar math a th' ann;</i> and expanding the phrase with other variants, e.g. <i>'S e feasgar fuar a th' ann; 'S e baile math a th' ann; 'S e àite càirdeil a th' ann.</i>	To say <i>It's a nice evening,</i> and to adapt this phrase to <i>It's a ___ ___</i> by substituting other words for <i>nice</i> and <i>evening</i> , e.g. <i>It's a cold evening; It's a nice town; It's a friendly place.</i>
Prepositional pronouns based on the preposition air (all variants <i>orm, ort, air, oirre, oirnn, oirbh, orra</i>) in the context of naming people with the phrase <i>'S e ___ a th' orm/ort,</i> etc, and asking <i>Dè an t-ainm a th' ort/air/oirre?; Dè na h-ainmean a th' oirbh/orra?</i>	To tell and ask what people's names are, e.g. <i>my name is; your name is; his/her name is; our/your names are; their names are; What's your name?; What is his/her name?; What are your/their names?</i>
The use of <i>thu/sibh, gabh/gabhaibh, leat/leibh</i> and other structures to indicate register.	To indicate politeness with regard to age or status when addressing people directly using phrases such as <i>How are you?; Excuse me; Goodbye.</i>
The preposition ann in the forms <i>ann an</i> and <i>ann am</i> in phrases such as: <i>ann an Ìle; ann am Muile.</i>	To say "in", followed by a town, village, district, country or island name, e.g. <i>in Aberdeen; In Lewis; in New York.</i>
The preposition à with place names, e.g. <i>à Steòrnabhagh; à Port Rìgh; à Alba.</i>	To say "from", followed by a town, village, district, country or island name, e.g. <i>from London; from Scotland; from Perthshire.</i>
Numbers 1-19 forming structures such as: <i>a h-aon, a dhà, a trì; duilleag a h-aon; ceist a còig; bann a seachd.</i>	To count from 1-19 or to number items, e.g. <i>Look at page one; Do question five; Listen to track seven.</i>

<p><i>Tha, Chan eil, A bheil, Nach eil</i> structures of the present tense of the verb ‘to be’, e.g. <i>Tha Màiri a’ fuireach ann an Dùn Èideann; Chan eil Iain ag obair a-nis; Tha na h-oileanaich ag ionnsachadh Gàidhlig; Nach eil Pat is Seumas à Muile?; A bheil Seòras a’ cluiche an-dràsta?; A bheil Tim fhathast a’ peantadh?</i></p>	<p>To tell and ask about things that people are doing, such as living, working or other activities, e.g. <i>Mary is living in Edinburgh; John isn’t working now; The students are learning Gaelic; Aren’t Pat and Jim from Mull?; Is George playing at the moment?; Is Tim still painting?</i></p>
<p><i>Càite</i> structures with the present tense of the verb ‘to be’, e.g. <i>Càite a bheil sibh an-dràsta?; Càite a bheil Anna ag obair?; Càite a bheil Pàdraig agus Sìne a’ fuireach a-nis?</i></p>	<p>To ask where people are or where they are living, working or doing things, e.g. <i>Where are you at the moment?; Where is Ann working just now?; Where do Pete and Jean live now?</i></p>
<p><i>Mo/do</i> structures: the possessive adjective (all variants <i>mo, do, a, ar, ur, an/m</i>), e.g. <i>Tha mo bhràthair ag obair ann an Uibhist; A bheil do phiuthar a’ fuireach ann am Paris?; A bheil am pàrantan fhathast ag ionnsachadh Spàinnis?; Càite a bheil ar caraidean an-dràsta?</i></p>	<p>To express possession as “my (something)”, “your (something)”, “his (something)”, her (something), etc. , e.g. <i>My brother works in Uist; Does your sister live in Paris?; Are their parents still learning Spanish?; Where are our friends just now?</i></p>
<p><i>Cò às a tha ___?</i> structures, e.g. <i>Cò às a tha Uilleam?; Cò às a tha an sgioba?; Cò às a tha do charaid?; Cò às a tha ur càirdean?; Cò às a tha an càise?</i></p>	<p>To ask where people and things are from, e.g. <i>Where is William from?; Where is the team from?; Where is your friend from?; Where are your relatives from?; Where is the cheese from?</i></p>