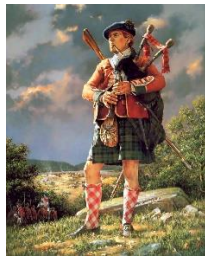


Gael-Talk

Learning Gaelic Year 1 Caibideil 8

Nas fheàrr a' Ghàidhlig bhriste n' a' Bheurla chliste

A little reminder –
We really should pay the piper
(*mòran taing* to those who have!)



*Please send donations for the class to Paypal:
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the amount is up to you, but the suggested donation is \$5*

This week we will learn ...

- Sean fhacal na seachdain
- How to say you want something
- Dialogue – wanting and liking
- Òran na seachdain -
- Dualchas nan Gàidheil -

Sean fhacal na seachdain

Am fear a ghoideadh an t-ugh circe,
ghoideadh e an t-ugh geòidh.

- He who would steal the hen egg
would steal the goose egg.



In other words, a person who can't be trusted in little things cannot be trusted in big things.

How to say you want something or want to do something

A way to express the idea that you want something or want to do something is to use the format we've been exploring, that is the use of the Gaelic progressive – the verbal noun *iarraidh*.

Singular:

- Tha mi ag iarraidh – I want / I am wanting
- Tha thu ag iarraidh – You want / You are wanting
- Tha e ag iarraidh – He wants / She is wanting
- Tha i ag iarraidh – She wants / She is wanting

Plural:

- Tha sinn ag iarraidh – We want / We are wanting
- Tha sibh ag iarraidh – You want / You are wanting (plural, polite)
- Tha iad ag iarraidh – They want / They are wanting

Similarly, we can shift to the simple past tense “bha” –

Singular:

- Bha mi **ag iarraidh** – I wanted / I was wanting
- Bha thu ag iarraidh – You wanted / You were wanting
- Bha e ag iarraidh – He wanted / She was wanting
- Bha i ag iarraidh – She wanted / She was wanting

Plural:

- Bha sinn ag iarraidh – We wanted / We were wanting
- Bha sibh ag iarraidh – You wanted / You were wanting (plural, polite)
- Bha iad ag iarraidh – They wanted / They were wanting

Pronounced – a' giarraidh / a geeree

What is a verbal noun:

1. Similar to the +ing form of the verb (called the 'gerund')
 - a. Looking
 - b. Walking
 - c. Running
2. However, it is not totally a “verb” –
 - a. As a 'verbal noun' – it is sometimes used as a noun
 - b. Tha an **sgriobhadh** aige ealanta – His writing is elegant.
 - c. Tha e a' sgrìobhadh. He is writing.

- d. BUT ... Tha e a' leaghadh – he is reading ... lit. = He is at reading. (He's at the doing of something / He's about the doing of something ...)
- e. Tha e a' togail an taighe – he is building a house / lit. = he is at building of the house.
- f. Tha e ga dèanamh – he is doing it / lit. = he is at its doing

Dialogue – Dè tha thu ag iarraidh?

In this dialogue, Oighrig, shopping for her family, visits the local store where a friend of hers, Murchadh, works.

- Oighrig** Feasgar math, a Mhurchaidh.
Murchadh Dè tha dol, Oighrig?
Oighrig Chan eil mòran.
Murchadh Tha i brèagha an diugh, nach eil?
Oighrig Tha, gu dearbh.
Murchadh Uill, dè tha thu ag iarraidh an diugh?
Oighrig Tha mi ag iarraidh aran agus càise.
Murchadh A bheil thu ag iarraidh aran donn no aran geal?
Oighrig Aran donn. Dà lof, ma 's e do thoil e.
Murchadh Agus dè seòrsa càise a tha thu ag iarraidh?
Oighrig Tha mi ag iarraidh càise dearg. Leth-phunnd.
Murchadh A bheil thu ag iarraidh ìm?
Oighrig Chan eil an-diugh, ach tha mi ag iarraidh tì agus cofaidh.
Murchadh Crogan mòr no crogan beag cofaidh?
Oighrig Crogan beag agus dà phacaid tì. A bheil uighean ùra agaibh?
Murchadh Tha gu leòr. Leth-dusan? No dusan? No ... ?
Oighrig Dìreach leth-dusan. O! Agus tha mi ag iarraidh buntàta cuideachd. Còig puinnd.
Murchadh Seo ma tha – còig puinnd buntàta.
Oighrig Tha a' chlann ag iarraidh còc agus suiteis.
Murchadh Botal no cana còc?
Oighrig Botal, ma 's e do thoil e. Agus na suiteis seo. Tha iad uabhasach math. Dè a' phris a tha iad?
Murchadh Fichead sgillinn an urra. A bheil am prìs sin ceart gu leòr?
Oighrig Tha.
Murchadh A bheil thu ag iarraidh rud sam bith eile?
Oighrig Chan eil. Dè tha sin uile gu lèir?
Murchadh Seachd notaichean agus còig sgillinn deug.
Oighrig Sin deich notaichean ma tha.
Murchadh Mòran taing. Agus seo dà not agus ceithir fichead sgillinn 's a còig air ais.
Oighrig Tapadh leat.
Murchadh 'S e do bheatha.
Murchadh Uill, a bheil sin uile gu lèir?
Oighrig O, tha!
Murchadh Uill, dè tha thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' dèanamh dìreach na seachain?
Oighrig Chan eil fhios 'm. Chan eil mi cinnteach dè tha a' chlann ag iarraidh a bhith a' dèanamh. Tha an t-athair 's a' mhàthair agam a' dol air falbh Disathairne, agus tha mi a' fuireach còmhla ris a' bhràthair agam agus a' phiuthar agam.

- Murchadh** A bheil iad ag iarraidh a bhith a' coimhead air film? Tha film ùr aig an taigh-dealbh.
- Oighrig** Chan eil. Chan eil iad ag iarraidh a' bhith a' dol dhan taigh-dealbh. Tha iad ag iarraidh a' bhith a' coimhead air an telebhisean.
- Murchadh** Uill, dè seòrsa spòrs a tha iad ag iarraidh a bhith a' dèanamh? A bheil iad ag iarraidh a bhith a' cluich ball-coise?
- Oighrig** Chan eil.
- Murchadh** A bheil iad a bhith a' dol dhan phàirc-spòrs? Tha rolair-còrsair ùr ann, tha mi a' cluinntinn.
- Oighrig** O, chan eil. Tha iad ag iarraidh a bhith a' dol chun an tràigh agus a bhith a snàmh, 's dòcha.
- Murchadh** Tha sin math. Tha i blàth aig dìreadh na seachdain, tha mi a' smaoinichadh. A bheil thusa ag iarraidh a' dol dhan chèilidh còmhla rium aig an talla-bhaile Oidhche Haoine? Tha còmhlan-ciùil math ann.
- Oighrig** 'S dòcha.
- Murchadh** Tha sin math. Tha sinn a' dannsadh an sin.
- Oighrig** O, tha, gu dearbh. Tha mi ag iarraidh a bhith a' dannsadh. Uill, latha math an-dràsta.
- Murchadh** Mar sin leat.

Vocabulary:

an urra	each
aran	bread
Buntàta –	potatoes
càise	cheese
Còmhla rium –	with me
còmhlan-ciùil	band
Crogan	container, / lit. 'crock, jar
Dìreadh na seachdain –	weekend (end of the week)
Gu dearbh –	indeed / yes, indeed
ma 's e do thoil e	please, if it pleases you (not really used that much)
Oidhche Haoine	Friday night (Dihaoine = Friday)
pacaid	package, dà phacaid – two packages
pàirc-spòrs	amusement park / lit. fun park
rud sam bith	anything
rolair-còrsair	roller coaster
's dòcha.	perhaps
'S e do bheatha	you're welcome / lit. 'He (God) is your life'
seòrsa	kind, type – dè seòrsa càise / aran – what kind of cheese / bread (etc)
Sgillinn	shilling / "cents" in new decimal currency
spòrs	fun
Taigh-dealbh	movie theatre (lit. 'house of pictures')
Talla-bhaile	town hall
tràigh	beach

Discussion – ag iarraidh

In the dialogue above, we see a couple features of the form *ag iarraidh* – the verbal noun which we can translate as “wanting” – For instance, we see that

- We can construct sentences with it the same way that we use other verbal nouns. So just as we can say,
 - Tha mi a’ snàmh. – I am swimming.
 - Tha iad a’ cluich. – They are playing.
 - Bha i a’ leughadh. – She was reading.
 - An robh thu a’ seinn? – were you singing?

We can use “iarraidh” just like any other verbal noun to express the idea that we want *something*.

- Tha mi ag iarraidh. – I want / I am wanting.
- A bheil iad ag iarraidh – Do they want? / Are they wanting?
- Chan eil e ag iarraidh – He doesn’t want. / He is not wanting.

The verbal noun “iarraidh” can ‘take’ an object – that is we can express the thing we want.

- Tha e ag iarraidh **dinnear**. – He wants dinner.
- Bha a’ chlann ag iarraidh **coimpiutair**. – The children wanted a computer.
- In addition to saying that we want a “thing,” we can also say we want *to do* something. One of the ways we do this is by using the infinitive *a bhith* – “to be.” Later, we’ll learn another way to communicate this idea, but for now, we’ll concentrate on this form:
 - Tha mi ag iarraidh **a bhith a’ snàmh**. – I want to be swimming / I want to swim.
 - Tha iad ag iarraidh **a bhith a’ cluich** ball-coise. – They want to be playing soccer / they want to play soccer.
 - Tha iad ag iarraidh **a bhith ag èisteachd** ris a’ cheòl. – They want to be listening to the music / they want to listen to music.

We learn this form for a couple different reasons: One, it is the simplest way to express the idea of wanting to do something (another way requires a more complicated adjustment of the order of the words).

And two, it allows us to build upon the form that we already know – the *ag iarraidh a bhith* **+** form provides us with an easy transition from the *tha mi / tha e* etc. format that we have already learned. Observe how with minimal adjustment, you can shift from one to the other:

- **Tha mi a’ snàmh**. – I am swimming.
- Tha mi *ag iarraidh* **a bhith a’ snàmh**. – I want to be swimming / I want to swim / I want to be swimming.
- **Tha iad a’ cluich** ball-coise.

- **Tha** iad *ag iarraidh a bhith a' cluich* ball-coise. – They want to be playing soccer / they want to play soccer / they want to be playing soccer.
- **Bha** iad **ag èisteachd** ris a' cheòl. They are listening to the music.
- Bha iad *ag iarraidh a bhith ag èisteachd* ris a' cheòl. – They wanted to be listening to the music / they want to listen to music / they want to be listening to music.

In this “transition” from the simpler form to the more complicated, the “a bhith” replaces the active verb – in these examples, the “tha” or the “bha.” So we can shift from saying simply that we are doing something to expressing a more complicated idea, we want to do something.

One last thing, the *a bhith* form is not as “clunky” in Gaelic as it might sound in English, so, while in English we would probably say just simply

- I want to do something.

Rather than

- I want **to be doing** something

In Gaelic, the ‘a bhith’ is quite natural.

- Tha mi ag iarraidh a bhith a' dèanamh (x) ...

Not only that, but the **a bhith (+)** format is the only way that we can construct a predicate sentence – that is, to say that we want to **be** something (an adjective) as in

I want to be sure	Tha mi ag iarraidh a bhith cinnteach
I don't want to be cold	Chan eil mi ag iarraidh a bhith fuar
I want to be early	Tha mi ag iarraidh a bhith tràth

In fact, you can see how this form translates almost directly between Gaelic and English.

Eacarsaichean:

Now, let's go back to the verbal nouns that we learned in Caibideil 3 (plus some others that we have added), and construct sentences with them. Only this time, we will say that **we want** to do the actions, (or wanted to) rather than we are (or were) simply doing them. Be sure to use both the past tense and the present tense.

As examples, I've done the first couple:

Verbal noun	English	
1. a' cluich	Playing	Tha mi ag iarraidh a bhith a' cluich ball-coise.
2. a' cluinntinn	Hearing	Tha mi ag iarraidh a bhith a' cluinntinn ceòl binn. (binn = sweet, as in music)
3. a' seinn	Singing	

4. a' bàsachadh	Dying	
5. a' bàthadh	Drowning	
6. a' biadhadh	Feeding	
7. a' breabadh	Kicking	
8. a' briseadh	Breaking	
9. a' brosnachadh	Encouraging	
10. a' bruadar	Dreaming	
11. a' bruidhinn (ri)	Speaking	
12. a' bualadh	Hitting	
13. a' call -	Losing	
14. a' ceannach	Buying	
15. a' ceum	Stepping	
16. a' ceumnachadh	Graduating	
17. a' clàradh	Recording	
18. a' co-dhùnadh	Deciding	
19. a' coiseachd	Walking	
20. a' cur	Putting, planting, sending (as in email or letter)	
21. a' dèanamh	Doing, making	
22. a' dùnadh	Closing	
23. a' dùsgadh	Waking (up)	
24. a' faicinn	Seeing	
25. a' faighinn	Getting	
26. a' faireachdainn	Feeling	
27. a' fosgladh	Opening	
28. a' freagairt	Answering	
29. a' gabhail	Getting	
30. a' gàireachdainn	Laughing	
31. a' gluasad	Moving (not as in moving from one house to another)	
32. a' goid	Stealing	
33. a' gul	Crying	
34. a' leughadh	Reading	
35. a' leum	Jumping	
36. a' nochd	Appearing (as in, he appeared suddenly)	
37. a' pàigheadh	Paying	
38. a' pògadh	Kissing	
39. a' pòsadh	Marrying	
40. a' reic	Selling	
41. a' ruith	Running	
42. a' seilg	Hunting	
43. a' seòladh	Sailing	
44. A' sgrìobhadh	Writing	
45. a' smaoineachadh	Thinking	
46. a' tarraing	Drawing, pulling	

47. a' tilleadh	Returning	
48. a' tionndadh	Turning	
49. a' togail	Lifting	
50. a' toirt bho	Taking from	
51. a' toirt do	Giving to	
52. a' tòiseachadh	Beginning	
53. a' tuigsinn	Understanding	
54. ag amas *	Aiming	
55. ag aontachadh *	Agreeing	
56. ag atharrachadh *	Changing	
57. Ag èisteachd* (ri)	Listening (to)	
58. ag ithe *	Eating	
59. ag òl *	Drinking	
60. ag ràdh / a' ràdh **	saying	

* because of the vowel-onset verbal noun, we use **ag** instead of **a'** (both are contractions for "aig" or 'at')

** either is used

Còmhradh

Building on the exercise above let's engage in a bit of còmhradh – conversation:

Answer as completely as you are able, and respond with a question of your own. (Keep the conversation going.)

1. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' tuigsinn a' Ghàidhlig?
2. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' snàmh anns a' mhuir?
3. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' leughadh *The Grapes of Wrath*?
4. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' sgrìobhadh litir?
5. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' cur an litir gu a' mhàthair agad?
6. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' ruith anns an reis?
7. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' cur craobh anns a' ghàrradh agad? (plant tree in your garden)
8. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' faicinn a' ghealach ùr?
9. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith ag ithe cèic?
10. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' òl uisge-beatha?
11. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' tilleadh dhachaigh?
12. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' freagairt ceist agamsa? (ceist = question)
13. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' pògadh an leanabh? (pògadh an leanabh - kissing the baby)
14. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' seinn an òran?
15. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' seinn fidheall?
16. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' pàigheadh a' bhileag? (bileag = bill)
17. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' togail taigh ùr?
18. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' seilg tunnagan (tunnagan = ducks)
19. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' tòiseachadh geum ùr? (geum ùr = new game)
20. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith a' biadhachadh na piseagan (piseagan = kittens)
21. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith trang dìreadh na seachdain?
22. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith tràth a-màireach?
23. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith fuar no blàth?
24. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith fadalach a-nochd? (fadalach = late, as in for appointment)
25. A bheil thu ag iarraidh a bhith leisg? (leisg = lazy)

Faclan Ùra
New Words

a-màireach	tomorrow
Bileag(an)	bill
Ceist	question
Dhachaigh	homewards, directional w/ movement
Dìreadh na seachdain	weekend
Fadalach	late (as in, for an appointment)
Gàrradh	garden (also, sometimes, wall)
Gealach	moon
Geum	game
Leanabh	baby
Leisg	lazy
Litir	letter
Piseag (a)n	kitten(s)
Tràth	early
Tunnag (an)	duck(s)

practice, practice, practice: Dèan e a-rithist 's a-rithist 's a-rithist

- Òran na seachdain –

Hè Mo Leannan –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NRcXCdwfM9k>

Dualchas nan Gàidheil –

This week, we'll look at a couple of classic Gaelic love stories. These are stories that the Scottish Gaels inherited from the ancient Gaels who had settled in Ireland and were just beginning to colonize Scotland.

We'll return to this topic in later weeks, when we'll see that the type of story told in ancient times contrasts with more recent Gaelic tales, as collected in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Below you'll find a "classics illustrated" version of the famous myth, and after that a link to another, parallel story:

Deirdre of the Sorrows



Before her birth ..

- Deirdre let out a cry from her mother's womb ...
- The scream so frightened everyone that the King called in the Druid.



The Druid prophesized ...



That she would be the most beautiful woman in all of Ireland ...



But many
brave
warriors
would die
fighting
because of
her



The king ordered her sent away

- ... to be cared for by an old woman in a cottage in the country, where no man would ever see her, nor she any man



One night, when she had grown,
Deirdre dreamt of her hero



•Nurse, what was that strange person I saw in my dream?

•Just a figment of your imagination.

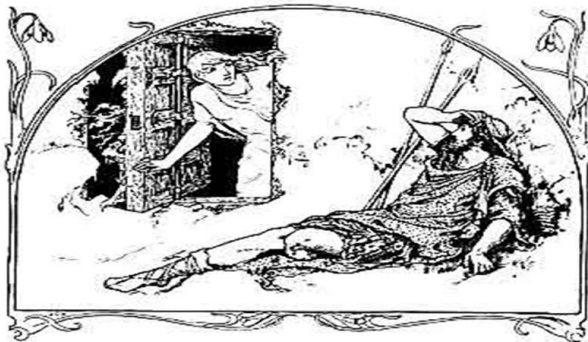


Then one day, she heard hunters shout out in the woods.

- Nurse, what was that sound?
- Only the cry of birds of the air.



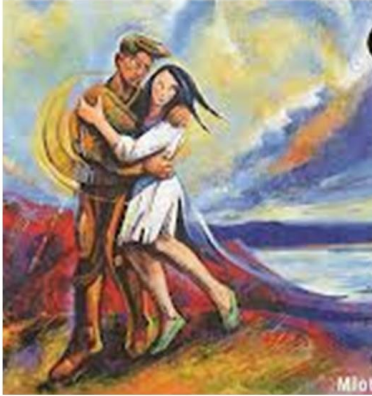
But then one day, the hunter sees Deirdre – the most beautiful woman in Ireland



Deirdre and Naoise meet ...



And they love ...



But King Conchobhar



- Hears of Deirdre's beauty and wants her for himself ...

Deirdre and Naoise are determined not to be separated



Naoise carries Deirdre to safety



With Naoise's 3 brothers

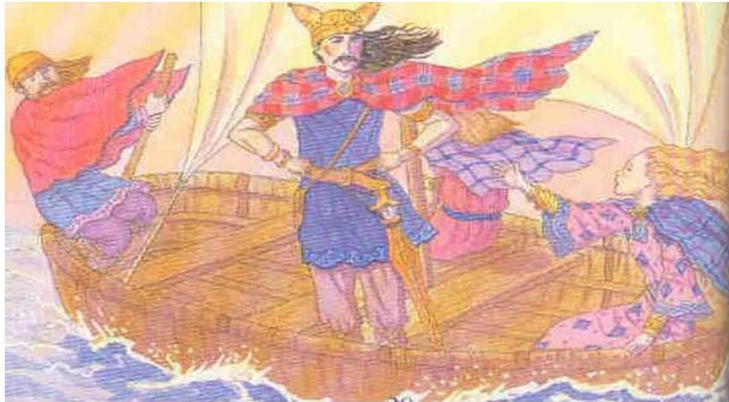
- They flee across the sea to Scotland



Then the King promises them a safe return ...



Believing the king, Deirdre & the sons of Uiseneach return to Ireland



But the King betrays the brothers ... and orders his warriors to attack them. Naoise and his brothers fought the armies of the king ... and many die, just as had been foretold.



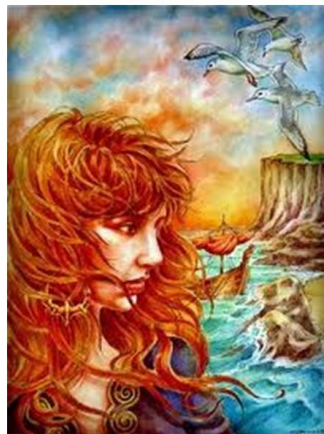


The
brothers are
slain



The King
takes Deirdre
away.

But she
cannot
bear to be
without
her love



She throws herself from the
chariot and dies



Into the grave of Naoise ...





The King ordered
their bodies
separated into
different graves



- But two trees
grew up and
intertwined,
one from each
grave, uniting
the lovers
forever ...



Deirdre is dead, and Naoise is dead;
and if the oaks and stars could die for sorrow,
it's a dark sky and a hard and naked earth
we'd have this night in Emain.



The souls of Deirdre and the Sons
of Uisneach rose into the heavens ..

- And their journey there is known to the Gaels as
- *The Path of the Sons of Uisneach*
- *Sgrìob Chlann Uisnich*



(You know it as the Milky Way)

Diarmaid 's Gràinne

This video presents us with another, very similar, tragic love story.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQMn7YMHNEY>