

Gael-Talk

Learning Gaelic Year 1 Caibideil 21

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

Better Broken Gaelic than fluent English!

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



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This week we will learn ...

- Sean fhacal na seachdain
- Ath-sgrudadh: The augmented preposition & the pronoun object of the verbal noun
- Sgeul na Seachdaine – *Maisy Luch na Chidsin*
- Òran na seachdain – *Thoir dhomh do làmh*

Sean fhacal na seachdain

An rud a thèid fad on t-sùil thèid e fad on chridhe.



What goes far from the eye, goes far from the heart.

Warm up!

<https://www.tobarandualchais.co.uk/track/101393?l=gd>

A sheana-bhean bhoichd,	Poor old woman
Chan fhalbh thu nochd.	You won't go tonight
A sheana-bhean bhoichd,	Poor old woman
Chan fhalbh thu nochd.	You won't go tonight
A sheana-bhean bhoichd,	Poor old woman
Chan fhalbh thu nochd.	You won't go tonight
Nach tig thu steach,	Won't you come inside
'S an oidhch' ann.	It's nighttime.

Gràmar na Seachdain

The augmented preposition

And the pronoun object of the verbal noun

In this lesson, we will learn how to use a pronoun with a verbal noun. Perhaps, you've noticed that we haven't learned how to say, the Gàidhlig equivalent of

- He is reading **it**
- They are helping **me**
- She was making **it**

Or any one of innumerable ways that we can use a pronoun as the object of a verb (in this case, the verbal noun).

Perhaps, you haven't thought how convenient pronouns are. They're like the 'salt in the bread' – that is necessary, but not noticed. (From a Gaelic legend about a daughter whose father was insulted when she said she loved him like the salt in her bread. The father banished her, and years later when his unfaithful other children rebelled against him and exiled him, he was wandering homeless, he came on her castle (she had since married a prince). He didn't recognize her, but she recognized him. She took him in, gave him shelter, and fed him ... bread without salt. The old king spit out the bread saying he couldn't live on such horrible food. That's when the daughter revealed herself and made her point: that's what she was saying! You might recognize the story line: it was used by Shakespeare in his play *King Lear*.)

Anyway, imagine what we would have to speak/write if we had no pronouns.

Bob is a good friend of Michael, the writer of this paragraph. Bob has helped Michael many times in Michael's life. Once when Michael's car broke down, Bob drove more than a hundred miles to help Michael repair the car. And then Bob bought Michael lunch before Bob and Michael drove back home!

Pronouns certainly make things a lot simpler!

But there's a reason we haven't tackled this issue yet – because Gàidhlig handles the usage of a pronoun object of the verbal noun in a unique way.

For one thing, in Gàidhlig, while you can say (and write)

- Tha mi a' dèanamh cèic – I am making a cake

you can't say,

- *Tha mi a' dèanamh **e** – I am doing **it**

And while you can say,

- Bha i a' leughadh leabhar – she was reading a book.

You can't say,

- *Bha i a' leughadh e – she was reading it

*does not occur

This is using the “aig” form with the verbal noun –

A' = contracted 'aig' or 'ag' – you see the full 'ag' with verbal nouns that begin with a vowel

- Tha mi ag òl = I am drinking
- Tha mi ag èisteachd = I am listening

Then how do we express that idea, the necessity for which (or at least the convenience) occurs quite frequently in language? – that is, the convenience of using a pronoun instead of repeating the noun all the time?

How do we say?

- I'm doing it.
- He is making it.
- They see it.

So, remember to say I am making something, we employ the aig + formation (ag / +) with the verbal noun.

- Tha mi a' dèanamh – I am making / I am at making.
- Tha iad a' faicinn – They are seeing / They are at seeing.
- Tha i ag òl – She is drinking / She is at drinking.

But if we can't use a simple pronoun after the verb (verbal noun) to indicate

- ... making it ...
- ... seeing him ...
- ... drinking it ...

How do we do express this idea?

The answer is that we employ the aig / preposition that we use in the formation of the verbal noun construction plus the possessive pronoun. So instead of

- Ag / a'

in front of the verbal noun, the prepositional pronoun takes on a different form:

- the aig (ag, a') + verbal noun

becomes

- aig + the possessive pronoun + verbal noun.

(Remember, the possessive pronoun are the words for *my, your, his*, etc – or, in Gaelic, *mo, do, a* etc.)

Mo = my

Do = your

A = his / her

Ar = our

Ur = your (pl/form)

An / am = their

In this construction,

- Aig + **mo** = **gam**
- Aig + **do** = **gad**
- Aig + a (masc) = **ga**
- Aig + a (fem) = **ga**
- Aig + **ar** = **gar**
- Aig + **ur** = **gur** (pl & form)
- Aig + an / am = **gan / gam***

So, this is what this form looks like:

- Tha mi **ga** dhèanamh – I am **at its** making (I am making **it** – masc 'it')
- Bha i **ga** leughadh – She was **at its** reading (she was reading **it**)
- Bha iad **gam** chuideachadh – they were **at my** helping (They were helping **me**)
- Tha e **gam** fhaicinn – he is at my seeing (aig + mo)
- Tha i **gad** fhaicinn – she is at your seeing (aig + do)
- Tha i **ga** fhaicinn – she is at his seeing (aig + a / masc)
- Tha e **ga** faicinn – she is at her seeing (aig + a / fem – **no lenition!**)

Remember the 'a' for his lenites & the 'a' for her does not

- A bhràthair – **his** brother
- A bràthair – **her** brother
 - Tha e gar faicinn – he is at our seeing (aig + ar)
 - Tha e gur faicinn – he is at your seeing (aig + ur / pl, form)
 - Tha e **gam** faicinn – he is at their seeing (aig + an/am)
 - Tha e **gan** cluinntinn – he is their hearing

Special notes:

1. Lenition

As the possessive pronouns

- mo
- do
- a (his)

lenite,

- mo **b**hràthair
- do **ch**ù
- a **ch**eann

so do the augmented pronouns (gam, gad etc)

- gam
- gad
- ga (at his / it masc.)

as in

- Tha e **gam** bhualadh. – He is hitting me. [He is **at my** hitting.]
- Tha e **gam** bualadh – he is hitting them
- A bheil e **gad** chuideachadh? – Is he helping you? [Is he **at your** helping?]
- Tha iad **ga** fhaicinn. – They see him/it [They are **at his/its** seeing.]
- Tha iad ga faicinn – they see her (it)

Making a cake or a table -

- Tha i ga dhèanamh (bòrd, m)
- Tha i ga dèanamh (cèic, f)

2. Distinguishing seemingly identical forms

Sometimes, the lenition is the only way to distinguish meaning. In two cases, the augmented prepositions can mean different things.

- ga
- gam
Ga can mean *at his* or *at her*.

Gam can mean *at my* or *at their*.

So, how do we tell them apart?

By whether or not they lenite!

Examples –

- aig + mo > lenition
 - Tha e **gam** bhualadh – He is hitting **me** [He is at **my** hitting]
- Aig + am (their) > no lenition
 - Tha e **gam** bualadh – He is hitting **them** [He is at **their** hitting]
- Aig + a (his/its) > lenition
 - Tha mi ga fhaicinn – I see **him**/it [I am at **his** seeing]
- Aig + a (her / its) > no lenition
 - Tha mi ga faicinn – I see **her**/it [I am at **her** seeing]

Also, keep in mind that the *at their* augmented preposition – *gan & gam* – takes two different forms according to the *bfmp* rule.

- Tha e **gam** faicinn = He sees **them** [He is at **their** seeing]
- Tha i **gan** dèanamh = She is making **them** [She is at **their** making]

3. Another way to distinguish between ‘at him’ and ‘at her’

When the verbal noun begins with a vowel, the augmented preposition *ga* is treated differently depending on whether it indicates

- at his
- at her

In the first case, the *ga* is unchanged

- Tha Seumas **ga** òl – Seumas is drinking it (uisge-beatha, masc)

But in the second instance (‘at her’) the verbal noun takes on a h- prefix

- Tha Seumas **ga h-**òl - Seumas is drinking it (teatha, fem)

4. In a similar fashion, gar and gur (at our and at your / pl., form) add a prefix to a vowel-onset verbal noun.
 - Bha sinn gur n-àrdachadh – We are raising you (up) (pl, form.)
 - Bha iad gar n-àrdachadh = they were raising us (up)
5. Lastly, it should be noted that not all verbs take an object. So, while you can “make it”:
 - ... ga dhèanamh

You can't “go it”

- *... ga dol (go it)
- * ... ga tighinn (come it)

6. Some verbs require a preposition to complete ...

In English, you don't

- Listen it
- Listen to it

And so in Gaelic,

- Èisteachd ri + (listen to)
- Suidhe sìos ... sit down
- Leig e sìos – ‘let’ it down / tha mi ga leigeil sìos – I am at its letting down

Eacarsaichean

Drawing on our list of verbal nouns (below, following the exercises), paying attention to past, present, future tenses ...

In this exercise, since we have not learned the simple past or future tenses, **use the verbal noun** construction in all cases, even though technically, sometimes this form translates as the -ing form. So, for example, if you are asked to translate the following sentence into Gaelic:

- Did you see it? (cù, masc)

For this exercise, you would answer

- An robh thu ga fhaicinn?

We will become more precise in our application of verb tenses as we go forward.

Pay attention to the difference between gam – at my – and gam – at their. The first one, gam, lenites, and that is how we can tell that it is at my – aig mo (remember, mo – my -- lenites). The second one, at their – aig am -- doesn't lenite.

Like the possessive adjective, ga when referring to a feminine object requires h- before a verbal noun beginning with a vowel; and gar / gur requires n- before a verbal noun beginning with a vowel.

As with all the sentence exercises we have done so far, use the verbal noun form.

Translate into English

1. A bheil iad ga fhàgail aig an taigh? Tha.
2. Bha e ga toirt dhan nighean.
3. Am bi thu ga chur dhachaigh? Cha bhi.
4. Bha i gan cur air falbh anns a' bhogsa.
5. An robh an teine gur cumail blàth? Bha.
6. Bha e gam bhualadh.
7. Bha mi gad fhaicinn.
8. Bi mi ga dhèanamh.
9. Tha e gar cuideachadh.
10. Bha mi gur faicinn.
11. Tha i gan togail.
12. Tha e gam bualadh
13. Tha mi ga h-ithe
14. Bha ar màthair gar faicinn.
15. Bidh sinn ga h-àrdachadh.
16. Bha iad gur n-àrdachadh.
17. A bheil thu ga h-aithneachadh
18. Bidh iad ga thogail an ath-bhliadhna
19. Bidh mi ga leaghadh a-màireach.
20. Bidh mi ga cur anns a' ghàrradh
21. Bha Shakespeare ga sgrìobhadh.
22. Bha sinn ga cluinntinn.
23. Bha e gam mealladh.
24. Bha e gam mhealladh.
25. Bidh sinn ga ghlanadh.

Translate into Gàidhlig

1. Do you see it now? Yes, I see it.

2. Seamus hears you well.
3. Will you be taking him to the park tomorrow? Yes.
4. Don't you understand me at all?
5. Will you be opening it tomorrow? Yes.
6. We see her.
7. Màiri hears you.
8. I heard you.
9. She is making it. (fem.)
10. She was making it. (masc)
11. They were helping me.
12. They will see him.
13. They were helping me.
14. Will you sing it? (òran / masc)
15. I will read it tomorrow. (leabhar / masc)
16. They got them.
17. They got me.
18. Do you speak it? (Gàidhlig, fem)
19. Did you say it?
20. My brother drank it (uisge-beatha, masc)
21. We will exult it (Gàidhlig, fem)
22. Did Tòmas eat it (cèic, fem)
23. Will you eat it (ubhal, masc)
24. Micheal was saying it. (generalized 'it', default, masc)
25. We will keep it (piseag, fem)
26. Will you keep it (cù, masc)
27. Alasdair denied it (generalized 'it', default masc)
28. J.K. Rowling wrote it (leabhar, masc)
29. I will plant it in the garden (craobh, tree, fem)
30. We heard it (ceòl, masc)
31. We saw it (prògram, masc)
32. Did Màiri recognize you?
33. Will you recognize him?
34. Did you eat it? (biadh, masc)
35. Do you smell it? (biadh, masc)
36. Do you smell it? (bò, fem)
37. Shakespeare wrote it (bàrdachd, fem)
38. He deceived me
39. I was cleaning it (rùm, masc)
40. Do you deny it? (generalized 'it', default, masc)

**pronunciation note: regional variations -- dèanamh > *jee-en-ev* or *jee-en-nou*

- Ga dèanamh > ga jen-ev / ga jen-nou
- Ga dhèanamh > ga yen ev / ga yen-nou

Airson do chuideachaidh (for your assistance)

Refresher: List of some Verbal Nouns

àrdachadh	Raising (up), exulting!
sgrìobhadh	writing
aithneachadh	recognizing
cluinntinn	Hearing
ràdh	Saying
seinn	Singing
cluich	Playing
dèanamh	Doing
faicinn	Seeing
faighinn	Getting
cumail	keeping
aideachadh	deny
bruidhinn	Speaking
tuigsinn	Understanding
togail	Lifting, building (as in, a building)
cur	Sending, planting, putting
leughadh	Reading
òl	Drinking
ithe	Eating
faireachdainn	Feeling, smelling
mealladh	Deceiving
glanadh	cleaning

Answer key

Translate into English - answers

1. A bheil iad ga fhàgail aig an taigh? Tha.	Are they leaving him/it at the house. Yes.
2. Bha e ga toirt dhan nighean.	He was giving it to the girl.
3. Am bi thu ga chur dhachaigh? Cha bhi.	Will you send him/it home. No.
4. Bha i gan cur air falbh anns a' bhogsa.	She was putting them away in the box.
5. An robh an teine gur cumail blàth? Bha.	Was the fire keeping you warm. Yes.
6. Bha e gam bhualadh.	He was hitting me.
7. Bha mi gad fhaicinn.	I saw you (was seeing you).
8. Bi mi ga dhèanamh.	I will do it (will be doing it)
9. Tha e gar cuideachadh.	He is helping us.
10. Bha mi gur faicinn.	I was seeing (saw) you.
11. Tha i gan togail.	She is lifting them.
12. Tha e gam bualadh	He is hitting me.
13. Tha mi ga h-ithe	I am eating it.
14. Bha ar màthair gar faicinn.	Our mother was seeing (saw) us.
15. Bidh sinn ga h-àrdachadh.	We will promote/exalt her/it
16. Bha iad gur n-àrdachadh.	They were promoting/exalting you (all).
17. A bheil thu ga h-aithneachadh	Are you recognizing her (do you recognize her)
18. Bidh iad ga thogail an ath-bhliadhna	They will build it next year.
19. Bidh mi ga leaghadh a-màireach.	I will read it tomorrow.
20. Bidh mi ga cur anns a' ghàrradh	I will plant it in the garden.
21. Bha Shakespeare ga sgrìobhadh.	Shakespeare wrote it.
22. Bha sinn ga cluinntinn.	We heard it / was hearing it
23. Bha e gam mealladh.	He deceived us / was deceiving
24. Bha e gam mhealladh.	He deceived me / was deceiving
25. Bidh sinn ga ghlanadh.	We were cleaning it / him (cleaned it)

Translate into Gàidhlig - answers

1. Do you see it now? Yes, I see it.	A bheil thu ga fhaicinn? Tha, tha mi ga fhaicinn.
2. Seamus hears you well.	Tha Seamus gad chluinntinn gu math.
3. Will you be taking him to the park tomorrow? Yes.	Am bi thu ga chur dhan a' phàirc a-màireach? Bidh.
4. Don't you understand me at all?	Nach eil thu gam thuigsinn idir idir idir?
5. Will you be opening it tomorrow? Yes.	Am bidh thu ga fhosgladh a-màireach? Bidh.
6. We see her.	Tha sinn ga faicinn.
7. Màiri hears you.	Tha Màiri gad chluinntinn.
8. I heard you.	Bha mi gad chluinntinn.
9. She is making it. (fem.)	Tha i ga dèanamh.
10. She was making it. (masc)	Bha i ga dhèanamh.
11. They were helping me.	Bha iad gam chuideachadh.
12. They will see him.	Bidh iad ga fhaicinn.
13. They were helping me.	Bha iad gam chuideachadh.
14. Will you sing it? (òran / masc)	A bheil thu ga sheinn?
15. I will read it tomorrow. (leabhar / masc)	Bi mi ga leaghadh a-màireach.
16. They got them.	Bha iad gam faighinn.

17. They got me.	Bha iad gam faighinn.
18. Do you speak it? (Gàidhlig, fem)	An robh thu ga bruidhinn?
19. Did you say it?	An robh thu ga ràdh?
20. My brother drank it (uisge-beatha, masc)	Bha mo bhràthair ga òl.
21. We will exult it (Gàidhlig, fem)	Bi sinn ga h-àrdachadh.
22. Did Tòmas eat it (cèic, fem)	An robh Tòmas ga h-ithe?
23. Will you eat it (ubhal, masc)	Am bidh you ga ithe?
24. Micheal was saying it. (generalized 'it', default, masc)	Bha Micheal ga ràdh.
25. We will keep it (piseag, fem)	Bi sinn ga cumail.
26. Will you keep it (cù, masc)	A bheil thu ga chumail?
27. Alasdair denied it (generalized 'it', default masc)	Bha Alasdair ga dhiùltadh.
28. J.K. Rowling wrote it (leabhar, masc)	Bha J.K. Rowling ga sgrìobhadh.
29. I will plant it in the garden (craobh, tree, fem)	Bi mi ga chur anns a' gàrradh.
30. We heard it (ceòl, masc)	Bha sinn ga chluinntinn.
31. We saw it (prògram, masc)	Bha sinn ga fhaicinn.
32. Did Màiri recognize you?	An robh Màiri gad aithneachadh?
33. Will you recognize him?	Am bi thu ga aithneachadh?
34. Did you eat it? (biadh, masc)	An robh thu ga ithe?
35. Do you smell it? (biadh, masc)	An robh thu ga fhàileadh?
36. Do you smell it? (bò, fem)	An robh thu ga fàileadh?
37. Shakespeare wrote it (bàrdachd, fem)	Bha Shakespeare ga sgrìobhadh.
38. He deceived me	Bha e gam mhealladh.
39. I was cleaning it (rùm, masc)	Bha mi ga ghlanadh.
40. Do you deny it? (generalized 'it', default, masc)	A bheil thu ga dhiùltadh?

Sgeulachd na seachdain

Maisy Luch

a' Dèanamh Aran-Cridhe



Lucy Cousins

A' Ghàidhlig le Acair

Tha Maisy anns
a' chidsin an-diugh.



Tha i a' dol
a dhèanamh
aran-cridhe.



Tha Maisy a' cur
feum air min-flùir,
siùcar, ìm, uighean
agus dinnsear.



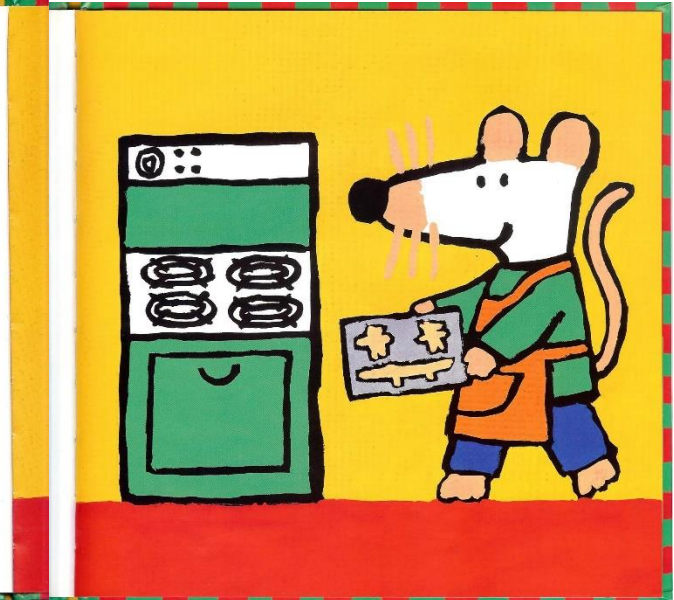
Tha Maisy
a' measgachadh
a h-uile càil
còmhla.



Tha i ga roiligeadh
a-mach agus ga
ghearradh ann an
cumaidhean eadar-
dhealaichte.



Tha Maisy an
uair sin a' cur
an arain-cridhe
dhan àmhainn.



Tha Maisy ag
imleach a' bhòbhla
fhad 's a tha an
t-aran-cridhe
a' bruich.



An uair sin tha i
a' nighe nan
soithichean.
Gliong - gliong!
Siud an clag!
An dùil cò th' ann?



Teàrlach agus
Tallulah!

Dìreach ann an
tìde airson cupan
math teatha.



Ium, ium!
Abair aran-cridhe
math, a Mhaisy.



Feum = need, or 'have to'

- *Feumaidh mi falbh = I have to go*
- *Tha feum agam air dinnear*
- *Tha i a' cur feum ... she has need ...*
- *Còmhla = together, còmhla ri chèile = together (people)*

Òran na seachdain

Teann a-nall 's thoir dhomh do làmh

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38MgxvVSTXk>

cianalas = home sickness, nostalgia

<p>Sèist</p> <p>Teann a-nall 's thoir dhomh do làmh, Teann a-nall 's thoir dhomh do làmh, Teann a-nall 's thoir dhomh do làmh, Is bheir mi sgrìob do dh'Uibhist leat.</p> <p>Come close – teann a-nall = in my direction bheir = future / take sgrìob = trip, walk,</p> <p>Tha am feasgar ciùin 's na siantan blàth, Tha ghrian san iar mar mheall den òr, Tha an cuan mar sgàthan gorm gun sgleò, 'S bu mhòr mo mhiann bhith 'n Uibhist leat.</p> <p>Sèist /</p> <p>Tha sìth air aghaidh beinn is raon, Tha fàileadh cùbhraidh thar an fhraoich, 'S tha neòinean bhòidheach fàs gach taobh, 'S bu mhòr mo mhiann bhith 'n Uibhist leat.</p> <p>Fàileadh = smell, fragrance Cùbhraidh = sweet smelling</p> <p>Sèist /</p> <p>Na h-eòin a' seinn air bhàrr nan geug 'S an seillean tional mil dha fhèin Na h-uain a' mireag - ruith 's a' leum 'S bu mhòr mo mhiann bhith 'n Uibhist leat.</p> <p>Sèist /</p> <p>Tha 'n iarmailt gorm gun lorg air neul An sruthan torghan nuas bhon t-sliabh A' chuthag ghlas 's gùg-gùg na beul 'S bu mhòr mo mhiann bhith 'n Uibhist leat.</p> <p>Sèist /</p> <p>Tha 'n crodh a' geumnaich anns a' chrò</p>	<p><i>Chorus:</i></p> <p><i>Come, and give to me your hand, Come, and give to me your hand, Come, and give to me your hand, And I will take a trip to Uist with you</i></p> <p><i>The evening's calm, the weather warm, The western sun is an orb of gold, The sea is like a mirror, blue without a cloud, Great is my wish to be in Uist with you</i></p> <p><i>Chorus</i></p> <p><i>A peace is on the face of the mountain and pasture And sweet fragrance on the heather Beautiful flowers grow on each side, Great is my wish to be in Uist with you</i></p> <p><i>Chorus</i></p> <p><i>The birds are singing on the tops of the branches And the bees gathering honey for themselves The sheep are playing – running and jumping Great is my wish to be in Uist with you</i></p> <p><i>Chorus</i></p> <p><i>The sky is blue without a trace of cloud The streams murmuring down from the mountains The grey cuckoo sings coo-ko And great my wish to be in Uist with you</i></p> <p><i>Chorus</i></p> <p><i>The cattle are lowing in the pen</i></p>
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<p>A' bhanarach 's a cuach na dòrn A' seinn a duan 's i bleoghann bhò 'S bu mhòr mo mhiann bhith 'n Uibhist leat.</p>	<p><i>The dairymaid with her bucket in hand Is singing her song and milking cows. And great my wish to be in Uist with you</i></p>
<p>Sèist /</p>	<p><i>Chorus</i></p>
<p>Bu mhòr mo mhiann bhith 'n siud san àm, Is m' inntinn fad' bho thìr nan Gall, Ag èisteachd sgeulachd, òran 's rann, 'S bu mhòr mo mhiann bhith an Uibhist leat.</p>	<p><i>Great my wish to be there right now And my mind far from the land of the Gall Hearing stories, songs, and poems Great my wish to be in Uist with you</i></p>
<p>Sèist /</p>	<p><i>Chorus</i></p>
<p>Tha pòr na machrach làn de bhiadh Tha breac air linne 's lach air sgiath Tha iasg am pailteas sa Chuan Shiar 'S bu mhòr mo mhiann bhith an Uibhist leat. <i>An cuan siar = the western sea</i></p>	<p><i>The harvest of the machair is full of food Salmon in ponds and ducks on the wing Fish plenty in the Western Sea Great my wish to be in Uist with you</i></p>
<p>Sèist /</p>	<p><i>Chorus</i></p>
<p>Is dìomhain dhuinne bhith cho faoin A' siubhal saoghail ruith gach maoin, Tha beatha is slàinte an tìr mo ghaoil, 'S gun tèid mi thàmh do dh'Uibhist leat. <i>Tàmh = home / peace-rest</i></p>	<p><i>It's silly of people to be so foolish To roam the world in search of wealth. There's health and wealth in the land I love And I shall go home to Uist with you</i></p>
<p>Sèist /</p>	

Co là breith sona = happy birthday