

The Book of 'Is'

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Introduction

This document was written to accompany a workshop on the ‘Is’ verb. I have included a lot of technical information because I know that people will want to refer back to it long after the workshop has passed and quickly written notes only go so far in helping the memory.

It uses techniques that have helped me over the years to become more comfortable with this topic. Other teachers will have their own way of communicating this information. Diversity of thought on the matter is useful.

In my opinion, one of the difficulties for learners regarding the ‘Is’ verb is that as learners of Gaelic we spend as much time as we can avoiding it, dreading it, feeling insecure about it and, finally, negatively reinforcing ourselves regarding our use of it. So, when we can’t avoid using it, it is frequently used incorrectly. For this document, I’m contriving a situation where the verb ‘Bi’ is intentionally diminished and ‘Is’ is favored. I hope that this will break the fear of ‘is’ and provide as complete and reassuring experience as possible.

Another goal I have for this examination of the ‘Is’ verb is to see it in use in a number of useful constructions. Often this means I will give you a simple example of a form, then pair it with another topic. This will expand the ‘Is’ verb’s utility, providing more opportunities to practice. It is wise to make sure you can use the simple forms before moving on to the intermediate and advanced examples.

I have attached the complete list of Gaelic/English translations of my example sentences at the end of the document.

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Tapadh leibh!

‘Is’ - “The other verb - ‘to be’ ”

People often fear what they don’t understand and many learners of Gaelic don’t understand the ‘Is’ verb. This is reasonable. A lot of learners avoid the ‘Is’ verb and, as a result, never master it. Most of the ‘learn Gaelic’ books don’t help. They offer incomplete or confusing explanations. Older books use examples which have fallen out of favor in current times. Some books avoid discussing the verb at all, or only mention the minimum necessary. What follows is what I have gathered through experience and research.

- There are two verbs ‘to be’ in Gaelic - ‘Bi’ and ‘Is.’ For people who only speak English, it is very difficult to begin the process of differentiating when to use one version of ‘to be’ versus another. It will require, time, practice and patience. Don’t give up!
- ‘Is’ is referred to by many names: ‘the copula’ (a fancy name for “the verb ‘to be’” joining/equating two nouns) and ‘the assertive verb’ (an assertion is made that is beyond doubt), being two such names.
- Some people say that ‘Bi’ is used for things that change rapidly (think mood, weather, etc.) while ‘Is’ is used for things that change slowly or not at all (nationality or occupation (for most people)).
- Some people say that **‘Bi’ describes** while **‘Is’ defines (or emphasizes)**.
- ‘Bi’ is used for a wider array of purposes, while ‘Is’ is used for specific purposes and as a result learners don’t practice ‘Is’ often.

Here’s a few key things to know about Gaelic verbs in general:

- Each form should be unique to avoid ambiguity
- There are two kinds of verbs that we must know immediately: tensed verbs (have a time element) and un-tensed verbs (no time element)
- Using the **imperative form** of the verb and knowing the rules, one can make all the forms of the tensed verbs.
- Using the **verbal noun** form of the verb and knowing the rules, one can make all the forms of the un-tensed verbs.
- This is why one should always learn the imperative and verbal noun forms when learning a new verb.
- Gaelic is a verb initial language and so there are four forms students need to learn. There is one **independent form**, which consists of one word, and three **dependent forms**, which are comprised of two or more words. The particles ‘Cha,’ ‘An,’ and ‘Nach’ of the dependent forms are recycled for every verb in the language.
- There are four pieces of information that tensed verb forms should communicate: **Tense, Meaning, positive or negative, and statement or question.**

On the following page is a chart that compares ‘Bi’ to ‘Is’; diagrams where the four key pieces of information are found; shows the

recyclability of ‘Cha,’ ‘An,’ and ‘Nach’; and exposes one of the ‘Is’ verb’s difficulties - that the verb part disappears in the present tense!

Bi and Is: Compared and Diagrammed

	Bi (Irregular, only verb to have all tenses)	Is (Irregular & defective - no future tense)
Present Tense	T, M, +, ● Tha (Independent form, one word)	T, M, +, ● Is (Independent form, one word)
	-, ● T, M Chan eil (Dependent form, more than one word)	-, ● T, M Cha ☁ (Dependent form, more than one word)
	+, ? T, M A(m) bheil	+, ? T, M An ☁ <i>'Cha,' 'An,' and 'Nach' are recycled!</i>
	-, ? T, M Nach eil	-, ? T, M Nach ☁ <i>I use a cloud to represent the missing part of Is.</i>
Past Tense	T, M, +, ● Bha	T, M, +, ● Bu* <i>'Bu' likes to lenite, but not 's,' 't,' or 'd.'</i>
	-, ● T, M Cha robh	-, ● T, M Cha bu* <i>'Cha' usually likes to lenite, but not here.</i>
	+, ? T, M An robh	+, ? T, M Am bu* <i>Before vowels, 'Bu' frequently becomes "B" "</i>
	-, ? T, M Nach robh	-, ? T, M Nach bu*
Future	T, M, +, ● Bithidh / Bidh	<i>'Is' has no future tense! Why? My thought: You can't assert that something IS that hasn't happened yet.</i>
	-, ● T, M Cha bhi	Note: All four bits of information are contained in the one word of the independent form!
	+, ? T, M Am bi	Key: T = tense, M = meaning, + = positive, - = negative, ? = question, ● = statement.
	-, ? T, M Nach bi	

Form 1: Is + personal pronoun + definite noun

This simplest form of the ‘Is’ verb is where the ‘Is’ verb is used with a personal pronoun for definition. **The emphatic pronouns should be used** (mise, thusa (tusa), esan, ise, sinne, sibhse, iadsan). “To say a person or thing is a person or thing, use a form of IS” (Black, 1997, page 25).

‘Is’ Present Tense: the usual four forms, using the column method:

	<u>Verb</u>		<u>Subject (Pronoun)</u>		<u>Predicate (Definite Noun)</u>	
1)	Is		mise		Goraidh.	
2)	Cha ☁		mhise		Anna.	[Chan before vowels]
3)	An ☁		esan		am bèicear?	[Am before m, b, f, p]
4)	Nach ☁		iadsan		na bèicearean?	

In the dependent forms of the verb (the one that requires more than one word), ‘Is’ disappears in the present tense leaving only the recyclable ‘Cha,’ ‘An,’ and ‘Nach’ particles. For conceptual diagrams, I like to use a little cloud symbol to fill in the missing part of the verb, to show that the spirit of ‘Is’ lives on (perhaps playing a harp while resting on the cloud) but is not represented by letters. Visually including the cloud makes ‘Is’ behave more like other verbs. This does not violate the principle that tensed verb forms should be unique to avoid ambiguity because ‘Is’ is the only verb to do this. In other words, with its visual absence, ‘Is’ is telling you which verb is present. Wrap your head around that! ‘Is’ is visually absent in the present dependent forms, but not in the past tense.

‘Is’ Past Tense: the usual four forms, using the column method:

	<u>Verb</u>		<u>Subject (Pronoun)</u>		<u>Predicate (Definite Noun)</u>	
5)	Bu*		mhise		am fear.	Bu* likes to lenite, but not:
6)	Cha bu*		mhise		an tè.	the usual: l, n, r, vowels
7)	Am b’*		esan		am bèicear?	or: s, d, and t (d & t = the To Die for rule)
8)	Nach b’*		iadsan		na bèicearean?	Bu becomes B’ before vowels.

No more cloud as ‘bu’ steps in to make things follow the usual pattern that we are familiar with.

Next, we explore some simple sentences. **Note: ‘thusa’ usually becomes ‘tusa’ when used with the ‘Is’ verb.**

Form 1: Simple Sentences:

Present Tense:

- | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 9) | Is mise Goraidh. | Cha mhise Anndra. | Am mise am fear? | Nach mise am fear? | 'S mi./Cha mhì. |
| 10) | Is tusa Mòrag. | Cha tusa mo nighean. | An tusa Mòrag? | Nach tusa an còcaire? | 'S tu. Cha tu. |
| 11) | Is esan Eachann. | Chan esan Eachann. | An esan Raibeart? | Nach esan am bèicear? | 'S e. Chan e. |
| 12) | Is ise Eilidh. | Chan ise am bèicear. | An ise Eilidh? | Nach ise am bèicear? | 'S i. Chan i. |
| 13) | Is sinne na h-oileanaich. | Cha sinne na h-oileanaich. | An sinne na tìdsearan? | Nach sinne na tìdsearan? | Is sinne/Cha sinne. |
| 14) | Is sibhse am bèicear. | Cha sibhse am bèicear. | An sibhse an còcaire? | Nach sibhse an còcaire? | Is sibhse/Cha sibhse. |
| 15) | Is iadsan na tìdsearan. | Chan iadsan na saoir. | An iadsan na saoir? | Nach iadsan na saoir? | 'S iad/Chan iad. |

Past Tense:

- | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 16) | Bu mhise am bancair. | Cha bu mhise am bancair. | Am bu mhise am posta? | Nach bu mhise am portair? | Bu mhì./Cha bu mhì. |
| 17) | Bu tusa am fuineadair. | Cha bu tusa an reiceadair. | Am bu tusa am banaltram? | Nach bu tusa am bancair? | Bu tu. Cha bu tu. |
| 18) | B' esan am fuineadair. | Cha b' esan am bancair. | Am b' esan am peantair? | Nach b' esan am portair? | B' e. Cha b' e. |
| 19) | B' ise a' bhanaltram. | Cha b' ise am bùidsear. | Am b' ise an reiceadair? | Nach b' ise am bancair? | B' i. Cha b' i. |
| 20) | Bu sinne na h-oileanaich. | Cha bu sinne na saoir. | Am bu sinne na daoine? | Nach bu sinne na saoir? | Bu sinn. Cha bu sinn. |
| 21) | Bu sibhse am bancair. | Cha bu sibhse am posta. | Am bu sibhse am portair? | Nach bu sibhse an saor? | Bu sibh. Cha bu sibh. |
| 22) | B' iadsan na daoine. | Cha b' iadsan na saoir. | Am b' iadsan na bancairean? | Nach b' iadsan na saoir? | B' iad. Cha b' iad. |

Form 1: Intermediate Sentences (adding a simple relative clause with ‘bi’):

The simple sentences can define, but are otherwise limited in utility. In the following sentences we attach a ‘Bi’ clause on the end to add more information. The ‘a’ can be translated as ‘who.’ **Note:** once we start adding more information, we assume there is a larger context.

- 23) **An esan** am bèicear a bha aig a’ chèilidh a-raoir? **’S e. / Chan e.**
(Note the response matches the ‘Is’ verb at the front, not the ‘Bi’ verb in the middle.)
- 24) **Is esan** am bèicear a bha aig a’ chèilidh a-raoir.
- 25) **Chan esan** am bèicear a bha aig a’ chèilidh a-raoir.
- 26) **An ise** am bèicear a tha a’ dèanamh na cèice? **’S i. / Chan i.**
(Note the use of the genitive form of cake following the verbal noun. This is most proper but disappearing in modern usage.)
- 27) **Is ise** am bèicear a tha a’ dèanamh na cèice.
- 28) **Chan ise** am bèicear a tha a’ dèanamh na cèice.
- 29) **Nach iadsan** na bèicearean a bhitheas a’ dèanamh na cèice airson na bainnse? **’S iad. / Chan iad.**
- 30) **Is iadsan** na bèicearean a bhitheas a’ dèanamh na cèice airson na bainnse.
- 31) **Chan iadsan** na bèicearean a bhitheas a’ dèanamh na cèice airson na bainnse.
- 32) **An esan** am bèicear nach robh aig a’ chèilidh a-raoir? **’S e. / Chan e.**
- 33) **Nach esan** am bèicear nach robh aig a’ chèilidh a-raoir? **’S e. / Chan e.**
- 34) **An ise** an còcaire nach eil ag obair an-diugh? **’S i. / Chan i.**
- 35) **An iadsan** na h-oileanaich nach bi ag ionnsachadh Gàidhlig? **’S iad. / Chan iad.**

Form 1: Advanced Sentences:

With these advanced sentences, we are getting a little fancier and our relative clauses use verbs other than 'Bi.'

- 36) **An esan** an còcaire a tha a' còcaireachd an-dràsta aig an taigh-bìdh ri taobh na h-aibhne? **'S e. / Chan e.**
- 37) **An ise** am boireannach a cheannaich cèicean aig bùth nan cèicean beaga? **'S i. / Chan i. (M)**
- 38) **An tusa** am bancair a choisich suas an rathad aig leth-uair às dèidh trì an-dè? **'S mi. / Cha mhì.**
- 39) **An sibhse** na h-oileanaich a nì an obair-dachaidh agaibh a-nochd? **Is sibh. / Cha sibh.**
- 40) **An sibhse** am fear-teagaisg a theagaisgeas an clas an ath sheachdainn? **Is sibh. / Cha sibh.**

Ceistean agus Freagairtean

Note: The responses are from the point of view of the person being asked the question.

- 41) Nach sibhse am bancair ùr? **'S mi. / Cha mhì.**
- 42) Is esan Dòmhnall, nach e? **'S e. / Chan e.**
- 43) An sibhse Alastair MacDhòmhnail? **'S mi. / Cha mhì.**
- 44) An tusa Màiri Bheag? **'S mi. Is mise Màiri Bheag. / Cha mhì. Is mise Anna Shnog.**
- 45) An sibhse fear an taighe a-nochd? **'S mi. Is mise esan.**
- 46) Am bu tusa an tè a dh'ith an t-seòclaid? **Bu mhì an tè. / Cha bu mhì an tè.**
- 47) Nach b' esan am fear a dh'òl uisge? **B' e. / Cha b' e.**

Form 1: Build a Sentence

Using the column method, choose an item from each column to make a sentence. The first three columns (in bold) are REQUIRED to make a sentence, while the remaining columns (not bold) are optional. Leave off the relative bit, until you are comfortable with the simplest sentences. Make sure to match plural predicates with plural subjects! I have italicized them!

Verb	Subject	Predicate		<u>Relative</u>	<u>Relative Phrase</u>
Is / 'S	mise	Alastair			
Cha(n) ☁	tusa/sibhse	Julia Roberts			
An / Am ☁	esan	Seumas			
Nach ☁	ise	Anna			
Bu* / B**	(mhise)	am bancair		a (+)	tha ag òl uisge beatha
Cha bu* / b**		an còcaire		<i>(a likes the</i>	bha ag ithe cèic a-raoir
Am bu* / b**		am bèicear		<i>independent</i>	bhitheas a' sgrìobhadh na litreach
Nach bu* / b**		an saor		<i>form of the</i>	phògas an duine gasta
<i>(Bu does not</i>		am fear		<i>verb)</i>	ruith air falbh bhon a' mhathan chrosta
<i>lenite t, s, or</i>		an tè			
<i>vowels!)</i>		an nurs/banaltram		nach (-)	eil ag òl sùgh orainds aig an taigh-seinnse
		an t-oileanach		<i>(nach likes</i>	robh ag òl cofaidh madainn an-diugh
		am balach		<i>the</i>	bi a' falbh le baidhseagal
				<i>dependent</i>	deach dhan bhaile an-dè
				<i>form of the</i>	d' fhuair an leabhar air loidhne
		<i>na tidsearan</i>		<i>verb.)</i>	
	<i>sinne</i>	<i>na bèicearean</i>			
	<i>sibhse</i>	<i>na h-oileanaich</i>			
	<i>iadsan</i>	<i>na feadhainn</i>			

Gudramanan (Odds and Ends)

- 48) Is sibhse an Rìgh/a' Bhànriugh.
- 49) Cha tusa Anna, an tu?
- 50) Is tusa a tha aig an doras.
- 51) 'S tusa a th' ann!
- 52) 'S mise a th' ann.
- 53) 'S mise an duine.
- 54) 'S mise do dhuine.
- 55) Is esan mac a' bhèiceir.

- 56) Nach b' ise an tè?

- 57) Nach tusa an gille math!

- 58) Tha mi toilichte **gur** sibhse an tidsear.
- 59) Bithidh a' chèic math airson **gur** tusa am bèicear.
- 60) Pògaidh mi thu fhèin airson **nach** tusa am fear a dh'ith an reòiteag mu dheireadh.

Form 1 - Sources and Further Readings:

- Black, Ronald - Cothrom Ionnsachaidh: Units 1.1, 1.2, p. 15; Units 1.19, 1.20, pp 21-22; Unit 1.32 p. 24; Unit 2.1 p. 25; Unit 2.5, pp. 27-28; Unit 2.7, p. 28; Units 2.11, 2.12, p. 30; Unit 3.24, p. 43; Unit 5.2, pp. 55-56.
- Fisher, Muriel - Scottish Gaelic, Level 4, 2nd Ed.: 'More on "Is,"' pp. 57-58; 'The "Buh" forms of Is,' pp. 58-61
- Mark, Colin - Gaelic Verbs Systemised and Simplified: Chapter 2, pp. 21 - 23; Chapter 10, A.6.1, pp. 169-170;
- Ó Maolalaigh, Roibeard - Scottish Gaelic in Twelve Weeks: Units 9 & 10, pp. 8-10; Unit 31, p. 43

Form 2: 'S e + definite noun + definite noun

In this form we introduce the impersonal pronoun 'e' meaning 'it.' Normally a pronoun stands in for another noun, but in this case it does not. This is why I call this 'e' the 'philosophical it.' I have also seen it referred to as an 'augment.' The 'philosophical it' is almost always 'e,' although sometimes in old books, poetry and song you might see 'i.' 'E' is preferred today.

When 'Is' is augmented, the positive and negative responses tend to be reduced to " 'S e" and "Chan e" respectively, but watch out for " 'S i" and "Chan i" in answers making direct references to females.

'Is' Present Tense: the usual four forms of the verb:

	<u>Verb + augment</u>		<u>Subject (Definite Noun)</u>		<u>Predicate (Definite Noun)</u>
61)	(Is e) 'S e		Anndra		am bèicear.
62)	Chan e		mo bhràthair		an còcaire.
63)	An e		Uilleam		d' athair?
64)	Nach e		do phiuthar		an tìdsear Gàidhlig?

'Is' Past Tense: the usual four forms of the verb:

	<u>Verb + augment</u>		<u>Subject (Definite Noun)</u>		<u>Predicate (Definite Noun)</u>	
65)	B' e		Dùghlas		am fear.	Bu* likes to lenite, but in this case the augment prevents lenition from affecting the subject.
66)	Cha b' e		Eilidh		an tè.	
67)	Am b' e		Flòraidh		am bèicear?	
68)	Nach b' e		Ùna		am bancair?	

Form 2: Basic Sentences

- 69) 'S e Alastair an tìdsear.
- 70) 'S e **m' athair** am bèicear. Thoir an aire! 'S e **mo mhàthair** am bèicear.
- 71) 'S e Doileag mo phiuthar agus am bèicear.
- 72) 'S e Cailean am bancair againn.
- 73) Chan e do bhràthair am posta.
- 74) Chan e Alastair an tìdsear.
- 75) Chan e Fearchar mo bhràthair.
- 76) Chan e Seumas an croitear.
- 77) An e Dòmhnall an tìdsear? 'S e. / Chan e.
- 78) An e Raonaid do mhàthair? 'S i. / Chan i. (Note: The answer makes a direct reference)
- 79) An e an clachair d' athair? 'S e. / Chan e.
- 80) An e do sheanair an tuathanach shuas an rathad? 'S e. / Chan e.
- 81) Nach e Ailean am plumair ann an Dùn Èideann? 'S e. / Chan e.
- 82) Nach e Uilleam do bhràthair? 'S e. / Chan e.
- 83) Nach e an t-iasgair do charaid? 'S e. / Chan e.
- 84) Nach e do phiuthar an seinneadair math? 'S i. / Chan i.
- 85) B' e Deòrsa an Rìgh.
- 86) B' e Iain an tàilear math.
- 87) Cha b' e do bhràthair am plumair dona.
- 88) Cha b' e do mhac an t-oileanach math. 'B e do nighean an t-oileanach math.
- 89) Am b' e a bhean am bèicear uabhasach math? B' i. / Cha b' i.
- 90) Am b' e do sheanair am bàrd ainmeil? B' e. / Cha b' e.
- 91) Nach b' e Gillebrìde an t-iasgair leis a' bhàta bheag? B' e. / Cha b' e.
- 92) Nach b' e Doileag am peantair às na h-eileanan? B' i. / Cha b' i.

Form 2: Advanced Sentences

Just as with Form 1, we can add some relative phrases to our sentences to make them more interesting and useful.

- 93) An e do mhàthair am bèicear a dh'fhuineas na cèicean? 'S e. / Chan e.
94) Chan e. 'S e mo mhàthair an còcaire a chòcairicheas biadh fàs-bheartach.
95) An e Uilleam do bhràthair a bhitheas a' fuireach ann an Glaschu? 'S e. / Chan e.
96) Chan e Dòmhnall an tìdsear a bhios (a bhitheas) ag obair aig an sgoil ann an Dùn Èideann.
97) 'S e Alastair an sgrìobhadair a sgrìobh ceithir leabhraichean.
98) 'S e 'Game of Thrones' am prògram as fheàrr air an telebhisean.
99) Nach e an reiceadair an tè a bha aig a' chèilidh a-raoir? 'S e. / Chan e.
100) Am b' e Uilleam am plumair a bha ag obair aig an taigh agamsa an-dè? B' e. / Cha b' e.
101) Cha b' e a bhràthair am bancair a bha aig a' bhanca Diluain.
102) Nach b' e Ùna an tìdsear a bha aig an sgoil anns an Eilean Sgitheanach? B' i. / Cha b' i.

Form 2: Build a Sentence

<u>Verb</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Predicate</u>	<u>Relative</u>	<u>Relative Phrase</u>
'S e	Anndra	do bhràthair		
Chan ☘ e	Uilleam	an tàilear		
An ☘ e	Dùghlas	an tuathanach	a	tha ag òl uisge beatha
Nach ☘ e	Doileag	a nighean		bha ag ithe cèic a-raoir
B' e	Anna	an nurs		bhitheas a' sgrìobhadh na litreach
Cha b' e	am bancair	Alastair		phògas an duine gasta
Am b' e	an còcaire	Seumas		ruith air falbh bhon a' mhathan chrosta
Nach b' e	am bèicear	Julia Roberts		
	an saor	Dòmhnall		
	am fear	Cailean		
	an t-oileanach	an tè	nach	eil ag òl sùgh orainds aig an taigh-seinnse
	do bhalach	an nurs		robh ag òl cofaidh madainn an-diugh
	an sgrìobhadair	do charaid		bi a' falbh air baidhseagal
	do sheanair	am bàrd		deach dhan bhaile an-dè
				d' fhuair an leabhar air loidhne
	<i>na mnathan</i>	<i>na bèicearean</i>		
	<i>na balaich</i>	<i>na h-oileanaich</i>		

Gudramanan (Odds and Ends)

We can use 'Is + augment' with the pronouns from Form 1:

- 103) 'S e mise Uilleam.
- 104) 'S e thusa an tìdsear.
- 105) Chan e esan Seumas.
- 106) Chan e ise am plumair.
- 107) An e sinne an clas?
- 108) An e sibhse am bèicear?
- 109) Nach e iadsan na h-oileanaich?

- 110) 'S e mo bhràthair am fear a chuala tu.
- 111) 'S e sin an croitear a chunnaic mi an-dè!
- 112) 'S e Dòmhnall an sgrìobhadair a thàinig.
- 113) ['S e] siud an doras.
- 114) ['S e] sin Raibeart.
- 115) ['S e] seo Peadar.

Form 2 - Sources and Further Readings:

- Black, Ronald - Cothrom Ionnsachaidh: Unit 4.11, p. 48
- Ó Maolalaigh, Roibeard - Scottish Gaelic in Twelve Weeks: Unit 21, pp. 23-25; Unit 77, pp. 120-121
- Byrne, Michel - Gràmar na Gàidhlig: Unit 5.3.3, p. 95
- Mark, Colin - Gaelic Verbs Systemised and Simplified: Chapter 10, A.6.2-A.7, pp. 170-174;

Form 3: “ ’S e ” and “ ’S ann ” for defining and emphasis

Form 3: Part 1: “ ’S e ... a ... ” (Defining using ‘Is’ and indefinite nouns)

“Is e” becomes “ ’S e ” and is the form to use when defining a noun with an indefinite noun. Using this format we can define details about ourselves such as our nationalities and occupations. Remember, in Forms 1 and 2, we were using DEFINITE nouns, so we were saying such things as “I am THE baker” whereas with this form we can say, “I am A baker.”

Form 3: Part 1: “ ’S e ” Basic Format:

	<u>Verb + Augment</u>		<u>Indefinite noun</u>		<u>Relative</u>		<u>Second Verb</u>		<u>Subject (requires preposition)</u>
116)	'S e		oileanach		a		tha		annam.
117)	Chan ☘ e		tidsear		a		bha		ann an Alastair.
118)	An ☘ e		bèicear		a		bhios (bhitheas)		anns an duine?
119)	Nach ☘ e		còcaire math		a		tha		ann?

It is possible to use the past tense of ‘Is’ with this format, however, most people these days will leave the ‘Is’ verb in the present tense and change the tense of the sentence in the Second Verb. This Second Verb allows us to create a FUTURE TENSE - and please note the use of the RELATIVE FUTURE form of the verb. In these examples, I have used the verb ‘Bi,’ but depending on the meaning, you could use just about any other verb.

Form 3: Part 1: Use with PEOPLE

“I’m a...” - This is how we talk about/define ourselves. Learners usually come across this construction when they want to talk about their nationality and occupations. I have included a list of occupations and nationalities in **Appendix 2**.

*When used with people, we can use an alternate sentence structure using ‘Bi.’ However, before you get too excited, it requires the use of the NAM/NAD construction. **Appendix 4** has an additional side-order of NAM/NAD for interested parties.*

- 120) 'S e oileanach a th' annam. [It is a student that is in me.]
[I am a student.]
- 121) 'S e tidsear a th' ann an Alastair. [It is a teacher that is in Alastair.]
[Alastair is a teacher.]
- 122) 'S e bèicear a th' anns an duine. [It is a baker that is in the man.]
[The man is a baker.]
- 123) 'S e còcaire math a th' ann. [It is a good cook that is in him.]
[He is a good cook.]

Ann	In
annam	in me
annad	in you
ann	in him
innte	in her
annainn	in us
annaibh	in you
annta	in them

Eisimpleirean eile

- 124) 'S e duine a th' annam.
- 125) 'S e duine snog a th' annam.
- 126) 'S e tidsear a th' annam.
- 127) An e tidsear a th' ann an Goraidh? 'S e. 'S e tidsear a th' ann (an Goraidh). Chan e. 'S e còcaire a th' ann an Goraidh.
- 128) Nach e Spàinnteach a th'ann an Goraidh? 'S e. 'S e Spàinnteach a th' ann. Chan e. 'S e Ameireaganach a th' ann.
- 129) An e bèicear a th' ann? 'S e. / Chan e.
- 130) Nach e bean-ghlùine a th' ann am Màiri? 'S e. / Chan e.
- 131) Chan e dotair a th' ann an Lachlann, 's e nurs a th' ann.
- 132) 'S e dotair a th' ann an Calum, nach e? 'S e. 'S e dotair a th' ann an Calum agus 's e nurs a th' anns a' bhean aige.

Form 3: Part 1: Use with OBJECTS

This is the only form we have to use to define indefinite, inanimate objects. While we had to use definite nouns in Forms 1 and 2, we can use them here too, making this construction ‘all purpose.’

Also, if you are asked, “What is this?” or “What is that?” (Dè a th’ ann (an seo/sin/siud?), this is the form to use. (Answers like: It’s)

- 133) 'S e baile mòr a th’ ann an Dùn Èideann.
- 134) Dè [a] tha [ann an] sin?
- 135) 'S e an doras a th’ ann.
- 136) 'S e doras a th’ ann.
- 137) 'S e caora bheag shnog a th’ ann (th’ innte).
- 138) 'S e leabhar fada a th’ ann an ‘Lord of the Rings,’ nach e?

Eisimpleirean Eile

- 139) 'S e sin a chunnaic mi.
- 140) Chan e sin a chuala mi.
- 141) 'S e duine math a th’ ann an Calum.
- 142) 'S e duine math a fhuair Anna.
- 143) 'S e bàta mòr a cheannaich Raibeart.
- 144) 'S e cù mòr dona a tha agam.

Form 3: Part 2: “ ’S e ” and “ ’S ann ” for Emphasis

In Part 1, we were defining using “ ’S e.” We can also use “Is” to emphasize specific words in a sentence through a process called “fronting.” Fronting brings words closer to the beginning of a sentence, which emphasizes them. However, “ ’S e ” only works on some kinds of words. For the kinds of words that “ ’S e ” doesn’t work with, we use “ ’S ann.”

’S e works with: nouns, demonstrative pronouns, sometimes personal pronouns and noun phrases.

’S ann works with: adjectives, adverbs, demonstrative adverbs, prepositional phrases, prepositional pronouns, verbal nouns, verbs.

Form 3: “ ’S ann ” Basic Format

	<u>Verb + Ann</u>		<u>Appropriate Words</u>		<u>Relative</u>		<u>Second Verb</u>		<u>Subject</u>
145)	'S ann		sgìth		a		tha		mi.
146)	Chan ☘ ann		aig an doras		a		bha		Alastair.
147)	An ☘ ann		a-màireach		a		bhitheas		tu a' dol dhan sgoil?
148)	Nach ☘ ann		a' dèanamh cèic		a		tha		thu?

Just like with “ ’S e,” it is possible to use the past tense of ‘Is.’ However, once again, most people will leave the ‘Is’ verb in the present tense and change the tense of the sentence in the Second Verb. This Second Verb allows us to create a FUTURE TENSE - and please note the use of the RELATIVE FUTURE form of the verb. In these examples, I have used the verb ‘Bi,’ but depending on the meaning, you could use just about any other verb.

Mar eisimpleir:

- 149) Choisich mi dhan taigh-bìdh airson bracaist madainn an-diugh.
- 150) 'S e mise a choisich airson bracaist dhan taigh-bìdh madainn an-diugh. (as opposed to Bob...)
- 151) 'S e bracaist a choisich mi airson dhan taigh-bìdh madainn an-diugh. (as opposed to lunch...)
- 152) 'S ann airson bracaist a choisich mi dhan taigh-bìdh madainn an-diugh. (as opposed to for lunch...)
- 153) 'S ann dhan taigh-bìdh a choisich mi airson bracaist madainn an-diugh. (as opposed to a food stand...)
- 154) 'S ann madainn an-diugh a choisich mi airson bracaist dhan taigh-bìdh. (as opposed to yesterday morning...)
- 155) 'S ann a choisich mi dhan taigh-bìdh airson bracaist madainn an-diugh. (as opposed to drove...)
- 156) Chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc an-dè.
- 157) 'S e mise a chunnaic cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc an-dè.
- 158) 'S e cù mòr a chunnaic mi a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc an-dè.
- 159) 'S e cù beag a chunnaic mi a' cluich le cù mòr anns a' phàirc an-dè.
- 160) 'S ann le cù beag a chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich anns a' phàirc an-dè.
- 161) 'S ann anns a' phàirc a chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag an-dè.
- 162) 'S ann an-dè a chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc.
- 163) 'S ann a chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc an-dè.

- 164) Pògaidh mi duine gasta nuair a phòsas sinn.
 165) 'S e duine gasta a phògas mi nuair a phòsas sinn.
 166) 'S e mise a phògas duine gasta nuair a phòsas sinn.
 167) 'S ann nuair a phòsas sinn a phògas mi duine gasta.
 168) 'S ann a phògas mi duine gasta nuair a phòsas sinn.
- 169) Tha mi a' dèanamh cèic airson mo latha breith.
 170) 'S e mise a bhitheas a' dèanamh cèic airson mo latha breith.
 171) 'S ann airson mo latha breith a bhitheas mi a' dèanamh cèic.
 172) 'S ann a' dèanamh cèic a bhitheas mi airson mo latha breith.

Form 3: Common questions with “ 'S e ” and “ 'S ann ” responses:

Below are some common questions in bold. Under the questions are ‘Bi’ based answers if possible, and to the right are ‘Is’ based answers. Please note that if both ‘Bi’ answers and ‘Is’ answers are possible, they may be similar, but usually have subtle differences in meaning.

173) **Dè an t-ainm a th’ oirbh?**

- 174) Is mise Goraidh.
 175) 'S e Goraidh an t-ainm a th’ orm.

176) **Dè an t-ainm a th’ air?**

- 177) Is esan Raibeart.
 178) 'S e Raibeart an t-ainm a th’ air.

179) **Dè an sloinneadh a th’ oirbh?**

- 180) 'S e MacLeòid an sloinneadh a th’ orm.
 181) 'S e NicLeòid (an sloinneadh) a th’ oirre.

182) **Cò às a tha sibh?**

- 183) Tha mi às An Oban.
 184) Tha mi às Na Hearadh.
 'S ann às An Oban a tha mi.
 'S ann às Na Hearadh a tha mi.

185) Tha e à Glaschu.

'S ann à Glaschu a tha e.

186) Tha i à Alba.

'S ann à Alba a tha i.

187) **An ann às An Oban a tha sibh?**

188) (*question is An ann, must answer with 'S ann*)

'S ann. 'S ann às An Oban a tha mi.

189)

Chan ann. 'S ann à Dùn Èideann a tha mi.

190) **An e Albanach a th' annaibh?**

191) (*question is An e, must answer with 'S e*)

'S e. / Chan e.

192)

'S e Albanach a th' annam.

193) **Dè an obair a th' agaibh?**

194) Tha mi nam reiceadair.

'S e reiceadair a th' annam.

195) Tha mi ag obair ann am bùth.

'S ann ann am bùth a tha mi ag obair.

196) **Càite bheil sibh ag obair?**

197) Tha mi ag obair ann an Steòrnabhagh.

'S ann ann an Steòrnabhagh a tha mi ag obair.

198) Dh'obair mi ann an Steòrnabhagh.

'S ann ann an Steòrnabhagh a dh'obair mi.

199) Bidh (Bithidh) mi ag obair ann an Steòrnabhagh.

'S ann ann an Steòrnabhagh a bhios (bhitheas) mi ag obair mi.

200) Tha mi ag obair ann an oifis.

'S ann ann an oifis a tha mi ag obair.

201) Tha mi ag obair ann an Glaschu.

'S ann ann an Glaschu a tha mi ag obair.

202) Tha mi ag obair ann am banca.

'S ann ann am banca a tha mi ag obair.

203) Tha mi ag obair an-seo.

'S ann an-seo a tha mi ag obair.

NOTE: Obair is a difficult verb. Some people say that the verb is **Obraich! ag obrachadh**, and the noun form is **obair** (f), and others say that **Obair! ag obair** is the verb and **obair** (f) is the noun. The result is that people avoid the confusion by using **Bi** and the verbal noun.

204) **Càite [a] bheil sibh a' fuireach?**

205) Tha mi a' fuireach ann am Port Rìgh.

'S ann ann am Port Rìgh a tha mi a' fuireach.

206) Dè seòrsa side a tha ann an-diugh?

207) Tha i blàth an-diugh.

'S e latha blàth a th' ann an-diugh.

208) Cuin a thèid sibh a dh'obair?

209) Thèid mi a dh'obair tràth.

'S ann tràth a thèid mi a dh'obair.

210) Cuin a thèid sibh air na saor-làithean?

211) Thèid mi air na saor-làithean as t-samhradh.

'S ann as t-samhradh a thèid mi air na saor-làithean.

212) Dè seòrsa togalach a tha seo?213) *No! Must use 'Is' when defining.*

'S e taigh-staile a tha anns an togalach seo.

214) Tha an togalach seo mòr agus àrd.

'S e togalach mòr agus àrd a th' anns an togalach seo.

215) Cò leis a tha an leabhar seo?

216) Tha an leabhar seo le Seumas.

'S ann le Seumas a tha an leabhar seo.

217) Cò ris a tha Alastair coltach? (*For more on this question, see Appendix 3*)

218) Tha e mòr le sùilean gorm.

'S ann mòr le sùilean gorm a tha Alastair.

219) Tha e grot.

'S e duine grot a tha ann an Alastair.

220) Tha e coltach ri Gerard Butler.

'S e Gerard Butler a tha e coltach ri.

'S ann coltach ri Gerard Butler a tha e.

Form 3: Sources and Further Readings:

- Black, Ronald, Cothrom Ionnsachaidh: Unit 4.12, 4.13, 4.14, 4.15, pp. 48-50; Units 5.3, 5.4, pp. 56-58; Unit 5.7, p. 59; Units 5.11 & 5.12, pp. 60-61
- Byrne, Michel - Gràmar na Gàidhlig: Units 5.3, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, pp. 92-94
- Fisher, Muriel - Scottish Gaelic, Level 3, 2nd Ed.: Sections 5 & 6, pp. 12-16
- Fisher, Muriel - Scottish Gaelic, Level 4, 2nd Ed.: Sections 2 & 3, pp. 7-12; 'The "Buh" forms of Is, pp. 58-61
- Mark, Colin - Gaelic Verbs Systemised and Simplified: Chapter 10, A.9-A.10, pp. 174-176; A.13, pp. 179-180
- Ó Maolalaigh, Roibeard - Scottish Gaelic in Twelve Weeks: Units 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 & 41, pp. 52-58

Form 4: Is Phrases

“Is” likes to work with a number of nouns, adjectives and prepositions to express various things. Pay particular attention to the tense of “Is” and the prepositional pronouns used.

Part 1: ‘Is’ Idioms using ‘Le/Leis’

These first four require the use of the preposition of ‘Le/Leis.’

Is toil + le - Like

	Verb + Adjective		Subject		Predicate
221)	Is toil		leam		cèic.
222)	Cha ☘ toil		leam		briosgaidean.
223)	An ☘ toil		leis		leann? Is toil. / Cha toil.
224)	Nach ☘ toil		leis		an leabhar? Is toil. / Cha toil.

225) Dè as toil leat?

226) Dè nach toil leat?

(Previously ‘toil’ was spelled ‘toigh’ and the ‘l’ from ‘le’ was often stuck on (e.g. Cha toigh l’)

(Some dialects use is caomh leam instead of is toigh leam)

Note: Must use the verb “còrd! a’ còrdadh” for ‘liking’ in the past and future.

227) An toil le Màiri briosgaidean? Is toil. / Cha toil

228) Cha toil leis a’ chù an cat.

229) Nach toil leis an duine leann? Is toil. / Cha toil.

230) Is toil leinn an clàs Gàidhlig.

231) An toil leat an leabhar seo? Is toil. / Cha toil.

Changing the tense of “Is” we get:

Bu toil + le - Would Like

	Verb + Adjective		Subject		Predicate	
232)	Bu toil		leam		a bhith ag ithe cèic.	
233)	Cha bu toil		leam		an cèic seo ithe.	
234)	Am bu toil		leis		uisge òl?	Bu toil. / Cha bu toil.
235)	Nach bu toil		leis		am fìon dearg seo?	Bu toil. / Cha bu toil.

236) Am bu toil le lain taigh mar sin?

237) Cha bu toil. Bu toil leis taigh beag buidhe.

238) Dè an t-uisge beatha bu toil leibh?

239) Bu toil leam Talasgar.

240) Carson a(m) bu toil leibh Talasgar?

241) Bu toil leam Talasgar airson gur e an t-uisge beatha bhon an Eilean Sgitheanach a th' ann.

Present tense again:

'S fheàrr + le - Prefer

	Verb + Adjective		Subject		Predicate
242)	'S fheàrr		leatha		briosgaidean.
243)	Chan ☘ fheàrr		leatha		aran-coirce.
244)	An ☘ fheàrr		leibh		aran?
245)	Nach ☘ fheàrr		leibh		brochan no ùighean?

246) Dè seòrsa briosgaid as fheàrr leibh?

247) 'S fheàrr leam briosgaid sliseag seòclaid, ma 's e ur toil e. (Note: sliseag may not be the best word to work with seòclaid.)

248) Carson nach fheàrr leibh na briosgaidean seo?

249) Chan fheàrr leam na briosgaidean seo airson nach e briosgaidean seòclaid a th' annta.

250) An fheàrr leatha aran-coirce le càise?

251) Chan fheàrr. Cha toil leatha aran-coirce idir idir!

Le/Leis	With
leam	with me
leat	with you
leis	with him
leatha	with her
leinn	with us
leibh	with you
leotha	with them

Changing to the past tense:

B' fheàrr + le - Would Prefer

	Verb + Adjective		Subject		Predicate
252)	B' fheàrr		leinn		fion dearg.
253)	Cha b' fheàrr		leinn		sùgh liomaid.
254)	Am b' fheàrr		leotha		gloine uisge le deigh?
255)	Nach b' fheàrr		leotha		a bhith a' fuireach ann an taigh ùr?

- 256) Am b' fheàrr leibh feòil mairt airson dinnear?
 257) Cha b' fheàrr. B' fheàrr leam cearc.
 258) Nach b' fheàrr leibh ceapaire hama?
 259) B' fheàrr. B' fheàrr leam ceapaire hama.
 260) Am b' fheàrr leibh na brògan seo?
 261) Cha b' fheàrr, ach b' fheàrr leam na brògan sin.

Part 2: 'Is' Idioms using 'Do/Don'

'S urrainn + do - Able To/Can

	Verb + Adjective		Subject		Predicate
262)	'S urrainn		dhomh		còcaireachd.
263)	Chan ☹️ urrainn		dhomh		fuineadh.
264)	An ☹️ urrainn		dhuibh		fuineadh?
265)	Nach ☹️ urrainn		dhuibh		còcaireachd?

266) An urrainn dha còcaireachd no fuineadh?
 267) 'S urrainn dha còcaireachd, ach chan urrainn dha fuineadh gu math.
 268) Dè seòrsa rud as urrainn dha còcaireachd gu math?
 269) 'S urrainn dha feòil agus glasraich a chòcaireachd uabhasach math. 'S e còcaire math a th' ann.
 270) Cò as 's urrainn seo a dhèanamh?

Le/Leis	With
leam	with me
leat	with you
leis	with him
leatha	with her
leinn	with us
leibh	with you
leotha	with them

271) 'S urrainn do Alastair sin a dhèanamh.

Past tense:

B' urrainn + do - Could

Verb + Adjective	Subject	Predicate
272) B' urrainn	dhi	dannsadh nuair a bha i òg.
273) Cha b' urrainn	do dh'Alastair	dannsadh idir.
274) Am b' urrainn	dhuibh	dannsadh còmhla rium?
275) Nach b' urrainn	dhuinn	dannsadh a-nochd aig a' chèilidh?

276) Cha b' urrainn dhomh càil a dhèanamh ceart an-diugh.

277) Am b' urrainn dhut na glasraich a nighe an-dràsta?

278) Nach b' urrainn dhut na glasraich a chòcaireachd airson dìnnear?

279) B' urrainn gu dearbh, ach b' urrainn dhut an nighe an toiseach. (Thoir an aire! More than one use of 'an'!)

280) B' urrainn, nam b' urrainn dhomh an taigh fhàgail airson na glasraich a cheannach.

281) Nach b' urrainn dhut na glasraich a cheannach an-dè? Obh obh.

Bu choir + do - Should

Verb + Adjective	Subject	Predicate
282) Bu choir	don (a) chù	am biadh seo ithe.
283) Cha bu choir	dha	am biadh agamsa ithe.
284) Am bu choir	dha	am biadh air a' bhòrd ithe?
285) Nach bu choir	dha	a bhiadh ithe anns a' bhobhla aige fhèin air an làr?

286) Bu choir. Cha bu choir dha mo bhiadh ithe idir idir!

287) Bu choir dha [a] uisge òl anns a' bhobhla aige fhèin air an làr cuideachd.

288) Am bu choir dha ruith an dèidh (cat) a' chait mar sin? (an dèidh likes a genitive noun following it, but some people don't like doing it!)

289) Cha bu choir idir! Bu choir dhuinn ruith an dèidh (an cù) a' choin! (genitive a-rithist!)

290) Nach bu choir dhuinn suidhe an-dràsta?

291) Bu choir gu dearbh.

Le/Leis	With
leam	with me
leat	with you
leis	with him
leatha	with her
leinn	with us
leibh	with you
leotha	with them

Do/Don	To
dhomh	to me
dhut	to you
dha	to him
dhi	to her
dhuinn	to us
dhuibh	to you
dhaibh	to them

Notice that this next construction looks similar to the “prefer” constructions above, but the preposition has changed:

'S fheàrr + do - Had Better

	Verb + Adjective		Subject		Predicate
292)	'S fheàrr		don duine		ruith nas luaithe na sin.
293)	Chan ☘ fheàrr		dhuinn		an car seo a dhraibheadh nas luaithe.
294)	An ☘ fheàrr		dhuinn		a dhol dhachaidh an-dràsta?
295)	Nach ☘ fheàrr		dhaibh		am biadh ithe mus fàs e nas fhuaire?

296) An fheàrr dha a dhol dhan bhùth mus bi e dùinte?

297) Chan fheàrr. Thèid e ann a-màireach.

298) Nach fheàrr do Chalum an obair-dachaidh a dhèanamh airson **na sgoile** a-màireach?

299) 'S fheàrr. 'S fheàrr do Chalum a dhèanamh.

300) Carson as fheàrr dha ruith nas luaithe na sin?

301) 'S fheàrr dha ruith nas luaithe na sin airson gum beir am mathan air.

NOTE: **sgoil** likes to be used with the article.

Do/Don	To
dhomh	to me
dhut	to you
dha	to him
dhi	to her
dhuinn	to us
dhuibh	to you
dhaibh	to them

Part 3: Assorted ‘Is’ Idioms

Ma ’s e do thoil e	[please, singular & informal. Literally, “If it is your will.”]
Ma ’s e ur toil e	[please, plural or formal]
’S e ur beatha	[you’re welcome. Literally, “It’s your life.”]
’S e do bheatha	[you’re welcome.]
Is math sin.	[That is good.]
Is beag orm goilf.	[I hate golf.]
Is lugha orm... .	[I hate... .]
Is bochd sin.	[That’s a pity]
’S aithne + do	[knows, recognizes]
’S àbhaist + do	[usually]
B’ àbhaist + do	[used to]
’S fhiach e e	[It’s worth it (masculine).]
’S e бага gun fheum a tha sin.	[That’s a useless bag.]

Do/Don	To
dhomh	to me
dhut	to you
dha	to him
dhi	to her
dhuinn	to us
dhuibh	to you
dhaibh	to them

Form 4: Sources and Further Readings

- Black, Robert - Cothrom Ionnsachaidh: Unit 5.5, p. 58
- Byrne, Michel - Gràmar na Gàidhlig: Unit 5.1, p. 90
- Fisher, Muriel - Scottish Gaelic, Level 2, 3rd Ed.: Section 11, pp. 28-29
- Fisher, Muriel - Scottish Gaelic, Level 3, 2nd Ed.: Section 8, pp. 20-26
- Fisher, Muriel - Scottish Gaelic, Level 4, 2nd Ed.: Section 9, pp. 27-30
- Mark, Colin - Gaelic Verbs Systemised and Simplified: Chapter 10, A.14, pp. 180-182;
- Ó Maolalaigh, Roibeard - Scottish Gaelic in Twelve Weeks: Units 31a & 32, pp. 44-47; Unit 42c, pp. 59-61; Units 103-104, pp. 170-171.

Appendix 1: All those pronouns

Base	Emphatic	Possessive	NAM/NAD
mi	mise	mo*	nam*
thu/tu	thusa/tusa	do*	nad*
e	esan	a*	na*
i	ise	a (h- before vowel)	na (h-)
sinn	sinne	ar (n-)	nar (n-)
sibh	sibhse	ur (n-)	nur (n-)
iad	iadsan	an (am before m,b,f,p)	nan (nam)

Base Pronouns	Le/Leis	Do/Don	Air	Ann An/ Anns a'	Aig	
mi	leam	dhomh	orm	annam	agam	
thu/tu	leat	dhut	ort	annad	agad	
e	leis	dha	air	ann	aige	
i	leatha	dhi	oirre	innte	aice	
sinn	leinn	dhuinn	oirnn	annainn	againn	
sibh	leibh	dhuibh	oirbh	annaibh	agaibh	
iad	leotha	dhaibh	orra	annta	aca	

Appendix 2: Occupations and Nationalities

bancair (m)	banker	Albanach	Scotsman	Gàidhlig
bean-ghlùine (f)	midwife	Ameireaganach	American	
bean-taighe (f)	housewife	Astràlianach	Australian	
bèicear (m) / fuineadair (m)	baker	Canadianach	Canadian	
bùidsear (m)	butcher	Cuimreach	Welshman	A' Chuimris
clachair (m)	(stone)mason	Danmhairgeach	Danish	Danmhairgis
clèireach (m)	clerk	Duitseach	Dutch	Duitsis
clò-bhualadair (m)	printer	Eadailteach	Italian	Eadailtis
còcaire (m)	cook	Eireannach	Irishman	Gaeilge
croitear (m)	crofter	Frangach	Frenchman	Fraingis
cunntasair (m)	accountant	Gearmailteach	German	Gearmailtis
dotair (m) / lighiche (m)	doctor	Greugach	Greek	Greugais
dràibhear (m)	driver	Innis Tìleach	Icelander	Innis Tìlis
eadar-theangaiche (m)	translator	Lochlannach	Norse	Lochlannais
lannsair (m) / làmh-lèigh (m)	lancer, surgeon	Nirribheach	Norwegian	Nirribhis
manaidsear (m)	manager	Ostaireach	Austrian	
maraiche (m)	mariner, seaman	Pòlainneach	Polish	Pòlais
nurs (m) / banaltram (f)	nurse	Portagaileach	Portuguese	Portagailis
neach-naidheachd (m)	reporter, journalist	Ruiseach/Ruiseanach	Russian	Ruisis
peantair (m)	painter	Sasannach	Englishman	Beurla
poileas (m) / polasman (m)	policeman	Spàinnteach	Spaniard	Spàinntis
portair (m)	porter, bearer	Suaineach	Swedish	Suainis
posta (m)	postman	Suomach	Finnish	Suomais
reiceadair (m)	salesman, vendor	Turcach	Turkish	Turcais
saighdear (m)	soldier	Ungaireach	Hungarian	Ungairis
saor (m)	joiner, carpenter			
tidsear (m) / fear-teagaisg (f)	teacher			
tuathanach (m)	farmer			

Appendix 3: Other Useful Vocabulary

Cò ris a tha e coltach? [What does he/it look like? Who does he look like?]
'S e _____ a th' ann/innte.

duine, fear	man
boireannach, tè	woman
balach, gille	boy
nighean	girl
snog	pretty, pleasant
glè shnog	very pretty, pleasant
gu math snogquite	pretty, pleasant
uabhasach snog	really pretty, pleasant
sgoinneil	splendid, great
còir	kind
gasta	nice, decent, handsome
brèagha	beautiful
bòidheach	beautiful, pretty
àlainn	elegant, beautiful, lovely
grànnda	horrible, ugly, unpleasant
uabhasach	terrible, awful
uabhasach grànnda	really ugly, unpleasant
grod	rotten, nasty
gòrach	silly, daft
glic	wise, sensible

Useful Grammatical Terms

Verb - an action word, or word used to express a state or occurrence.

Subject - the main person or thing doing the action of the verb in a sentence.

Predicate - a part of the sentence which contains information about the subject which the verb is expressing.

Pronoun - a word that can act as a noun and refers back to a noun previously mentioned.

Definite Noun - a specific noun. Proper Names, nouns following possessive pronouns and nouns following the definite article are definite nouns.

Indefinite Noun - an noun which is not specific. A noun being referred to generally. A cat, a dog, a woman are examples of an indefinite noun.

Appendix 4: A side order of NAM/NAD

Like nuclear fusion, occasionally, the preposition ‘ann’ and the possessive pronouns must combine.

Here’s how it works:

ann + mo* = nam*	in my
ann + do* = nad*	in your
ann + a* = na*	in his
ann + a = na	in her (h- before vowels)
ann + ar = nar	in our (n- before vowels)
ann + ur = nur	in your (n- before vowels)
ann + an = nan	in their (nam before b, f, m or p)
*causes lenition	

Situation 1: This is useful to to be able to use ‘Bi’ when talking about occupations.

Using the examples we saw in Form 3 - Part 1:

’S e oileanach a th’ annam.	[It is a student that is in me.] [I am a student.]	Tha mi nam* oileanach.	[I am in my student.] [I am a student.]
’S e tidsear a th’ ann an Alastair. teacher.]	[It is a teacher that is in Alastair.] [Alastair is a teacher.]	Tha Alastair na* thidsear.	[Alastair is in his [Alastair is a teacher.]
’S e bèicear a th’ anns an duine.	[It is a baker that is in the man.] [The man is a baker.]	Tha an duine na* bhèicear.	[The man is in his baker.] [The man is a baker.]
’S e còcaire math a th’ ann.	[It is a good cook that is in him.] [He is a good cook.]	Tha e na* còcaire math.	[He is in his good cook.] [He is a good cook.]

Tha mi nam bhèicear.	[I am a baker.]
Tha thu nad thidsear.	[You are a teacher.]
A bheil e na chòcaire?	[Is he a cook?]
Chan eil i na nurs.	[She is not a nurse.]
Nach eil sinn nar n-iasgadairean?	[Aren't we fishermen?]
A bheil sibh nur bancair?	[Are you a banker?]
Chan eil iad nan oileanaich.	[They are not students.]

Situation 2: When you need to say 'in my' (etc.).

Tha mo leabhar nam chàr.	[My book is in my car.]
Chaill mi m' iuchraichean nam thaigh.	[I lost my keys in my house.]
Dhìochuimhnich mi mo bhaga nam chàr.	[I forgot my bag in my car.]
Tha e nam phòcaid.	[It is in my pocket.]

Situation 3: When you need to express a condition rather than an act:

Tha mi a' cadal.	[I am (in the act of) sleeping.]
Tha mi nam chadal.	[I am asleep.]
Tha mi a' dùsgadh.	[I am (in the act of) waking.]
Tha mi nam dhùisg.	[I am awake.]

Sin agaibh e!

Sources and Further Readings

- Black, Ronald, Cothrom Ionnsachaidh: Units 4.4, 4.7, pp. 47-48.
- Ó Maolalaigh, Roibeard - Scottish Gaelic in Twelve Weeks: Units 35 & 35a, pp. 51-52

Eadar-theangaidhean (Translations)

Form 1 (Is + Personal Pronoun + Definite Noun)

- 1) Is mise Goraidh.
- 2) Cha mhise Anna.
- 3) An esan am bèicear?
- 4) Nach iadsan na bèicearean?
- 5) Bu mhise am fear.
- 6) Cha bu mhise an tè.
- 7) Am b' esan am bèicear?
- 8) Nach b' iadsan na bèicearean?
- 9) Is mise Goraidh. Cha mhise Anndra. Am mise am fear? Nach mise am fear? 'S mi./Cha mhì.
- 10) Is tusa Mòrag. Cha tusa mo nighean. An tusa Mòrag? Nach tusa an còcaire? 'S tu./Cha tu.
- 11) Is esan Eachann. Chan esan Eachann. An esan Raibeart? Nach esan am bèicear? 'S e./Chan e.
- 12) Is ise Eilidh. Chan ise am bèicear. An ise Eilidh? Nach ise am bèicear? 'S i. / Chan i.
- 13) Is sinne na h-oileanaich. Chan (sh)inne na h-oileanaich. An (sh)inne na tìdsearan? Nach (sh)inne na tìdsearan? Is sinne./ Chan (sh)inne.
- 14) Is sibhse am bèicear. Chan (sh)ibhse am bèicear. An (sh)ibhse an còcaire? Nach (sh)ibhse an còcaire? Is sibhse./ Chan (sh)ibhse.
- 15) Is iadsan na tìdsearan. Chan iadsan na saoir. An iadsan na saoir? Nach iadsan na saoir? 'S iad./Chan iad.
- 16) Bu mhise am bancair. Cha bu mhise am bancair. Am bu mhise am posta? Nach bu mhise am portair? Bu mhì./Cha bu mhì.

- 1) I am Geoff.
- 2) I am not Anna.
- 3) Is he the baker?
- 4) Aren't they the bakers?
- 5) I was the one (masculine).
- 6) I was not the one (feminine).
- 7) Was he the baker?
- 8) Weren't they the bakers?
- 9) I am Geoff. I am not Andrew. Am I the one? Aren't I the one? Yes. / No.
- 10) You are Morag. You are not my daughter. Are you Morag? Aren't you the cook? Yes. / No.
- 11) He is Hector. He is not Hector. Is he Robert? Isn't he the baker? Yes. / No.
- 12) She is Elaine. She is not the baker. Is she Elaine? Isn't she the baker? Yes. / No.
- 13) We are the students. We are not the students. Are we the teachers? Aren't we the teachers? Yes. / No.
- 14) You are the baker. You are not the baker. Are you the cook? Aren't you the cook? Yes. / No.
- 15) They are the teachers. They are not the joiners. Are they the joiners? Aren't they the joiners? Yes. / No.
- 16) I was the banker. I was not the banker. Was I the postman? Wasn't I the porter? Yes. / No.

- 17) Bu tusa am fuineadair. Cha bu tusa an reiceadair. Am bu tusa am banaltram? Nach bu tusa am bancair? Bu tu./Cha bu tu.
- 18) B' Esan am fuineadair. Cha b' esan am bancair. Am b' esan am peantair? Nach b' esan am portair? B' e./Cha b' e.
- 19) B' ise a' bhanaltram. Cha b' ise am bùidsear. Am b' ise an reiceadair? Nach b' ise am bancair? B' i. /Cha b' i.
- 20) Bu sinne na h-oileanaich. Cha bu sinne na saoir. Am bu sinne na daoine? Nach bu sinne na saoir? Bu sinn./Cha bu sinn.
- 21) Bu sibhse am bancair. Cha bu sibhse am posta. Am bu sibhse am portair? Nach bu sibhse an saor? Bu sibh./Cha bu sibh.
- 22) B' iadsan na daoine. Cha b' iadsan na saoir. Am b' iadsan na bancairean? Nach b' iadsan na saoir? B' iad./Cha b' iad.
- 23) An esan am bèicear a bha aig a' chèilidh a-raoir? 'S e./ Chan e.
- 24) Is esan am bèicear a bha aig a' chèilidh a-raoir.
- 25) Chan esan am bèicear a tha a' dèanamh na cèice.
- 26) An ise am bèicear a tha a' dèanamh na cèice? 'S i./Chan i.
- 27) Is ise am bèicear a tha a' dèanamh na cèice.
- 28) Chan ise am bèicear a tha a' dèanamh na cèice.
- 29) Nach iadsan na bèicearean a bhitheas a' dèanamh na cèice airson na bainnse? 'S iad./Chan iad.
- 30) Is iadsan na bèicearean a bhitheas a' dèanamh na cèice airson na bainnse.
- 31) Chan iadsan na bèicearean a bhitheas a' dèanamh na cèice airson na bainnse.
- 32) An esan am bèicear nach robh aig a' chèilidh a-raoir? 'S e./ Chan e.

- 17) You were the baker. You were not the salesman. Were you the nurse? Weren't you the banker? Yes. / No.
- 18) He was the baker. He was not the banker. Was he the painter? Wasn't he the porter? Yes. / No.
- 19) She was the nurse. She was not the butcher. Was she the salesman? Wasn't she the banker? Yes. / No.
- 20) We were the students. We were not the joiners. Were we the people? Weren't we the joiners? Yes. / No.
- 21) You were the banker. You were not the postman. Were you the porter? Weren't you the joiner? Yes. / No.
- 22) They were the ones. They were not the joiners. Were they the bankers? Weren't they the joiners? Yes. / No.
- 23) Is he the baker who was at the ceilidh last night? Yes./No.
- 24) He is the baker who was at the ceilidh last night.
- 25) He is not the baker who is making the cake.
- 26) Is she the baker who is making the cake? Yes./No.
- 27) She is the baker who is making the cake.
- 28) She is not the baker who is making the cake.
- 29) Aren't they the bakers who will be making the cake for the wedding? Yes./No.
- 30) They are the bakers who will be making the cake for the wedding.
- 31) They are not the bakers who will be making the cake for the wedding.
- 32) Is he the baker who was not at the ceilidh last night? Yes./ No.

- 33) Nach esan am bèicear nach robh aig a' cèilidh a-raoir? 'S e./Chan e.
- 34) An ise an còcaire nach eil ag obair an-diugh? 'S i./Chan i.
- 35) An iadsan na h-oileanaich nach bi ag ionnsachadh Gàidhlig? 'S iad./Chan iad.
- 36) An esan an còcaire a tha a' còcaireachd an dràsta aig an taigh-bìdh ri taobh na h-aibhne? 'S e./Chan e.
- 37) An ise am boireannach a cheannaich cèicean bùth nan cèicean beaga? 'S i./Chan i. (M)
- 38) An tusa am bancair a choisich suas an rathad aig leth-uair às dèidh trì an-dè? 'S mi./Cha mhì.
- 39) An sibhse na h-oileanaich a nì an obair-dachaidh agaibh a-nochd? Is sibh./Cha shibh. (M)
- 40) An sibhse am fear-teagaisg a theagaisgeas an clas an ath sheachdainn? Is sibh./Cha shibh. (M)
- 41) Nach sibhse am bancair ùr? 'S mi./Cha mhì.
- 42) Is esan Dòmhnall, nach e? 'S e./Chan e.
- 43) An sibhse Alastair MacDhòmhnaill? 'S mi./Cha mhì.
- 44) An tusa Màiri Bheag? 'S mi. Is mise Màiri Bheag. / Cha mhì. Is mise Annag Shnog.
- 45) An sibhse fear an taighe a-nochd? 'S mi. Is mise esan.
- 46) Am bu tusa an tè a dh'ith an t-seòclaid? Bu mhì an tè. / Cha bu mhì an tè.
- 47) Nach b' esan am fear a dh'òl uisge? B' e./Cha b' e.
- 48) Is sibhse an Rìgh/a' Bhànrigh.
- 49) Cha tusa Anna, an tu?
- 50) Is tusa a tha aig an doras.
- 51) 'S tusa a th' ann!

- 33) Isn't he the baker who was not at the ceilidh last night? Yes./No.
- 34) Is she the cook who is not working today? Yes./No.
- 35) Are they the students who won't be learning Gaelic? (Poor them!) Yes./No.
- 36) Is he the cook who is cooking now at the restaurant next to the river? Yes./No.
- 37) Is she the woman who bought cakes at the cupcake shop? Yes./No.
- 38) Are you the banker who walked up the road at half past three yesterday? Yes./No.
- 39) Are you (plural) the students who will do your homework tonight? Yes./No.
- 40) Are you the teacher who will teach the class next week? Yes./No.
- 41) Aren't you the new banker? I am (yes)./I am not (no).
- 42) He is Donald, isn't he? He is (yes)./He is not (no).
- 43) Are you Alastair MacDonald? I am (yes)./I am not (no).
- 44) Are you Wee Mary? I am (yes). I am Wee Mary. / I am not (no). I am Cute Anna.
- 45) Are you the master of ceremonies tonight? I am (yes). I am (that/he).
- 46) Were you the one who ate the chocolate? I was the one./I wasn't the one.
- 47) Wasn't he the one who drank water? He was (yes)./He was not (no).
- 48) You are the King/Queen.
- 49) You're not Ann, are you?
- 50) It's you that's at the door.
- 51) It's you!

- 52) 'S mise a th' ann.
 53) 'S mise an duine.
 54) 'S mise do dhuine.
 55) Is esan mac a' bhèiceir.
 56) Nach b' ise an tè?
 57) Nach tusa an gille math!
 58) Tha mi toilichte gur sibhse an tìdsear.
 59) Bithidh a' chèic math airson gur tusa am bèicear.
 60) Pògaidh mi thu fhèin airson nach tusa am fear a dh'ith an reòiteag mu dheireadh.

Form 2 (Is + Definite Noun + Definite Noun)

- 61) 'S e Anndra am bèicear.
 62) Chan e mo bhràthair an còcaire.
 63) An e Uilleam d' athair?
 64) Nach e do phiuthar an tìdsear Gàidhlig?
 65) B' e Dùghlas am fear.
 66) Cha b' e Eilidh an tè.
 67) Am b' e Flòraidh am bèicear?
 68) Nach b' e Ùna am bancair?
 69) 'S e Alastair an tìdsear.
 70) 'S e m' athair am bèicear. Thoir an aire! 'S e mo mhàthair am bèicear.
 71) 'S e Doileag mo phiuthar agus am bèicear.
 72) 'S e Cailean am bancair againn.
 73) Chan e do bhràthair am posta.
 74) Chan e Alastair an tìdsear.
 75) Chan e Fearchar mo bhràthair.
 76) Chan e Seumas an croitear.
 77) An e Dòmhnall an tìdsear? 'S e./Chan e.

- 52) It's me!
 53) I'm the man.
 54) I'm your man.
 55) He's the baker's son.
 56) Wasn't she the one?
 57) Aren't you the good boy! (What a good boy you are!)
 58) I am happy that you are the teacher.
 59) The cake will be good because you are the baker.
 60) I will kiss you yourself because you are not the one who ate the last ice cream.

- 61) Andrew is the baker.
 62) My brother is not the cook.
 63) Is William your father?
 64) Isn't your sister the Gaelic teacher?
 65) Doug was the one.
 66) Ellen was not the one.
 67) Was Flora the baker?
 68) Wasn't Ùna the banker?
 69) Alastair is the teacher.
 70) My father is the baker. Be careful! My mother is the baker.
 71) Dolly is my sister and the baker.
 72) Colin is our banker.
 73) Your brother is not the postman.
 74) Alastair is not the teacher.
 75) Farquhar is not my brother.
 76) James is not the crofter.
 77) Is Donald the teacher?

- 78) An e Raonaid do mhàthair? 'S i./Chan i. (M)
79) An e an clachair d' athair? 'S e./Chan e.
80) An e do sheanair an tuathanach shuas an rathad? 'S e./
Chan e.
81) Nach e Ailean am plumair ann an Dùn Èideann? 'S e./Chan
e.
82) Nach e Uilleam do bhràthair? 'S e./Chan e.
83) Nach e an t-iasgair do charaid? 'S e./Chan e.
84) Nach e do phiuthar an seinneadair math? 'S i./Chan i.
85) B' e Deòrsa an Rìgh.
86) B' e Iain an tàilear math.
87) Cha b' e do bhràthair am plumair dona.
88) Cha b' e do mhac an t-oileanach math. 'B e do nighean an
t-oileanach math.
89) Am b' e a bhean am bèicear uabhasach math? B' i./Cha b'
i.
90) Am b' e do sheanair am bàrd ainmeil? B' e./Cha b' e.
91) Nach b' e Gillebrìde an t-iasgair leis a' bhàta bheag? B' e./
Cha b' e.
92) Nach b' e Doileag am peantair às na h-eileanann? B' i./Cha
b' i.
93) An e do mhàthair am bèicear a dh'fhuineas na cèicean? 'S
e./Chan e.
94) Chan e. 'S e mo mhàthair an còcaire a chòcairicheas biadh
fàs-bheartach.
95) An e Uilleam do bhràthair a bhitheas a' fuireach ann an
Glaschu? 'S e./Chan e.
96) Chan e Dòmhnall an tìdsear a bhitheas ag obair aig an sgoil
ann an Dùn Èideann.
97) 'S e Alastair an sgrìobhadair a sgrìobh ceithir

leabhraichean.

- 78) Is Rachel your mother?
79) Is the stonemason your father?
80) Is your grandfather the farmer up the road?

81) Isn't Alan the plumber in Edinburgh?

82) Isn't William your brother?
83) Isn't the fisherman your friend?
84) Isn't your sister the good singer?
85) George was the King.
86) James was the good tailor.
87) Your brother was not the bad plumber.
88) Your son was not the good student. Your daughter was the
good student.
89) Was his wife the terribly good baker?
90) Was your grandfather the famous poet?
91) Wasn't Gillebrìde the fisherman with the wee boat?

92) Wasn't Dolly the painter from the isles?

93) Is your mother the baker who bakes the cakes?

94) No. My mother is the cook who cooks organic food.

95) Is William your brother who is living in Glasgow?

96) Donald is not the teacher who works (will be working) at
the school in Edinburgh.
97) Alastair is the writer who wrote four books.

- 98) 'S e 'Game of Thrones' am prògram as fheàrr air an telebhisean.
99) Nach e an reiceadair an tè a bha aig a' chèilidh a-raoir? 'S e./Chan e.
100) Am b' e Uilleam am plumair a bha ag obair aig an taigh agamsa an-dè? B' e./Cha b' e.
101) Cha b' e a bhràthair am bancair a bha aig a' bhanca Diluain.
102) Nach b' e Ùna an tìdsear a bha aig an sgoil anns an Eilean Sgitheanach? B' i./Cha b' i.
103) 'S e mise Uilleam.
104) 'S e thusa an tìdsear.
105) Chan e esan Seumas.
106) Chan e ise am plumair.
107) An e sinne an clas?
108) An e sibhse am bèicear?
109) Nach e iadsan na h-oileanaich?
110) 'S e mo bhràthair am fear a chuala tu.
111) 'S e sin an croitear a chunnaic mi an-dè!
112) 'S e Dòmhnall an sgrìobhadair a thàinig.
113) ['S e] siud an doras.
114) ['S e] sin Raibeart.
115) ['S e] seo Peadar.

Form 3 ('S e & 'S ann)

- 116) 'S e oileanach a tha annam.
117) Chan e tìdsear a bha ann an Alastair.
118) An e bèicear a bhitheas anns an duine?

- 98) 'Game of Thrones' is the best program on television
99) Isn't the salesman the one who was at the ceilidh last night?
100) Was William the plumber who was working at my house yesterday?
101) His brother was not the banker who was at the bank on Monday.
102) Wasn't Una the teacher who was at the school on the Isle of Skye?
103) I am William.
104) You are the teacher.
105) He is not James.
106) She is the plumber.
107) We are the class?
108) Are you the baker?
109) Aren't they the students?
110) My brother is the one you heard.
111) That is the crofter that I saw yesterday!
112) Donald is the writer who came.
113) That is the door.
114) That is Robert.
115) Here is Peter.
116) It is a student that is in me. [I am a student.]
117) It is not a teacher that was in Alastair. [Alastair wasn't a teacher.]
118) Is it a baker that will be in the man? [Will the man be a baker?]

119) Nach e còcaire math a tha ann?
 120) 'S e oileanach a th' annam.
 121) 'S e tidsear a th' ann an Alastair.
 122) 'S e bèicear a th' anns an duine.
 123) 'S e còcaire math a th' ann.
 124) 'S e duine a th' annam.
 125) 'S e duine snog a th' annam.
 126) 'S e tidsear a th' annam.
 127) An e tidsear a th' ann an Goraidh? 'S e. 'S e tidsear a th' ann (Goraidh). Chan e. 'S e còcaire a th' ann an Goraidh.

128) Nach e Spàinnteach a th' ann an Goraidh? 'S e. 'S e Spàinnteach a th' ann. Chan e. 'S e Ameireaganach a th' ann.

129) An e bèicear a th' ann? 'S e./Chan e.
 130) Nach e bean-ghlùine a th' ann am Màiri? 'S e./Chan e.

131) Chan e dotair a th' ann an Lachlann, 's e nurs a th' ann.

132) 'S e dotair a th' ann an Calum, nach e? 'S e. 'S e dotair a th' ann an Calum agus 's e nurs a th' anns a' bhean aige.

133) 'S e baile mòr a th' ann an Dùn Èideann.

134) Dè [a] tha [ann an] sin?

119) Isn't it a good cook that is in him? [Isn't he a good cook?]
 120) It is a student that is in me. [I am a student]
 121) It is a teacher that is in Alastair. [Alastair is a teacher.]
 122) It is a baker that is in the man. [The man is a baker.]
 123) It is a cook good that is in him. [He is a good cook.]
 124) It is a man that is in me. [I am a man.]
 125) It is a cute/nice man that is in me. [I am a cute/nice man.]

126) It is a teacher that is in me. [I am a teacher.]
 127) Is it a teacher that is in Geoff? [Is Geoff a teacher?]
 It is (yes). It is a teacher that is in him (in Geoff).
 [Yes. Geoff is a teacher]
 It is not (no). It is a cook that is in Geoff.
 [No. Geoff is a cook.]

128) Isn't it a Spaniard that is in Geoff? [Is Geoff a Spaniard?]
 It is (yes). It is a Spaniard that is in him. [Yes. Geoff is a Spaniard.]

It is not (no). It is an American that is in Geoff. [No. Geoff is an American.]

129) Is it a baker that is in him? [Is he a baker?] Yes./No.
 130) Isn't it a mid-wife that is in Mary? [Isn't Mary a midwife?]
 Yes./No.

131) It is not a doctor that is in Lachlann, it is a nurse that is in him. [Lachlann is not a doctor, he is a nurse.]

132) It is a doctor that is in Calum, isn't it? [Calum is a doctor, isn't he?] It is (yes). It is a doctor that is in Calum and it is a nurse that is in his wife. [Yes. Calum is a doctor and his wife is a nurse.]

133) It is a large town (city) that is in Edinburgh. [Edinburgh is a large town (city).]

134) What is that?

- 135) 'S e an doras a th' ann.
 136) 'S e doras a th' ann.
 137) 'S e caora bheag shnog a th' ann (th' innte).
 138) 'S e leabhar fada a th' ann an 'Lord of the Rings,' nach e?
 139) 'S e sin a chunnaic mi.
 140) Chan e sin a chuala mi.
 141) 'S e duine math a th' ann an Calum.
 142) 'S e duine math a fhuair Anna.
 143) 'S e bàta mòr a cheannaich Raibeart.
 144) 'S e cù mòr dona a tha agam.
 145) 'S ann sgìth a tha mi.
 146) Chan ann aig an doras a bha Alastair.
 147) An ann a-màireach a bhitheas tu a' dol dhan sgoil?
 148) Nach ann a' dèanamh cèic a tha thu?
 149) Choisich mi dhan taigh-bìdh airson bracaist madainn an-diugh.
 150) 'S e mise a choisich airson bracaist dhan taigh-bìdh madainn an-diugh.
 151) 'S e bracaist a choisich mi airson dhan taigh-bìdh madainn an-diugh.
 152) 'S ann airson bracaist a choisich mi dhan taigh-bìdh madainn an-diugh.

- 135) It is the door that is in it. [It's the door.]
 136) It is a door that is in it. [It's a door.]
 137) It is a sheep, small, cute that is in it. [It is a small, cute sheep.]
 138) It is a book, long, that is in 'Lord of the Rings,' isn't it? [Lord of the Rings is a long book, isn't it?]
 139) It is that which I saw. [That is what I saw.]
 140) It is not that which I heard. [That isn't what I heard.]
 141) It is a good man that is in Calum. [Calum is a good man.]
 142) It is a good man that got Anna. [Anna got a good man.]
 143) It is a boat large which bought Robert. [Robert bought a large boat.]
 144) It is a dog large bad which is at me. [I have a large, bad, dog.]
 145) It is tired that I am. [I am *tired*.]
 146) It is not at the door that Alastair was. [Alastair was not at *the door*.]
 147) Is it tomorrow that you will be going to the school? [Are you going to school *tomorrow*?]
 148) Is it not making cake that you are? [Aren't you making *cake*?]
 149) I walked to the restaurant for breakfast this morning.
 150) It is I who walked for breakfast to the restaurant this morning.
 151) It is breakfast that I walked for to the restaurant this morning.
 152) It is for breakfast that I walked to the restaurant this morning.

153) 'S ann dhan taigh-bìdh a choisich mi airson bracaist madainn an-diugh.
154) 'S ann madainn an-diugh a choisich mi airson bracaist dhan taigh-bìdh.
155) 'S ann a choisich mi dhan taigh-bìdh airson bracaist madainn an-diugh.
156) Chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc an-dè.
157) 'S e mise a chunnaic cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc an-dè.
158) 'S e cù mòr a chunnaic mi a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc an-dè.
159) 'S e cù beag a chunnaic mi a' cluich le cù mòr anns a' phàirc an-dè.
160) 'S ann le cù beag a chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich anns a' phàirc an-dè.
161) 'S ann anns a' phàirc a chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag an-dè.
162) 'S ann an-dè a chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc.
163) 'S ann a chunnaic mi cù mòr a' cluich le cù beag anns a' phàirc an-dè.
164) Pògaidh mi duine gasta nuair a phòsas sinn.
165) 'S e duine gasta a phògas mi nuair a phòsas sinn.
166) 'S e mise a phògas duine gasta nuair a phòsas sinn.
167) 'S ann nuair a phòsas sinn a phògas mi duine gasta.
168) 'S ann a phògas mi duine gasta nuair a phòsas sinn.
169) Tha mi a' dèanamh cèic airson mo latha breith.
170) 'S e mise a bhitheas a' dèanamh cèic airson mo latha breith.

153) It is to the restaurant that I walked for breakfast this morning.
154) It is this morning that I walked for breakfast to the restaurant.
155) I WALKED to the restaurant for breakfast this morning.
156) I saw a big dog playing with a small dog in the park yesterday.
157) It is I who saw a big dog playing with a small dog in the park yesterday.
158) It is a big dog that I saw playing with a small dog in the park yesterday.
159) It is a small dog that I saw playing with a large dog in the park yesterday.
160) It is with a small dog that I saw a big dog playing in the park yesterday.
161) It is in the park that I saw a big dog playing with a little dog yesterday.
162) It is yesterday that I saw a big dog playing with a small dog in the park.
163) I SAW a big dog playing with a little dog in the park yesterday.
164) I will kiss a handsome man nuair we marry.
165) It is a handsome man I will kiss when we marry.
166) It is I who will kiss a handsome man when we marry.
167) It is when we marry that I will kiss a handsome man.
168) I WILL KISS a handsome man when we marry.
169) I am making a cake for my birthday.
170) It is I who is making a cake for my birthday.

- 171) 'S ann airson mo latha breith a bhitheas mi a' dèanamh cèic.
172) 'S ann a' dèanamh cèic a bhitheas mi airson mo latha breith.
173) Dè an t-ainm a th' oirbh?
174) Is mise Goraidh.
175) 'S e Goraidh an t-ainm a th' orm.
176) Dè an t-ainm a th' air?
177) Is esan Raibeart.
178) 'S e Raibeart an t-ainm a th' air.
179) Dè an sloinneadh a th' oirbh?
180) 'S e MacLeòid an sloinneadh a th' orm.
- 181) 'S e NicLeòid (an sloinneadh) a th' oirre.
- 182) Cò às a tha sibh?
183) Tha mi às An Oban. | 'S ann às An Oban a tha mi.
184) Tha mi às Na Hearadh. | 'S ann às Na Hearadh a tha mi.
185) Tha e à Glaschu. | 'S ann à Glaschu a tha e.
186) Tha i à Alba. | 'S ann à Alba a tha i.
187) An ann às An Oban a tha sibh?
188) 'S ann. 'S ann às An Oban a tha mi.
189) Chan ann. 'S ann à Dùn Èideann a tha mi.
190) An e Albanach a th' annaibh?
191) 'S e. / Chan e.
192) 'S e Albanach a th' annam.
193) Dè an obair a th' agaibh?
194) Tha mi nam reiceadair. | 'S e reiceadair a th' annam.

- 171) It is for my birthday that I will be making a cake.
172) It is making a cake that I will be for my birthday.
173) What is your name?
174) I am Geoff.
175) It is Geoff the name which is on me. [I am Geoff.]
176) What is his name?
177) He is Robert.
178) It is Robert the name which is on him. [He is Robert.]
179) What is your last name?
180) It is McLeod the surname that is on me. [My surname is McLeod.]
181) It is McLeod the surname that is on her. [Her surname is McLeod.]
182) Where are you from?
183) I am from Oban. | It is from Oban that I am.
184) I am from Harris. | It is from Harris that I am.
185) He is from Glasgow. | It is from Glasgow that he is.
186) She is from Scotland. | It is from Scotland that she is.
187) Is it from Oban that you are?
188) It is (yes). It is from Oban that I am.
189) It is not (no). It is from Edinburgh that I am.
190) Is it a Scotsman that is in you? [Are you a Scotsman?]
191) It is (yes). / It is not (no).
192) It is a Scotsman that is in me.
193) What the work which is at you? [What work do you have?]
194) I am a salesman. | It is a salesman that is in me. [I am a sales man.]

- 195) Tha mi ag obair ann am bùth. | 'S ann ann am bùth a tha mi ag obair.
 196) Càite bheil sibh ag obair?
 197) Tha mi ag obair ann an Steòrnabhagh. | 'S ann ann an Steòrnabhagh a tha mi ag obair.
 198) Dh'obair mi ann an Steòrnabhagh. | 'S ann ann an Steòrnabhagh a dh'obair mi.
 199) Bithidh mi ag obair ann an Steòrnabhagh. | 'S ann ann an Steòrnabhagh a bhitheas mi ag obair.
 200) Tha mi ag obair ann an oifis. | 'S ann ann an oifis a tha mi ag obair.
 201) Tha mi ag obair ann an Glaschu. | 'S ann ann an Glaschu a tha mi ag obair.
 202) Tha mi ag obair ann am banca. | 'S ann ann am banca a tha mi ag obair.
 203) Tha mi ag obair an-seo. | 'S ann an-seo a tha mi ag obair.
 204) Càite [a] bheil sibh a' fuireach?
 205) Tha mi a' fuireach ann am Port Rìgh. | 'S ann ann am Port Rìgh a tha mi a' fuireach.
 206) Dè seòrsa sìde a tha ann an-diugh?
 207) Tha i blàth an-diugh. | 'S e latha blàth a th' ann an-diugh.
 208) Cuin a thèid sibh a dh'obair?
 209) Thèid mi a dh'obair tràth. | 'S ann tràth a thèid mi a dh'obair.
 210) Cuin a thèid sibh air na saor-làithean?
 211) Thèid mi air na saor-làithean as t-samhradh. | 'S ann as t-samhradh a thèid mi air na saor-làithean.
 212) Dè seòrsa togalach a tha seo?

- 195) I am (in the act of) working in a shop. | It is in a shop that I am working.
 196) Where are you working? [Where do you work?]
 197) I am working in Stornoway. | It is in Stornoway that I am working.
 198) I worked in Stornoway. | It is in Stornoway that I worked.
 199) I work in Stornoway. | It is in Stornoway that I work.
 200) I work in an office. | It is in an office that I work.
 201) I am working in Glasgow. | It is in Glasgow that I am working.
 202) I am working in a bank. | It is in a bank that I am working.
 203) I am working here. | It is here that I am working.
 204) Where do you live?
 205) I am living in Portree. | It is in Portree that I am living.
 206) What kind of weather is in it today? [What kind of weather do we have today?]
 207) It is warm today. | It is a warm day in it today.
 208) When do you go to work?
 209) I go to work early. | It is early that I go to work.
 210) When do you go on vacation [holiday]?
 211) I go on holiday in the summer. | It is in the summer that I go on holiday.
 212) What kind of building is this?

- 213) 'S e taigh-staile a tha anns an togalach seo.
- 214) Tha an togalach seo mòr agus àrd. | 'S e togalach mòr agus àrd a th' anns an togalach seo.
- 215) Cò leis a tha an leabhar seo?
- 216) Tha an leabhar seo le Seumas. | 'S ann le Seumas a tha an leabhar seo.
- 217) Cò ris a tha Alastair coltach?
- 218) Tha e mòr le sùilean gorm. | 'S ann mòr le sùilean gorm a tha Alastair.
- 219) Tha e grot. | 'S e duine grot a tha ann an Alastair.
- 220) Tha e coltach ri Gerard Butler. | 'S e Gerard Butler a tha e coltach ri. | 'S ann coltach ri Gerard Butler a tha e.

Form 4 (Is Idioms)

- 221) Is toil leam cèic.
- 222) Cha toil leam briosaidean.
- 223) An toil leis leann? Is toil. / Cha toil.
- 224) Nach toil leis an leabhar? Is toil. / Cha toil.
- 225) Dè as toil leat?
- 226) Dè nach toil leat?
- 227) An toil le Màiri briosaidean? Is toil. / Cha toil.
- 228) Cha toil leis a' chù an cat.
- 229) Nach toil leis an duine leann? Is toil. / Cha toil.
- 230) Is toil leinn an clàs Gàidhlig.
- 231) An toil leat an leabhar seo? Is toil. / Cha toil.
- 232) Bu toil leam a bhith ag ithe cèic.
- 233) Cha bu toil leam an cèic seo ithe.
- 234) Am bu toil leis uisge òl? Bu toil. / Cha bu toil.

- 213) It is a distillery that is in this building. [This building is a distillery.]
- 214) This building is big and tall. | It is a big and tall building that is in this building.
- 215) Who with is this book? [Whose is this book?]
- 216) This book is with Seumas. [This book is Seumas'] | It is with Seumas that is this book. [This book is Seumas']
- 217) What does Alastair look like? Who does Alastair look like?
- 218) He is big with blue eyes. | It is big with blue eyes that is Alastair.
- 219) He is rotten. | It is a rotten man that is in Alastair.
- 220) He looks like Gerard Butler. | It is Gerard Butler that he looks like. | It is looking like Gerard Butler that he is.

- 221) I like cake.
- 222) I do not like biscuits/cookies.
- 223) Does he like beer? Yes. / No.
- 224) Doesn't he like the book? Yes. / No.
- 225) What do you like?
- 226) What don't you like?
- 227) Does Mary like biscuits/cookies? Yes. / No.
- 228) The dog does not like the cat.
- 229) Doesn't the man like beer? Yes. / No.
- 230) We like the Gaelic class.
- 231) Do you like this book? Yes. / No.
- 232) I would like to be eating cake.
- 233) I would not like to eat this cake.
- 234) Would he like water to drink? Yes. / No.

- 235) Nach bu toil leis am fìon dearg seo? Bu toil. Cha bu toil.
236) Am bu toil le lain taigh mar sin?
237) Cha bu toil. Bu toil leis taigh beag buidhe.
238) Dè an t-uisge beatha bu toil leibh?
239) Bu toil leam Talasgar.
240) Carson a bu toil leibh Talasgar?
241) Bu toil leam Talasgar airson gur e an t-uisge beatha bhon an Eilean Sgitheanach a th' ann.
242) 'S fheàrr leatha briosaidean.
243) Chan fheàrr leatha aran-coirce.
244) An fheàrr leibh aran?
245) Nach fheàrr leibh brochan no ùighean?
- 246) Dè seòrsa briosgaid as fheàrr leibh?
247) 'S fheàrr leam briosgaid sliseag seòclaid, ma 's e ur toil e.
248) Carson nach fheàrr leibh na briosaidean seo?
249) Chan fheàrr leam na briosaidean seo airson nach e briosaidean seòclaid a th' annta.
250) An fheàrr leatha aran-coirce le càise?
251) Chan fheàrr. Cha toil leatha aran-coirce idir idir!
252) B' fheàrr leinn fìon dearg.
253) Cha b' fheàrr leinn sùgh liomaid.
254) Am b' fheàrr leatha gloine uisge le deigh?
255) Nach b' fheàrr leatha a bhith a' fuireach ann an taigh ùr?
256) Am b' fheàrr leibh feòil mairt airson dìnnear?
257) Cha bh' fheàrr. B' fheàrr leam cearc.
258) Nach b' fheàrr leibh ceapaire hama?
259) B' fheàrr. B' fheàrr leam ceapaire hama.
260) Am b' fheàrr leibh na brògan seo?

235) Wouldn't he like this red wine? Yes. / No.

- 236) Would Iain like a house like that?
237) No. He would like a wee yellow house.
238) What whisky would you like?
239) I would like Talisker.
240) Why would you like Talisker?
241) I would like Talisker because it is the whisky from the Isle of Skye.
242) She prefers cookies/biscuits.
243) She does not prefer oatcakes.
244) Do you prefer bread?
245) Don't you prefer porridge to eggs? (note that in English we would say 'to' but 'or' is used in Gaelic)
246) What kind of cookies do you prefer?
247) I prefer chocolate chip cookies, please.
- 248) Why don't you prefer these cookies?
249) I don't prefer these cookies because they are not chocolate cookies.
250) Does she prefer oatcakes with cheese?
251) No. She does not like oatcakes at all at all!
252) We would prefer red wine.
253) We would not prefer lemon juice.
254) Would they prefer a glass of water with ice?
255) Wouldn't they prefer to be living in a new house?
256) Would you prefer beef for dinner?
257) No. I would prefer chicken.
258) Wouldn't you prefer a ham sandwich?
259) Yes. I would prefer a ham sandwich.
260) Would you prefer these shoes?

- 261) Cha b' fheàrr, ach b' fheàrr leam na brògan sin.
262) 'S urrainn dhomh còcaireachd.
263) Chan urrainn dhomh fuineadh.
264) An urrainn dhuibh fuineadh?
265) Nach urrainn dhuibh còcaireachd?
266) An urrainn dha còcaireachd no fuineadh?
267) 'S urrainn dha còcaireachd, ach chan urrainn dha fuineadh gu math.
268) Dè seòrsa rud as urrainn dha còcaireachd gu math?
269) 'S urrainn dha feòil agus glasraich a chòcaireachd uabhasach math. 'S e còcaire math a th' ann.
270) Cò 's urrainn seo a dhèanamh?
271) 'S urrainn do Alastair sin a dhèanamh.
272) B' urrainn dhi dannsadh nuair a bha i òg.
273) Cha b' urrainn do dh'Alastair dannsadh idir.
274) Am b' urrainn dhuibh dannsadh còmhla rium?
275) Nach b' urrainn dhuinn dannsadh a-nochd aig a' chèilidh?
276) Cha b' urrainn dhomh càil a dhèanamh ceart an-diugh.
- 277) Am b' urrainn dhut na glasraich a nighe an-dràsta?
278) Nach b' urrainn dhut na glasraich a chòcaireachd airson dinnear?
279) B' urrainn gu dearbh, ach b' urrainn dhut an nighe an toiseach.
280) B' urrainn, nam b' urrainn dhomh an taigh fhàgail airson na glasraich a cheannach.
281) Nach b' urrainn dhut na glasraich a cheannach an-dè? Obh obh.
282) Bu choir don chù am biadh seo ithe.
283) Cha bu choir dha am biadh agamsa ithe.

- 261) No, but I would prefer those shoes.
262) I can cook.
263) I can't bake.
264) Can you bake?
265) Can't you cook?
266) Can he cook or bake?
267) He can cook, but he can't bake well.
- 268) What kinds of things can he cook well?
269) He can cook meat and vegetables terribly well. He is a good cook.
270) Who can do this?
271) Alastair can do this.
272) She could dance when she was young.
273) Alastair couldn't dance at all.
274) Could you dance with me?
275) Couldn't we dance tonight at the ceilidh?
276) I couldn't do anything right today.
- 277) Could you wash the vegetables now?
278) Couldn't you cook the vegetables for dinner?
- 279) Yes indeed, but you could wash them first.
- 280) Yes, if I could leave the house to buy the vegetables.
- 281) Couldn't you buy the vegetables yesterday? Oh dear.
- 282) The dog should eat this food.
283) He should not eat my food.

- 284) Am bu choir dha am biadh air a' bhòrd ithe?
285) Nach bu choir dha a bhiadh ithe anns a' bhobhla aige fhèin air an làr?
286) Bu choir. Cha bu choir dha mo bhiadh ithe idir idir!
287) Bu choir dha [a] uisge òl anns a' bhobhla aige fhèin air an làr cuideachd.
288) Am bu choir dha ruith an dèidh (cat) chait mar sin?
289) Cha bu choir idir! Bu choir dhuinn ruith an dèidh (an cù) a' choin!
290) Nach bu choir dhuinn suidhe an-dràsta?
291) Bu choir gu dearbh.
292) 'S fheàrr don duine ruith nas luaithe na sin.
293) Chan fheàrr dhuinn an car seo a dhraibheadh nas luaithe.
294) An fheàrr dhuinn a dhol dhachaidh an-dràsta?
295) Nach fheàrr dhaibh am biadh ithe mus fàs e nas fhuaire?
296) An fheàrr dha a dhol dhan bhùth mus bi e dùinte?
297) Chan fheàrr. Thèid e ann a-màireach.
298) Nach fheàrr do Chalum an obair-dachaidh a dhèanamh airson na sgoile a-màireach?
299) 'S fheàrr. 'S fheàrr do Chalum a dhèanamh.
300) Carson as fheàrr dha ruith nas luaithe na sin?
301) 'S fheàrr dha ruith nas luaithe na sin airson gum beir am mathan air.

- 284) Should he eat the food on the table?
285) Shouldn't he eat his food in his bowl on the floor?
286) Yes. He should not eat my food at all at all!
287) He should drink his water in his bowl on the floor also.
288) Should he run after a cat like that?
289) Not at all! We should run after the dog!
290) Shouldn't we sit now?
291) Yes indeed.
292) The man had better run faster than that.
293) We had better not drive this car faster.
294) Had we better go home now?
295) Hadn't they better eat their food before it grows colder?
296) Had he better go to the shop before it is closed?
297) No. He will go tomorrow.
298) Hadn't Calum better do his homework for school tomorrow?
299) Yes. Calum had better do it.
300) Why had he better run faster than that?
301) He had better run faster than that because the bear will catch him.