

Lesson 12:

The Prepositional Pronouns using “air” – “on”

We have already covered the prepositional pronoun using “aig” eg “Tha taigh agam” made up of the preposition “aig” and the pronoun “mi”. Another important preposition is “air” which means “on” which gets combined with the pronoun eg “mi”, “thu”, “e”, “i”, “sinn”, “sibh”, “iad” .

air + mi = orm (on me)	air + sinn = oirnn (on us)
air + thu = ort (on you)	air + sibh = oirbh (on you) plural
air + e = air (on him)	air + iad = orra (on them)
air + i = oirre (on her)	

We use these combinations in the following examples :-

Dè an t-ainm a th’ ort?	What is your name? (sl informal)
Dè an t-ainm a th’ oirbh?	What is your name? (pl formal)
Dè an t-ainm a th’ oirre?	What is her name?
Dè an t-ainm a th’ air?	What is his name?
Dè an t-ainm a th’ orra?	What is their name?

Eg Q1. A bheil clann agaibh?	Do you have children?
A1. Tha , tha dithis mhac agam.	Yes, I have 2 sons.
Q2. Dè an t-ainm a th’ orra?	What is their name?
A2. ‘S e Seumas agus Iain a tha an t-ainm a th’ orra.	James and John is their names.

Note: that as “tha” ends with a vowel and “ort” begins with a vowel, so when eg “tha” is followed by “ort” we drop the last vowel in “tha” and replace it with an apostrophe ie “a th’ ort” or “a th’ oirbh” . This is a general rule in Gaelic and is also a lot easier to say.

Likes , dislikes and preferences:

To say you don’t like something a bit stronger than just “cha toil leam” – I don’t like, you can say :- “is beag orm” which means I really don’t like something .

An even stronger phrase is “Is lugha orm” - I hate something.

‘S toil leam I like
 Cha toil leam I don’t like
 Is beag orm I really don’t like
 Is lugha orm I really detest or hate.

To say you prefer something:

‘s fheàrr leam.	I prefer
‘s fheàrr leam cofaidh.	I prefer coffee
‘s fheàrr leam a bhith ann an còisir.	I prefer to be in a choir
‘b fheàrr leam	I would prefer
‘b fheàrr leam a bhith fileanta anns a’ Ghàidhlig	I would prefer to be fluent in Gaelic.

Also “fheàrr” can be used in the sense of “better” when used with “nas fheàrr”
 Tha mi a’ faireachdainn mòran nas fheàrr tapadh leibh. I am feeling much better, thank you.

Present , Past and Future tenses:

Using the verb “ to be “

Present tense

Tha mi fuar an-diugh
I am cold today.

Past Tense

bha mi fuar an-dè
I was cold yesterday

Future Tense

bidh mi fuar a-maireach.
I will be cold tomorrow.

Tha i fliuch an-diugh
It is wet today.

bha i fliuch an-dè
It was wet yesterday.

bidh i fliuch a-maireach.
It will be wet tomorrow.

Question form:**Present tense**

A bheil thu sgith an-diugh?

Are you tired today?

Past tense

An robh sibh blàth an-dè?

Were you warm yesterday?

Future tense

Am bi iad a' dol gu ceilidh Dihaoine?

Will they be going to a ceilidh on Friday?

Response to questions:

Present Tense: Q. A bheil thu teth?
Are you hot?

Ans1: Tha , tha mi teth.
Yes, I am hot.

Ans2: Chan eil, chan eil mi teth.
No, I am not hot.

Past Tense: Q. An robh i fliuch?
Was it wet?

Ans1: Bha, bha i fliuch.
Yes, it was wet.

Ans2: Cha robh, cha robh i fliuch.
No , it wasn't wet.

Future Tense: Q Am bi iad an-seo?
Will they be here?

Ans1: Bithidh, bidh iad an-seo.
Yes, they will be here.

Ans2: Cha bhi, cha bhi iad an-seo.
No, they won't be here

Asking a question using the interrogative “nach”**Present Tense:**

Nach eil i fuar an-diugh? Isn't it cold today?

The response would be either “tha” or “chan eil”

Past Tense:

Nach robh i blàth an-dè? Wasn't it warm yesterday?

The response would be either “bha” or “cha robh”.

Future tense:

Nach bi an t-uisge ann am-maireach? Won't it be raining tomorrow?

The response would be either “bithidh” = yes ,or “ cha bhi” = no.

We will now start going over the 8 conversations derived by An Commun Gaidhealach as examples of conversations that will be covered for the Bronze Card There are 8 sample conversations.

Conversation 1:

Interviewer: Hallò , Iain, feasgar math.

Iain: Hallò, feasgar math, ciamar a tha sibh?

Interviewer: Tha gu math , tapadh leibh. Tha i brèagha an-diugh , nach eil?

Iain: O tha, tha i brèagha agus blàth cuideachd.

Interviewer: Cò às a tha sibh fhèin?

Iain: Tha mi à Steòrnabhagh ach tha mi a’ fuireach ann an Inbhir Nis.

Interviewer: Tha mise a’ fuireach ann an Glaschu, ann am Partaig. O a bheil sibh ag iarraidh tì no cofaidh?

Iain: Tha mi ag iarraidh tì mas e bhur toil e. Tì le bainne agus siùcar.

Interviewer: Glè mhath, seo dhuibh cupa tì agus seo an siùcar.

Iain: Tapadh leibh.

Interviewer: Agus dè an obair a th’ agaibh fhèin?

Iain: ‘S e rùnaire a th’ annam. Tha mi ag obair ann an oifis.

Interviewer: Agus an toil leibh obair ann an oifis?

Iain: O, ‘s toil. Tha e math.

Interviewer: Cuin a tha an oifis a’ fosgladh anns a’ mhadainn?

Iain: Tha i a’ fosgladh aig naoi uairean agus tha i a’ dunadh aig còig.

Interviewer: Glè mhath.

Iain: A bheil sibh fhèin ag obair?

Interviewer: Chan eil, tha mi air m’ obair a leigeil dhìom.

Iain: Tha sibh a’ fuireach ann an Glaschu , a bheil clann agaibh?

Interviewer: Tha, tha nighean agus gille againn.