

Lesson 4:**To say you understand or don't understand something:-**

Tha mi a' tuigsinn	<i>Hah mee ah took-sheen</i>	I understand
Chan eil mi a' tuigsinn	<i>Chan yale mee ah took-sheen</i>	I don't understand
A bheil sibh a' tuigsinn	<i>Ah vale shiv ah took-sheen</i>	Do you understand?
Tha, tha mi a' tuigsinn	<i>Hah. Hah mee ah took-sheen</i>	Yes I understand
Chan eil , chan eil mi a' tuigsinn	<i>Chan yale. Chan yale mee ah took-sheen</i>	No , I don't understand

If you don't understand someone you can use the prepositional pronoun “**gad**” which literally means “**at you**” and is a combination of “aig”- at and “do” – your . gad is the singular form of “at your” and will lenite the next noun.

eg Tha mi gad thuigsinn. Which means I understand you or I am at your understanding.
Similarly to say you don't understand someone.replace “**tha**” with “**chan eil**”.

Tha mi gad thuigsinn.	I understand you
Chan eil mi gad thuigsinn.	I don't understand you.

To ask someone if they understand you , use the prepositional pronoun “gam” literally “at my” and is a combination of “aig” – at and “mo” – my.

eg
A bheil sibh gam thuigsinn . Do you understand me.

Reply:

Tha, tha mi gad thuigsinn. Yes I understand you.

It is important for learners to master these phrases as, if you are speaking Gaelic to someone and you are met with a blank stare then maybe they don't understand you but if you can ask them in Gaelic if they understand you then that is worth a few brownie points.

To say excuse me or pardon if you don't understand

B' aill leibh	<i>bahl-liv</i>	Pardon
Gabh mo leisgeul	<i>Gav moh laysh-kill</i>	Excuse me
Tha mi duillich	<i>Hah mee doo-lich</i>	I am sorry

To ask someone to say something again.

Canaibh a rithist e.	<i>can-iv ah-reesht eh</i>	Say it again (formal)
Can a rithist e	<i>can ah-reesht eh</i>	Say it again (informal)
Dè thuirt sibh?	<i>jay hoorsht shiv</i>	What did you say? (formal/plural)
Dè thuirt thu?	<i>jay hoorsht oo</i>	What did you say? (informal/singular)

To say you are going to meet people:

A choinneachadh ri daoine. <i>a chun-yi-chug ree day-nyi</i>	to meet people
Tha mi a' dol a choinneachadh ri daoine.	I am going to meet people
Tha mi a' dol a choinneachadh ri daoine aig a' Mhòd.	(at the Mod)

To ask someone if they went to the Mod:

An deach thu (or) sibh dhan Mhòd ann an Steòrnabhagh? Did you go to the Mod in Stornoway?

To reply "yes" you say "Chaidh" "*cheye*" with the "ch" as in "loch"
 To say "No" you say "Cha deach" "Cha jach" with a "ch" as in "loch"

Families:

Mac	<i>machk</i>	Son	Balach	<i>bahloch</i>	Boy
Nighean	<i>nee-an</i>	Daughter	Caileag	<i>kallak</i>	Girl
Bean	<i>ben</i>	Wife	Bràthair	<i>brah-her</i>	Brother
Duine	<i>doon-yi</i>	Husband	Piuthar	<i>pyoo-ar</i>	Sister

To say I have a brother you say "a brother is at me" Tha bràthair agam.
 Repeat for all the above that is appropriate to you..

To say that you have more than one eg brother you use the numbering system used for people only ie

Dithis	<i>jee-ish</i>	2 (people)
Triùir	<i>troo-er</i>	3 (people)
Ceathrar	<i>kay-rar</i>	4 (people)
Còignear	<i>koe-ik-nyar</i>	5 (people)

This format of numbering governs the genitive plural of the following noun so you will see some changes to the family members in Gaelic.

Eg	Tha dithis bhràithrean agam. I have 2 brothers	Tha mac agam I have a son
	Tha triùir nighean agam I have 3 daughters	Tha nighean agam I have a daughter
	Tha bean agam I have a wife	Tha dithis pheathraichean agam 2 sisters
	Tha duine agam I have a husband	Tha triùir mhac agam 3 sons

A bheil clann agaibh?	<i>ah vale cla-oon ah-kiv</i>	Do you have children?
Tha, tha triùir agam.	<i>hah, hah troo-ir akam</i>	Yes, I have 3.
Tha mac agus nighean agam	<i>hah machk agus nee-yin agam</i>	I have a son and daughter
Tha dithis mhac agus triùir nighean agam		I have 2 sons and 3 daughters

Chan eil clann agam I don't have any children

Now work out your own family circumstances.