

BM-11: A' cleachdadh ainm cuideigin

Using Someone's Name

Presenter: Sarah Cruickshank



ÌRE: **Bunaiteach-Meadhanach**
CUSPAIR: **A' cleachdadh ainm cuideigin (Ainmean Baistidh)**
PUINGEAN CÀNAIN: **An Tuiseal Gairmeach**

SARAH:

Fàilte. Bheir sinn sùil air mar a chleachdas sinn ainm cuideigin nuair a bhios sinn a' bruidhinn riutha.

Annas a' Ghàidhlig, chan fhaod sinn rudan mar "Feasgar math, Calum" no "Madainn mhath, Màiri" a ràdh. Feumaidh sinn na h-ainmean atharrachadh rud beag. Ma tha ùidh agaibh ann an gràmar, 's e An Tuiseal Gairmeach an t-ainm a th' air seo.

Tòisichidh sinn le ainmean boireannach, oir tha iad nas fhasa na ainmean fhireannach. Tha sinn uile eòlach air ainmean mar Catrìona, Màiri is Seònaid, ach ma bhios sibh a' bruidhinn ri boireannaich leis na h-ainmean seo, feumaidh sinn am facal beag "a" a ràdh agus toiseach an ainm atharrachadh.

Mar eisimpleir:

"Ciamar a tha sibh, a Chatrìona?";

"Madainn mhath dhut, a Mhàiri"; agus

"Dè tha thu ag iarraidh, a Sheònaid?".

Chan eil am facal beag "a" a' ciallachadh rud sam bith, agus uaireannan cha chluinn sinn idir e. Can, ma tha fuaimreag aig deireadh an fhacail a tha dìreach roimhe.

LEVEL: **Beginner-Intermediate**
TOPIC: **Using someone's name (First Names)**
LINGUISTIC POINTS: **The Vocative Case**

SARAH:

Welcome. We'll take a look at how we use someone's name when we're talking to them.

In Gaelic, we can't say things like, "Good afternoon, Calum" or "Good morning, Màiri". We have to change the names slightly. If you're interested in grammar, this is known as the Vocative Case.

We'll begin with female names, as they're easier than male names. We're all familiar with names like Catriona (Catherine), Mairi (Mary) and Janet (Shona), but if you're talking to a woman called by one of those names, we have to insert the particle "a" and change the beginning of the name.

For example:

"How are you, a Chatrìona?";

"Good morning, a Mhàiri"; and

"What do you want, a Sheònaid?".

The particle "a" doesn't have any meaning, and sometimes is not voiced. Say the previous word ends in a vowel.

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Mar eisimpleir:

"Ciamar a tha thu, Chatrìona?";
"Hallo, Mhàiri"; agus
"Cò às a tha thu, Sheònaid?".

Tha "a" fhathast ann, ach tha e cho lag 's nach cluinn sinn e. Ma tha an t-ainm a' tòiseachadh le fuaimreag, chan eil "a" ann, ach chan eil toiseach an ainm ag atharrachadh, oir chan urrainn dhuinn fuaimreag atharrachadh mar seo.

Mar eisimpleir:

"Ciamar a tha sibh, Eilidh?";
"Madainn mhath dhut, Anna"; agus
"Dè tha thu ag iarraidh, Ùna?"

Bheir sinn sùil air ainmean fhìreannach a-nis: Calum, Dòmhnall agus Seumas. Tha an aon rud a' tachairt aig toiseach an ainm, ach tha "i" a' dol a-steach aig an deireadh cuideachd.

Mar eisimpleir:

"Dè do chor, a Chaluim?";
"Feasgar math dhut, a Dhòmhnail"; agus
"Mar sin leat, a Sheumais."

'S dòcha gun robh fios agaibh mar-thà gun tàinig an t-ainm Beurla, Hamish, bhon Tuiseal Ghairmeach aig Seumas - a Sheumais.

Ma tha an t-ainm a' tòiseachadh le fuaimreag, can Ailean, Eòghann agus Eachann, chan eil dad a' tachairt aig an toiseach, agus tha "i" fhathast a' dol a-steach.

For example:

"How are you, Chatrìona?";
"Hello, Mhàiri"; and
"Where do you come from, Sheònaid?".

Tha "a" is still there, but it's so weak that it's silent. If a name begins with a vowel, "a" is not inserted, but the beginning of the name does not change, because we can't change a vowel in this way.

For example:

"How are you, Eilidh?";
"Good morning, Anna"; and
"What do you want, Ùna?"

Let's take a look at male names now: Calum, Donald and James. The same thing happens at the beginning of the name, but an "i" is inserted at the end too.

For example:

"What's up, a Chaluim?";
"Good afternoon, a Dhòmhnail"; and
"Goodbye, a Sheumais."

You may already know that the English name, Hamish, comes from the Vocative Case of Seumas - a Sheumais.

If a name begins with a vowel, say, Alan, Ewan or Hector, nothing happens to the beginning, and an "i" is still inserted.

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Mar eisimpleir:

"Oidhche mhath leibh, Ailein";
"Tapadh leat, Eòghainn"; agus
"S e do bheatha, Eachainn".

Dè ma tha "i" faisg air an deireadh anns an ainm mar-thà, can, ann an Iain, Màrtainn is Phàdraig? Uill, chan urrainn dhuinn "i" eile a chur a-steach, ach cluinnidh sibh na tha a' tachairt anns na h-eisimpleirean seo.

"Feasgar math dhut, Iain";
"Dè do chor, a Mhàrtainn?"; agus
"Bidh mi gad fhaicinn, a Phàdraig".

Tha an aon rud a' tachairt le ainmearan cumanta cuideachd, agus iad a' cumail ris an aon phàtran ris na h-ainmean.

Mar eisimpleir:

"Ciamar a tha sibh, a dhuine?";
"Dè do chor, a charaid?"; agus
"Cò às a tha sibh, a chaileagan?".

Ma bhios tu a' sgrìobhadh litir gu cuideigin, bu chòir dhuibh an Tuiseal Gairmeach a chleachdadh aig toiseach na litreach.

Beannachd leibh an-dràsta.

For example:

"Good night, Ailein";
"Thank you, Eòghainn"; and
"You're welcome, Eachainn".

What if there is already an "i" at the end of the name, say as in Iain, Martin and Patrick (or Peter)? Well, we can't insert another "i", but you'll hear what happens in the following examples.

"Good afternoon, Iain";
"What's up, a Mhàrtainn?" and
"I'll see you, a Phàdraig".

The same thing happens with common nouns too, and they follow the same pattern as the names.

For example:

"How are you, a dhuine (mate)?";
"What's up, a charaid (pal)?"; and
"Where are you from, a chaileagan (girls)?".

If you're writing a letter to someone, you should use the Vocative Case at the beginning of the letter.

Bye for now.