

BM-22: Ainmean-àite 2

Place names 2

Presenter: Seumas Dòmhnallach (James MacDonald)



ÌRE **Bunaiteach-Meadhanach**
CUSPAIR **Ainmean-àite 2**
PUINGEAN CÀNAIN **An Tuiseal Ginideach Boireann Singilte**

SEUMAS:

Fàilte. Coimheadaidh sinn air ainmean-àite agus chì sinn mar a bhios ainmearan boireann ag atharrachadh annta.

Am measg nan ainmearan a chì sinn, tha "an annaid". 'S e seann eaglais chudromach a th' ann an annaid. Deas air Port Rìgh anns an Eilean Sgitheanach, tha baile beag leis an ainm Achadh na h-Annaid - no Achadh na h-Annaide ma tha sibh airson a bhith buileach ceart. An cuala sibh mar a tha "an annaid" eadar-dhealaichte ann an Achadh na h-Annaid, agus gu h-àraidh ann an Achadh na h-Annaide?

Bidh sibh eòlach air an fhacal "a' chraobh", ach an aithne dhuibh baile beag ann an Lodainn, faisg air Dùn Èideann, leis an ainm Baile na Craoibhe? Tha "a' chraobh" a' dol gu "na craoibhe" anns an ainm. Bidh ainmearan boireann a' cumail ris a' phàtran seo mar as trice ann an suidheachaidhean mar seo. Mura bi an litir "i" faisg air deireadh an ainmeir, feumaidh sinn a cur a-steach, agus ma tha am facal car goirid, feumaidh sinn an litir "e" a chur aig an deireadh. Mar sin, bidh "a' chraobh" a' dol gu "na craoibhe". An cuala sibh cuideachd mar a tha an t-alt? Achadh na h-Annaid agus Baile na Craoibhe.

LEVEL **Beginner-Intermediate**
TOPIC **Place names 2**
LINGUISTIC POINTS **The Genitive Case of Singular Feminine Nouns**

SEUMAS (JAMES):

Welcome. We'll look at place names and see how feminine nouns are modified in them.

Among the names we'll see is "an annaid". An "annaid" was an old, important church. South of Portree on the Isle of Skye, there's a small village called Achadh na h-Annaid (the field of the mother church) - or Achadh na h-Annaide if you want to be absolutely correct. Did you hear how "an annaid" changed in Achadh na h-Annaid, and especially in Achadh na h-Annaide?

You'll be familiar with the word "a' chraobh" (tree), but are you familiar with a small town in Lothian, near Edinburgh, which is called Ballencrieff (the farm by the tree)? "A' chraobh" changes to "na craoibhe" in the name. Feminine nouns usually follow this pattern in such situations. Unless there is an "i" near the end of the noun, we have to insert one, and if it's a relatively short word, we also have to add the letter "e" to the end. As a result, "a' chraobh" becomes "na craoibhe". Did you also hear the difference in the article? Achadh na h-Annaid and Baile na Craoibhe.

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SEUMAS:

Tha eisimpleirean gu leòr eile ann. Ma tha sibh eòlach air Loch Nis, tha fhios gu bheil sibh eòlach air a' bhaile bheag air bruach an locha leis an ainm Druim na Drochaid. Chì sinn an drochaid an sin fhathast, agus cluinnidh sinn mar a tha "an drochaid" a' dol gu "na drochaid". Ma tha sibh airson a bhith buileach ceart agus buileach traidiseanta, faodaidh sibh Druim na Drochaide a ràdh, leis an litir "e" aig an deireadh, ach tha "na drochaid" fhèin fada gu leòr mar fhacal mar-thà. Chan fheum sinn a dhèanamh nas fhaide.

Faodaidh sinn fuireach faisg air Druim na Drochaid, agus smaoinich air a' chaisteal ainmeil a tha fon rathad eadar Inbhir Nis agus an Gearasdan. Tha an caisteal na shuidhe air sròn - pìos fearainn a tha a' stobadh a-mach dhan loch. Ma choimheadas sibh sìos bhon rathad, chì sibh an t-sròn agus an caisteal. Anns a' Ghàidhlig 's e Caisteal na Sròine an t-ainm a th' air, agus cluinnidh sinn mar a tha "an t-sròn" a' dol gu "na sròine".

Anns an dealachadh, 's dòcha gu bheil sibh a' faighneachd cò às a thàinig an litir "h" ann an Achadh na h-Annaid. Uill, ma thòisicheas an dàrna ainmear le fuaimreag ("a", "e", "i", "o", no "u"), cuiridh sinn "h" a-steach eadar "na" agus an dàrna ainmear. Tha e nas fhasa a ràdh. Nach fheuch sibh fhèin ri Achadh na Annaid a ràdh agus an uair sin Achadh na h-Annaid? Tha e nas fhasa leis an "h", nach eil?

Sin e an-dràsta ma-thà. Mar sin leibh.

SEUMAS (JAMES):

There are numerous other examples. If you're familiar with Loch Ness, you are probably also familiar with the small village on the banks of the loch which is called Drumnadrochit. We can still see the bridge there, and we can hear how "an drochaid" changes to "na drochaid". If you want to be absolutely correct and particularly traditional, you can say Druim na Drochaide, with the letter "e" added on to the end, but "na drochaid" as a word is long enough already. We don't need to make it any longer.

We can stay near Drumnadrochit, and think of a well-known castle which is below the road between Inverness and Fort William. The castle sits on a headland - a piece of land that protrudes out into the loch. If you look down from the road, you can see the headland and the castle. In Gaelic, it is called Caisteal na Sròine, and you can hear how "an t-sròn" changes to "na sròine".

In parting, perhaps you're asking where the letter "h" came from in Achadh na h-Annaid. Well, if the second noun begins with a vowel ("a", "e", "i", "o", or "u"), we insert an "h" between "na" and the second noun. It's easier to say. Why don't you try to say Achadh na Annaid and then Achadh na h-Annaid? It's easier with the "h", isn't it?

That's all for now. Goodbye.