MA08: Sgilean is Comasan

Skills and Ability

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ÌRE:	**Meadhanach-Àrd**	LEVEL:	**Intermediate-Advanced**
CUSPAIR:	**Sgilean is Comasan**	TOPIC:	**Skills and Ability**
PUINGEAN CÀNAIN:	**Cumaidhean Cas mu Seach**	LINGUISTIC POINTS:	**Inverted constructions**
	'S urrainn dhomh ...		**I am able to ...**
	Cha b' urrainn dhomh ...		**I am unable to ...**

DEREK:

Gu tric sa Ghàidhlig bidh sinn a' cleachdadh structar a dh'fhaodadh a bhith doirbh do luchd-ionnsachaidh. Nuair a thòisicheas sinn air an cànan ionnsachadh, tòisichidh sinn le structaran car sìmplidh, mar: "Tha mi a' dràibheadh." Às dèidh greis 's dòcha gum bi sinn a' cleachdadh structaran mar, "Dràibhidh mi an càr," no, "Dhràibh mi an càr."

Ach dè mu dheidhinn rud mar: "Is urrainn dhomh an càr a dhràibheadh"? A bheil thu air a leithid a chluinntinn? 'S e structar gu math cumanta a th' ann sa Ghàidhlig, far am bi an rud a bhios tu a' dèanamh, no am prìomh ghnìomhair a' tighinn aig deireadh a' chlàsa.

Sa chliop seo bheir sinn sùil air suidheachaidhean far a bheil thu comasach air rudeigin a dhèanamh. 'S e sin suidheachaidhean far a bheil an structar seo glè fheumail. An urrainn dhut snàmh? Is dòcha gun urrainn. Mura h-urrainn ged-thà, 's urrainn dhut leasanan snàimh fhaighinn ann an iomadach àite san latha an-diugh.

DEREK:

In Gaelic we frequently use a construction that can be difficult for learners to grasp. When we start to learn the language we begin with simple constructions, like: "I am driving." After a while, perhaps we will begin to use constructions like: "I will drive the car," or, "I drove the car."

But what about something like: "I am able to drive the car"? Have you heard something like that? It's a fairly common construction in Gaelic where what you are doing, or the primary verb comes at the end of the clause.

In this clip we will look at situations where you are capable of doing something. These are situations where this structure is very useful. Can you swim? Perhaps you can. However, if you can't, you can take swimming lessons in many places these days.

DEREK:
Bidh thu air cluinntinn leis na bha sin gu bheil 'urrainn' agus 'do' a' dol còmhla. Mar sin canaidh mise, "'S urrainn dhomh am bogsa seo a thogail. "An urrainn dhutsa a thogail, no a bheil e ro throm dhut?" Mar sin tha mise làidir gu leòr airson a bhith a' togail a' bhogsa. Tha an comas agam an rud a thogail; 's urrainn dhomh am bogsa thogail.

DEREK:
You will have heard there that 'urrainn' and 'do' go together. In that way I would say, "I am able to lift this box. "Are you able to lift it, or is it too heavy for you?" So I am strong enough to lift the box. I am capable of lifting it; I can lift the box.

Smaoinich, dè as urrainn dhut dèanamh an-dràsta? An urrainn dhut mo chluinntinn an seo? An urrainn dhut a' ghrian fhaicinn? Tha am pathadh orm. An urrainn dhut cupa tì a dhèanamh dhomh? Gabhaidh mise drùdhag bainne agus còig siùcaran, mas e do thoil e! Ma tha thu comasach air gin de na rudan sin a dhèanamh, canaidh tu, "'S urrainn." Mura h-eil thu comasach air gin dhiubh, can, "Chan urrainn."

Think, what can you do now? Can you hear me here? Can you see the sun? I am thirsty. Can you make me a cup of tea? I'll take a splash of milk and five sugars, please! If you are able to do any of those things, you would say, "'S urrainn." If you are not able to do any of those things, say, "Chan urrainn."

Sin, cha mhòr, e airson 'urrainn', ach aon rud. Can gun robh thu uaireigin comasach air rud a dhèanamh. B' àbhaist dhomh a bhith nam sheòrsa de 'lùth-chleasaiche' - co-dhiù bhithinn a' cur car a' mhuiltein bho àm gu àm! B' urrainn dhomh car a' mhuiltein a chur nuair a bha mi na b' òige. Chan urrainn a-nis ged-thà! Dè a b' urrainn dhutsa a dhèanamh nach urrainn dhut a-nis? Am b' urrainn dhut ionnsramaid-chiùil a chluich no an 't-Seann Triubhas' a dhannsadh? Am b' urrainn? B' urrainn no cha b' urrainn.

That's about all for 'urrainn', apart from one thing. Say you were once able to do something. I used to be a bit of an 'athlete' - or at least I would turn somersaults from time to time! I could turn a somersault when I was younger. I can't now though. What were you able to do that you are unable to do now? Could you play a musical instrument or dance the 'Sean Triubhas'? Could you? You could or you could not.

Uill tha an ùine air ruith oirnn a-rithist, feumaidh mi togail orm. Mar sin leat an-dràsta.

Well, we've run out of time again, and I have to go. Goodbye for now.

Bonn-notaichean

Tha caochladh de structaran ann co-cheangailte ri 'urrainn'. Ma tha rudeigin ann air a bheil thu comasach, cleachd structar mar: "'S urrainn dhomh rudeigin a dhèanamh."

Mas e gnìomhair as urrainn dhut dèanamh, cleachd structar leithid: "'S urrainn dhomh ruith," no, "'S urrainn dhomh snàmh."

Is dòcha gu bheil an comas agad a bhith ann an staid air choreigin. Ma tha, cleachd structar mar seo: "'S urrainn dhomh a bhith nam amadan," mar eisimpleir.

Agus mu dheireadh, mas e riochdair pearsanta an rud air a bheil thu comasach, cleachd an structar seo: "'S urrainn dhomh do thogail," no "Chan urrainn dhomh ur cluinntinn."

Footnotes

There are a number of constructions relating to 'urrainn'. If there is something you are capable of, use a construction like: "'S urrainn dhomh rudeigin a dhèanamh."

If what you are capable of is a verb, use a construction such as: "'S urrainn dhomh ruith," or, "'S urrainn dhomh snàmh."

Perhaps you are able to be in a particular state. If so, use a structure like this: "'S urrainn dhomh a bhith nam amadan," for example.

And finally, if what you are capable of is a personal pronoun, use this structure: "'S urrainn dhomh do thogail," or "Chan urrainn dhomh ur cluinntinn."