

Aonad

9



Tá a chuid Gaeilge an-mhaith!

His Irish is very good!

This lesson introduces some further aspects of *possessive* and *partitive* constructions. Specifically, it looks at:

- Possessive adjectives (*my, your, his, her, our, their*)
- Relative and absolute quantities (*some, a lot, more, all, none*)
- Prepositions and the genitive case

This lesson contains the following topics:

1. Using possessive adjectives with a singular (countable) noun
2. Written forms of possessive adjectives
3. Contrast and emphasis with possessive adjectives
4. Possessive adjectives with numbers
5. Possessive adjectives with *plural* and *material* nouns
6. Contrast and emphasis with *cuid*
7. Using *ceann/cuid* as a possessive pronoun
8. Referring to non-specific quantities ('partitive genitive')
9. Referring to part of a known quantity ('partitive dative')
10. Relative quantities with pronouns
11. Cardinal (or personal) numbers with *de* or *ag*
12. Fractions and personal numbers with nouns or pronouns
13. Expressing: *All, each and every*
14. Expressing: *None (at all)*
15. Simple prepositions and the genitive case
16. Compound prepositions and the genitive case

Na Forainmneacha pearsanta

(Reviewing *Unit 1, section 11*)

Personal pronouns

The pronouns in Irish are used quite differently from English:

- A *conjunctive* pronoun immediately follows a verb as its *subject*.
- A *disjunctive* pronoun is used in other cases and may be either the subject or an object of a verb.
 - Third-person pronouns (*he/she/it, they*) have distinct *disjunctive* forms, lacking initial **s**).
 - **Disjunctive* pronouns are always used with the *copula* (**is** in its various forms). But the *conjunctive* second-person pronouns: **tú, tusa** are generally used with the copula, instead of the lenited forms.
 - The *impersonal pronoun* **ea**, (a remnant of an ancient third person neuter pronoun), is only used to refer to indefinite nouns in particular constructions with the copula.
- There are also *emphatic* (*conjunctive* and *disjunctive*) forms used for contrast and/or emphasis. (In some dialects, they can also help to clarify or emphasize the *possessor* of a noun. See *Section 3*.)

Singular pronouns:

		<i>Conjunctive</i>	<i>Disjunctive</i>	<i>Emphatic</i>	<i>Disj.</i>
1	<i>I, me</i>		mé		mise
2	<i>you (s.)</i>		tú (thú)*		tusa (thusa)*
3	<i>he, him</i>		sé é	seisean	eisean
	<i>she, her</i>		sí í	sise	ise
			ea		

Plural pronouns:

		<i>Conjunctive</i>	<i>Disjunctive</i>	<i>Emphatic Conj.</i>	<i>Emphatic Disj.</i>
1	<i>we, us</i>		muid/sinn^M	sinne^M/muidne^U/muide^C	
2	<i>you (pl.)</i>		sibh	sibhse	
3	<i>they, them</i>		siad iad	siadsan	iadsan

Na hAideachtaí sealbhacha

Possessive adjectives

Just as in English, in Irish, the possessive adjectives are derived from the personal pronouns. They are:

<i>my</i>	mo^s	<i>our</i>	árⁿ⁻
<i>your (sing. – 'thy')</i>	do^s	<i>your (pl.)</i>	bhurⁿ⁻
<i>his, its</i>	a^s	<i>their</i>	aⁿ⁻
<i>her, its</i>	a^h		

(s) **Mo, do** and **a** (meaning *his*) cause **séimhiú** (lenition) to the following consonant:

his house **a theach**

his uncle **a uncail**

(h) **A** (meaning *her*) causes **h** to be added to the following vowel (**análú**):

her house **a teach**

her uncle **a huncail**

(n-) **Ár, bhur** and **a** (meaning *their*) cause **urú** (eclipsis) to the following consonant (or adds **n-** to a following vowel):

our house **ár dteach**

their uncle **a n-uncail**

1. Using possessive adjectives with a singular (countable) noun

A possessive adjective can generally only be used by itself when it refers to singular *countable* noun, (that is, something that can be *counted* in units).

They can generally be used with plural nouns only when the noun '*inalienably*' belongs to the possessor, such as close relatives, parts of the body or some items of clothing (when being worn as a pair).

Cá bhfuil mo bhróga?

Where are my shoes?

'Ár n-Athair atá ar neamh'

'Our Father who art in heaven'

Seo do shláinte!

Here's to your health!

An raibh bhur ndeirfiúracha ann?

Was your (pl.) sisters there?

Tá a pheann ar an urlár.

His pen is on the floor.

An bhfuil a mbád sa chuan?

Is their boat in the harbour?

Chaith sí as a ceann é.

She put it out of her head (mind).

Chailleadh sí a heitilt.

She might miss her flight.

2. Written forms of possessive adjectives

Mo and **do** are contracted to **m'** and **d'** before a vowel sound:

my aunt **m'aintín** *your husband* **d'fhear** (chéile)

Alternatively, (especially in Munster), these contracted forms are often written combined with a few prepositions that end in a vowel:

	Standard	Alternative ^M
<i>with my aunt</i>	le m'aintín	lem aintín
<i>in front of me (in my front)</i>	i m'éadan	im éadan
<i>in spite of me</i>	de m'ainneoin	dem ainneoin
<i>for my daughter</i>	do m'iníon	dom iníon
<i>with your husband</i>	le d'fhear (chéile)	led fhear (chéile)
<i>in your window</i>	i d'fhuinneog	id fhuinneog
<i>off/from your elbow</i>	de d'uillinn	ded uillinn
<i>for your information</i>	do d'fháisnéis	dod fháisnéis

The preposition **in** is usually written joined to **a** or **ár**:

Tá sé ina shuí. **D'fhanamar inár ngluaisteán.**
He is sitting (down). *We stayed in our car.*

The prepositions: **faoi**, **ó** and **le** are usually written joined to **a** or **ár** with **n** in between:

Fuair mé óna n-iníon é. **Bhíomar ag caint lenár ndochtúir.**
I got it from their daughter. *We were talking to our doctor.*

Thit peann Mháire faoina cathaoir. **Beidh fáilte faoina chomhair.**
Máire's pen dropped under her chair. *There'll be a welcome (in store) for him.*

But **do/de + a** and **do/de + ár** become **dá** and **dár**:

Thug mé dá mhac é. **Ní dár ngnó é.**
I gave it to his son. *It's not (none of) our business.*

3. Contrast and emphasis with possessive adjectives

Possessive adjectives by themselves are never stressed, and in conversational Irish they are barely pronounced (if at all). Especially in Connacht, **ár**, **bhur**, and **a** are all pronounced /ə/ before a consonant, and **a** before a vowel is often silent, so it might be difficult to determine who (or what) is the *possessor*.

To clarify the *possessor*, you can add the emphatic suffix (-**sa**/-**se**) to the *noun*. There are special suffixes for *our* (-**na**/-**ne**) and *his/their* (-**san**/-**sean**). In Connacht, the *emphatic (conjunctive) pronoun* is usually placed after the noun instead using an emphatic suffix, (except for **mo** and **do**).

	Standard	Alternative ^C
<i>It's my car.</i>	Is í mo charrsa í.	
<i>your</i> (sing.)	do charrsa	
<i>his</i>	a charrsan	a charr seisean
<i>her</i>	a carrsa	a carr sise
<i>our</i>	ár gcarrna	ár gcarr muide
<i>your</i> (pl.)	bhur gcarrsa	bhur gcarr sibhse
<i>their</i>	a gcarrsan	a gcarr siadsan

Note: After a slender consonant or vowel letter, the emphatic suffix begins with a slender consonant: -**se** (*my, your, her*), -**ne** (*our*), -**sean** (*his, their*).

Is é **ár** **múinteoirne** é. (Is é **ár** **múinteoir** muide é.)^C

He's **our** teacher.

Is é **a** **háthairse** é. Is é **a** **n-áthairsean** é. (Is é **a** **n-athair** siadsan é.)^C

He's **her** father.

He's **their** father.

Use **féin** after the noun for contrast — especially with **mo** or **do** — like the English expression: *my/your (etc.) own*. Compare these sentences:

Bhris sí **a** **chos-sa**. (Bhris sí **a** **chos** seisean.)^C

She broke **his** leg.

Bhris sí **a** **cos-sa féin**.

She broke **her own** leg.

Níl aon tinteán mar **do** **thinteán féin**.

There isn't any hearth like **your own** hearth.
(There's no place like home.)



4. Possessive adjectives with numbers

A cardinal (or personal) number can come between a possessive adjective and the noun.

In the case of **dhá**, the effects of **séimhiú**, **analú** and **urú** from the possessive adjective are transferred to the noun, which, in some dialects, is in the *dative* case (a *feminine* noun ending in a *broad* consonant changes to *slender*).

Fuair sí greim ar **mo dhá chlua(i)s**.
She got hold of my two (both my) ears.

Briseadh **a dhá co(i)s**.
Her two (both her) legs were broken.

Tá **a cheithre thicéad** caillte aige.
He has lost his four tickets.

Bhí **a triúr bpáistí** sa bhaile.
Their three children were at home.

5. Possessive adjectives with plural and material nouns

The noun, **cuid** (portion or share), usually comes between the possessive adjective and the noun when it doesn't refer to a specific quantity. The *dependent* noun is then in the *genitive* case:

Níl **mo chuid oibre ró-dheacair**.
My work isn't too hard.

Throid **ár gcuid fear** go cróga.
Our men fought bravely.

Caith **do chuid airgid** go críonna.
Spend your money wisely.

Glanaigí **bhur gcuid bróg**!
Clean your (pl.) shoes.

Tá **a chuid Gaeilge an-mhaith**.
His Irish is very good.

Bhí **a gcuid caorach ar an mbóthar**.
Their sheep were on the road.

Ghearr sí **a cuid gruaige**.
She cut her hair.

Roinn sé **a chuid earraí ar a chlann mhac**.
He divided his goods among his sons.

*When referring to someone's children, **clann** (descendants, family) replaces **cuid**.

Cá bhfuil **mo bhróga**?
Where are my shoes?

'**Ár n-Athair** atá ar neamh'
'Our Father who art in heaven'

Seo **do shláinte**!
Here's to your health!

An raibh **bhur ndeirfiúr** ann?
Was your (pl.) sister there?

Tá **a pheann** ar an urlár.
His pen is on the floor.

An bhfuil **a mbád** sa chuan?
Is their boat in the harbour?

Chaith sí as **a ceann** é.
She put it out of her head (mind).

Chailleadh sí **a heitilt**.
She might miss her flight.

6. Contrast and emphasis with **cuid**

When **cuid** comes between a possessive adjective and its *dependent* noun, the *dependent* noun takes on the emphatic suffix: **-sa/-se**.

But when the contrast word **féin** is added, the preposition **de** precedes the *dependent* noun, which takes the (*dative* or) *common* case.

Compare the following:

Tá **mo chuid oibre** déanta.

My work is done.

Tá **mo chuid oibre** déanta.

My work is done.

Tabhair aire ar **do chuid airgid**.

Look after your money.

Tabhair aire ar **do chuidse féin d'airgead**.

Look after your own money.

7. Using **ceann/cuid** as a possessive pronoun

A possessive adjective + **ceann** can be used as a possessive pronoun (*mine, yours, his, hers, its, theirs*), take the place of a singular (countable) noun.

Tá **mo leabhar anseo agus tá do cheannsa** ansin.

My book is here and yours is there.

The same construction can be used with **cuid** for material or plural nouns. **Cuid** then takes on the emphatic suffix: **-sa/-se**.

Tá **mo chuid leabharsa** anseo agus tá **do chuidse** ansin.

My books are here and yours are there.

(**a cuid sise**)^c

Tá **mo chuid gruaige gearr ach tá a cuidse fada**.

My hair is short but hers is long.

For further emphasis, add **féin**. This is the equivalent of the English reflexive possessive pronouns (*my own, your own, and so on*.)

(**Cheannaigh sé lena cuid airgid sise é, ní lena chuid seisean féin**.)^c

Cheannaigh sé lena cuid airgidse é, ní lena chuidse féin.

He bought it with her money, not (with) his own.

Céard atá acu?

Cleachtadh A: Cuir i gcríoch na habairtí seo!
Complete these sentences!

1. Ar bhuail tú le _____?
Did you meet my husband?
2. Seo _____!
Here's to your (pl.) health!
3. Tá _____ folamh agus _____ imithe.
Her purse is empty and her money gone.
4. Cén fáth nach bhfuil _____ cíortha agat?
Why haven't you combed your (sing.) hair?
5. Cheannaigh sí _____ sa bhaile mór.
She bought their clothes in town.
6. Tá _____ críochnaithe againn.
We've finished our work.
7. Tá sé _____ in éineacht le _____.
He lives with his own two sons.
8. Tá _____ líofa ach tá meirg ar _____.

Her German is fluent but her English is rusty.

Foclóir:

the clothes (pl.)	na h éadaí	the cloth	an t -éadach
the dwelling	an c ónaí	the husband	an fear céile
the English (language)	an B éarla	the money	an t -airgead
the German (language)	an Gh éarmáinis	the purse	an spara n
the hair	an gh rúaig	the son	an mac
(the) health	an t sláinte	the work	an obair

Relative (partitive) quantities

Following are some examples of nouns and phrases that are used to express relative quantities in Irish, representing a *part* of the whole. Irish uses groups of similar nouns for this purpose. In each group, they can often be used interchangeably, however the subtle differences in meaning are given for each word or phrase:

<i>English terms</i>	<i>Irish term</i>	<i>Specific meaning for each term</i>
<i>a part, a portion</i>	cuid	(from a verb) <i>help/share</i>
<i>a share, some</i>	roinnt	(verbal noun) <i>apportioning</i>
<i>enough, sufficient,</i>	go leor	(adverb) <i>enough /plenty/a lot</i>
<i>a lot, plenty,</i>	dóthain	<i>sufficiency (with possessive adj.)</i>
<i>much/many,</i>	a lán	<i>lit. (such) 'a fullness'</i>
<i>a large part</i>	mórán	<i>much/many (questions or negative)</i>
	<u>cuid/roinnt</u> mhór	<i>a large share/portion</i>
<i>a little, a bit, a few</i>	beagán	<i>a little</i>
<i>a small part</i>	<u>cuid/roinnt</u> bheag	<i>a small share/portion</i>
<i>excess, surplus,</i>	barríocht	<i>excess, overcoming/surpassing</i>
<i>too much/many</i>	an iomad	<i>(over)abundance</i>
	an iomarca	<i>surplus/excess</i>
<i>more</i>	tuilleadh	<i>an increase</i>
	níos mó	<i>(a) bigger (share/portion)</i>
<i>less/fewer</i>	níos lú	<i>(a) smaller (share/portion)</i>
<i>as/so much, such</i>	(a) oiread	<i>such a(n) amount/distance</i>
<i>*the majority</i>	bunús	<i>the basis/fundamentals</i>
<i>most</i>	búnáite	<i>the majority</i>
	formhór	<i>the greater (share/portion)</i>

*See Section 9.

Genitive and dative constructions

In English, there are two main ways to show possession (or a similar relationship) between two nouns:

- The *possessive (genitive)* case with the *dependent* noun ending in 's' preceding the *head* noun: *the girl's foot*
- The *objective (or prepositional)* case, with the *dependent* noun following the *head* noun, linked by the preposition 'of': *the foot of the bed*

These two constructions are sometimes interchangeable, but they are usually used in slightly different situations. Irish is similar, expressing the relationship between two nouns with either the *genitive* case, or the preposition **de** ('of').

8. Referring to non-specific quantities ('partitive genitive')

When referring to a *non-specific quantity* in general terms, the nouns referring to both the quantity (*head* noun) and the material (or items or people) – *dependent* noun) are both *indefinite* nouns. The *dependent* noun is in the *genitive* case.

This is known as the '*partitive genitive*' construction.

Tá cuid fáisnéise faoi anseo.

There is *some information* about it here.

Tá go leor airgid aige.

He has *plenty of/enough money*.

Bhí a lán daoine sa sheomra.

There were *a lot of people* in the room.

Rinne siad cuid mhór cainte.

They did *a great deal of talking*.

Níl ach roinnt bheag tithe díolta.

Only *a few houses* are sold.

Thaispeáin sé iomad maoine.

It indicated *an excess of wealth*.

Ar mhaith leat tuilleadh uisce?

Would you like *some more water*?

Tá níos lú cnag sa bhalla sin.

There are *fewer cracks* in that wall.

Chuir sé roinnt imní orm.

It gave me *some anxiety*.

An bhfuil dóthain sceallóg duit?

Is there *enough chips* for you?

Níl morán ama fágtha.

There isn't *much time* left.

Tá beagán Fraincise aici.

She has (speaks) *a little French*.

Thug tú barraíocht sóinseála dom.

You gave me *too much change*.

Bhí an iomarca focal le rá aige.

He had *too many words* to say.

Tá níos mó ime sa chuisneoir.

There's *more butter* in the fridge.

Níl a oiread deifre orainn.

We aren't in *such a hurry*.

9. Referring to part of a known quantity ('partitive dative')

To refer to *part* of a *specific* or *known* quantity, the *dependent* noun is:

- A *definite* noun, (with the (definite) article or a possessive adjective)
- Introduced by the preposition **de** (*off, of*) which takes the (*dative or common* case)

This is known as the '*partitive dative*' construction.

More examples of the '*partitive dative*' construction:

Tá cuid de na fuinneoga briste.

Some of the windows are broken.

Thug sí roinnt dá harán dom.

She gave me some of her bread.

Tá go leor den bhia ithe acu.

They have eaten plenty of the food.

Ní raibh mo dhóthain den chiste agam.

I didn't have enough of the cake.

Bhí a lán den daoine sa sheomra.

A lot of the people were in the room.

Níl morán den bhradán fágtha.

There isn't much of the salmon left.

Rinne sé féin cuid mhór den chaint.

He did a great deal of the talking (himself).

Tá beagán den obair le déanamh.

There's little of the work to do.

Níl roinnt bheag de na fir ann.

A few of the men aren't there.

D'ól tú barraíocht den fhíon bán.

You drank too much of the white wine.

Thaispeáin sé iomad den aithne.

He showed too much familiarity.

Bhí an iomarca de na haisteoirí míshásta.

Too many of the actors were unhappy.

Ar mhaith leat tuilleadh den fheoil?

Would you like more of the meat?

Beidh níos mó dár gcairde ann.

There'll be more of our friends there.

Tá níos lú de na gasúir anseo anois.

Fewer of the boys are here now.

Níl a oiread de na daoine sin anseo.

There aren't as/so many of those people here.

Note: Even though **bunús**, **bunáite** and **formhór** almost always refer to *definite* nouns, the *dependent* noun takes the *genitive* case:

Tá bunús na hoibre déanta.

Most of the work is done.

Thaistil mé bunáite na tíre.

I travelled most of the country.

D'ith túsa bunús an aráin.

You ate most of the bread.

Shiúlamar formhór an bhealaigh.

We walked most of the way.

Fuair sé formhór na vótaí.

He got a majority of the votes.

Thóg sé bunáite na dtithe sa tsráid.

He built most of the houses in the street.

10. Relative quantities with pronouns

When replacing a definite noun with a pronoun in a *partitive* (*dative*) construction, you can use the pronominal forms of either **de** or **ag**.

Réamhfhocail	de		ag	
mé	díom	díom sa	agam	agam sa
tú	díot	díot sa	agat	agat sa
sé	de	de sean	aige	aige sean
sí	di	di se	aici	aici se
muid/sinn	dínn	dínn e	againn	againn e
sibh	díbh	díbh se	agaibh	agaibh se
siad	díobh	díobh san	acu	acu san

While Official Standard Irish makes no preference or distinction in this construction, in many varieties of Irish, most people tend to use the singular pronominal forms of **de**, but for the plural, they favour **againn**, **agaibh** and, especially, **acu**.

Tá roinnt de imithe.

Some of it is gone.

Ní raibh mórán aige fágtha.

There wasn't much of it left.

Bhí a lán dínn sa sheomra.

There were a lot of us in the room.

Bhí cuid againn anseo ar a sé.

Some of us were here at six.

Rinne cuid mhór díbh dearmad air.

A great deal of you forgot about it.

Beidh tuilleadh agaibh amárach.

There'll be more of you tomorrow.

Bhí an iomarca díobh ann.

There were too many of them (there).

Ní raibh bunús acu ann.

Most of them weren't there.

In Connacht, all prepositional forms of **de** are premanently lenited: **dhíom(sa)**, **dhíot(sa)**, **dhe(sean)**, and so on.

Absolute quantities

11. Cardinal (or personal) numbers with **de** or **ag**

When using numbers to express a *specific quantity of the whole*, use **de** with the *dependent* noun in the (*dative* or) *common* case. This includes *relative pronouns* like **Cé acu** (*Which?*) and **Cé mhéad** (*How much/many?*).

Remember: you can use either **de** or **ag** in a *prepositional pronoun*.

Cé acu den dá ghluaisteán a bhí sa gharáiste?

Which of the two cars was in the garage?

Tháinig duine de na fir isteach.

One of the men came inside.

Tá seacht gcinn déag de chapail rása aige.

He has seventeen race horses.

Dhúnadh trí cinn/triúr de scoileanna sa cheantar anuraidh.

Three schools in the district were closed last year.

(Is) lá de na laethanta seo a rachaidh mé go hÉirinn.

('Tis) one of these days (that) I'll go to Ireland.

Rinne bean de na cailíní dúinn é.

One of the girls made/did it for us.

Níor labhair beirt againn air.

Neither of us mentioned it. (The two of us didn't speak about it.)

Beidh cúigear dínn ann.

There'll be five of us (there).

An mbeidh an ceathrar agaibh i bhur gcónaí le chéile sa chathair?

Will the four of you be living together in the city?

Chonaic mé an bheirt díbh inné.

I saw both of you yesterday.

Cé mhéad díobh a bhí ann.

How many of them were there?

Ní raibh ach ceann/duine acu ann.

There was only one (thing/person) of them there.

12. Fractions and personal numbers with nouns or pronouns

When using fractions or personal numbers to express a *definite quantity of the whole*, you can use either:

- A **partitive genitive** construction: the *dependent* noun in the *genitive* case
- A **partitive dative** construction: with **de** in the (*dative* or) *common* case

(Review Unit 6, Sections 13 and 16.)

Remember: you can use either **de** or **ag** when combined with a pronoun.

Chuaigh siad anonn leath bealaigh.

They went half(of the)way there.

Ní raibh ach leath amháin na páirce (or den pháirc) lomtha.

Only one half of the field had been cleared.

Ní raibh ach leath amháin aige (or de) lomtha.

Only one half of it had been cleared.

Tugadh ceathrú cuid na talún (or den talamh) dó.

A quarter (share) of the land was given to him.

Tugadh ceathrú cuid aici (or di) dó.

A quarter (share) of it was given to him.

Níl ach dhá trian na bprátaí (or den phrátaí) ite.

Only two-thirds of the potatoes have been eaten.

Níl ach dhá trian acu (or díobh) ite.

Only two-thirds of them have been eaten.

Ní raibh ach beirt na gcailíní sin (or den chailíní sin) ar scoil inniu.

Only two of those girls were at school today.

Ní raibh ach beirt acu (or díobh) ar scoil inniu.

Only two of them were at school today.

Cé mhéad acu a raibh ann?

Cleachtadh 2: Cuir i gcríoch na habairtí seo!
Complete these sentences!

1. Caitheann siad _____ sa _____ seo.

They spend a lot of time in this part of the country.

2. Tá _____ do _____.

There's enough food for the four of us.

3. Ná tabhair aird ar _____.

Don't take any notice of such nonsense!

4. Ba mhaith liom _____ agus

_____ sin freisin.

I'd like some apples and some of those oranges, as well.

5. Ní rinne _____ faoi.

Neither of the boys did anything about it.

6. Bhí _____ críochnaithe acu

agus d'imigh _____.

They had finished most of their work when three of the men left.

7. Thug sí _____ do _____.

She gave (a) half (share) of her dolls to the local children.

Foclóir:

the apple **an t-úll**

the man **an fear**

the boy **an gasúr**

the nonsense **an tseafóid**

the country **an tír**

the orange **an t-oráiste**

the doll **an bhabóg**

(the) time **an t-am**

the food **an bia**

13. Expressing: *All, each and every*

To express the total amount, as a whole or individually, a number of expressions are in common use:

each/every: **gach ...** **gach aon ...** **'chaon ...^C** **achan...^U**
every/all: **uile^S...** **gach uile ...** **'chuile ...^C** **... go léir**

Here are some expressions that mean *everyone/everybody*:

gach duine **gach aon duine** **'chaon duine^C** **achan duine^U**
 gach uile dhuine **'chuile dhuine^C** **na daoine go léir**

Here are some expressions that mean *everything*:

gach rud **gach aon rud** **'chaon rud^C** **achan rud^U**
gach is uile **gach uile rud** **'chuile rud^C** **na rudaí go léir**

Very generally, **gach** is mostly used as an adjective *preceding* a *singular indefinite* noun, while **uile** can also be used with *definite* nouns (singular or plural), and as an attributive adjective meaning *whole*:

all people **na huile dhaoine** *in the whole world* **ar an domhan uile**
all things **an uile, an uile ní** *the whole story* **an scéal uile**

There are also the adverbs, **go léir** (*clearly, entirely*) and **go huile** (*wholly*):

all of them **iad go léir** *all together* **uile go léir** *my whole life* **mo shaol go huile**
all day **an lá go léir** *all done* **déanta go huile** *completely wet* **fliuch go huile**

14. Expressing: *None (at all)*

Aon duine and **aon rud** mean *no one/nobody* and *nothing* (or in questions or negative sentences: *anything*).

Ní raibh aon duine sa bhaile.

Níl aon rud fágtha.

Ní raibh duine ar bith sa bhaile.

Níl rud ar bith fágtha.

There was nobody (wasn't anybody) at home. *There's nothing (isn't anything) left.*

For extra emphasis you can also use **duine/rud ar chor ar bith**.

An raibh aon rud sa bhosca?

Ní raibh (aon) rud ar chor ar bith ann.

Was there anything in the box? There was nothing (wasn't anything) at all in it.

In negative expressions, **dada** or **tada** or **faic** — all mean *nothing*.

Ní fhaca mé dada.

I saw nothing. (I didn't see anything.)

Prepositions and the genitive case

(The most common/important examples are highlighted. Learn these first.)

15. Simple prepositions and the genitive case

A few common simple prepositions are technically nouns, which means that nouns following them must be in the genitive case. They are:

<i>to, towards</i>	chun	<i>to the city</i>	chun na cathrach
<i>by, beside</i>	cois	<i>by the sea</i>	cois na farraige
<i>in respect of, with regards to</i>	dála	<i>by the same token</i>	dála an scéil
<i>like, in the manner of</i>	fearacht	<i>like a lady (gentlewoman)</i>	fearacht bean uaisle
<i>around</i>	timpeall	<i>around the house</i>	timpeall an tí
<i>across, through</i>	trasna	<i>across the street</i>	trasna na sráide

16. Compound prepositions and the genitive case

There are very many *compound (or derived) prepositions* made from a combination of a preposition and a noun, which means that the nouns following them (their *dependent nouns*) must be in the *genitive case*.

Compound prepositions referring to time:

<i>for (a period)</i>	*ar feadh	<i>for a while</i>	ar feadh tamaill
<i>under, below</i>	*faoi bhun	<i>under thirty</i>	faoi bhun tríocha
<i>within, before</i>	faoi cheann	<i>within a year</i>	faoi cheann bliana
<i>for (a period)</i>	go ceann	<i>for a month</i>	go ceann seachtaine
<i>in, after, at the end of</i>	i gceann/*i gcionn	<i>in a month</i>	i gceann míosa
<i>after</i>	tar éis	<i>after dinner</i>	tar éis dinnéir
<i>after</i>	*i ndiaidh	<i>after the war</i>	i ndiaidh an chogaidh
<i>about</i>	i dtrátha	<i>about six o'clock</i>	i dtrátha a sé a chlog
<i>during, in the course of</i>	i gcaitheamh	<i>during the day</i>	i gcaitheamh an lae
<i>during, in the course of</i>	i rith	<i>during the winter</i>	i rith an gheimhridh
<i>during, in the course of</i>	le linn	<i>during the night</i>	le linn na hoíche

*With meanings referring to both time and place.

Compound prepositions referring to place:

<i>behind</i>	ar chúl	<i>behind the door</i>	ar chúl an dorais
<i>throughout</i>	ar fud	<i>throughout the country</i>	ar fud na tíre
<i>throughout</i>	*ar feadh	<i>throughout the country</i>	ar feadh na tíre
<i>along with, in addition to</i>	i dteannta	<i>together</i>	i dteannta a chéile
<i>along with, as well as</i>	le cois	<i>along with the money</i>	le cois an airgid
<i>near, beside</i>	de chois	<i>near the fire</i>	de chois na tine
<i>compared with, beside</i>	le hais	<i>compared with the previous year</i>	le hais na bliana roimhe
<i>near, in the vicinity of</i>	de chóir	<i>near home</i>	de chóir baile
<i>near, in the vicinity of</i>	in aice	<i>near the tree</i>	in aice an chrainn
<i>before, in front of</i>	faoi bhráid	<i>before the public</i>	faoi bhráid an phobail
<i>before, (as a witness) to</i>	i bhfianaise	<i>before God (as a witness)</i>	i bhfianaise Dé
<i>before, in the presence of</i>	i láthair	<i>before the judge</i>	i láthair an bhreithimh
<i>in front of, in the presence of</i>	os comhair	<i>before the court</i>	os comhair na cúirte
<i>in the centre of</i>	i lár	<i>in the centre of the city</i>	i lár na cathrach
<i>amid(st), among(st)</i>	i measc	<i>in (among) the crowd</i>	i measc an shlua
<i>under, below</i>	*faoi bhun	<i>below the threshold</i>	faoi bhun na tairsí
<i>behind, after</i>	*i ndiaidh	<i>behind the boat</i>	i ndiaidh an bháid
<i>in the company of</i>	i bhfochair	<i>in Séamas's company</i>	i bhfochair Shéamais
<i>in the company of</i>	i gcosamar	<i>in Tomás's company</i>	i gcosamar Thomáis
<i>in the company of</i>	i gcuideachta	<i>in the boys' company</i>	i gcuideachta na ngasúr
<i>against</i>	i gcoinne	<i>against the current</i>	i gcoinne an tsrutha
<i>in front of, opposite</i>	os coinne	<i>before your very eyes</i>	os coinne do dhá shúl
<i>opposite</i>	ar aghaidh	<i>opposite the church</i>	ar aghaidh na heaglaise
<i>against</i>	in aghaidh	<i>against the wind</i>	in aghaidh na gaoithe
<i>against, opposed to</i>	in éadan	<i>opposed to the government</i>	in éadan an rialtais
<i>instead (in place) of</i>	in áit	<i>instead of those men</i>	in áit na bhfear siúd
<i>instead of, in return for</i>	in ionad	<i>instead of the red shoes</i>	in ionad na mbróg dearg
<i>above</i>	os cionn	<i>above the mantelpiece</i>	os cionn an mhatail

Compound prepositions referring to manner:

<i>in search of</i>	ar lorg	<i>looking for a job</i>	ar lorg eolais
<i>like, in the style of</i>	ar nós	<i>like the wind</i>	ar nós <u>na</u> gaoithe
<i>for the sake of</i>	ar son	<i>for God's sake</i>	ar son Dé
<i>despite, in spite of</i>	d'ainneoin	<i>in spite of the weather</i>	d'ainneoin <u>na</u> haimsire
<i>from, as a result of</i>	<u>de bharr</u>	<i>as a result of exercise</i>	<u>de bharr</u> aclaíochta
<i>from, as a consequence of</i>	<u>de dheasca</u>	<i>from (the) drinking</i>	<u>de dheasca</u> an óil
<i>for want/lack of</i>	<u>de dhíobháil</u>	<i>for lack of money</i>	<u>de dhíobháil</u> airgid
<i>by, according to</i>	de réir	<i>according to the rule</i>	de réir <u>na</u> rialach
<i>on account of</i>	<u>de thairbhe</u>	<i>on account of the plan</i>	<u>de thairbhe</u> <u>na</u> scéime
<i>for (the purpose of)</i>	<u>faoi choinne</u>	<i>for (to fetch) a doctor</i>	<u>faoi choinne</u> dochtúra
<i>for (the purpose of)</i>	<u>faoi dhéin</u>	<i>for (to get) the door</i>	<u>faoi dhéin</u> <u>an</u> dorais
<i>(in preparation) for</i>	<u>i gcóir</u>	<i>for the trip (journey)</i>	<u>i gcóir</u> <u>an</u> turais
<i>for (the purpose of)</i>	<u>le haghaidh</u>	<i>for dinner</i>	<u>le haghaidh</u> <u>an</u> dinnéir
<i>looking after</i>	<u>i bhfeighil</u>	<i>in charge of the house</i>	<u>i bhfeighil</u> <u>an</u> tí
<i>attending to</i>	<u>i mbun</u>	<i>minding my own business</i>	<u>i mbun</u> <u>mo</u> <u>gh</u>nó féin
<i>depending on</i>	<u>i dtuilleamaí</u>	<i>depending on the function/need</i>	<u>i dtuilleamaí</u> <u>na</u> feidhme
<i>attending to, engaged in</i>	<u>i gceann</u>/*<u>i gcionn</u>	<i>setting to work</i>	dul <u>i gceann</u> oibre
<i>in preparation for, to meet</i>	in araicis	<i>to prepare for the morning, to meet a friend</i>	in araicis <u>na</u> maidine, in araicis carad
<i>for, on behalf of</i>	thar ceann	<i>on behalf of his brother</i>	thar ceann <u>a</u> <u>dh</u>earthár