

Ceacht a hAon

Lesson One

Beannachtaí

Greetings

Leathanach 1

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The standard greeting in Irish is Dia duit, which is short for Go mbeannaí Dia duit (May God bless you). The reply is Dia is Muire duit (God and Mary [bless] you). Longer forms are also possible by adding additional saints: Pádraig, Bríd and Colm Cille (e.g. Dia is Muire duit agus Pádraig).

1.	Dia daoibh.	Hello (to several people).
2.	Dia duit.	Hello (to one person).
3.	Dia is Muire duit.	Hello (reply to <i>Dia duit</i> or <i>Dia daoibh</i>).

To say goodbye to someone, you use the word slán (health, healthy, or safe). Different forms are used when saying goodbye to someone who is leaving (Slán agat, from Fágaim slán agat – I leave you health) than to the person you are leaving (Slán leat, from Cuirim slán leat – I send health with you). Another expression (Slán abhaile from Go dté tú slán abhaile – May you go home safely) is used with someone who is heading home.

4.	Slán.	Goodbye.
5.	Slán go fóill.	Goodbye for now.
6.	Slán abhaile.	Goodbye (to someone going home).
7.	Slán agat.	Goodbye (as you leave someone).
8.	Slán leat.	Goodbye (to someone leaving).

You can introduce yourself with the expression is mise (I am) followed by your name. By itself, is means is in English and mise is I, me, or myself. You can ask someone's name with the expression Cad is ainm duit (What is name for-you). You answer with your name followed by is ainm dom (is name for-me).

9.	Is mise Máire.	I'm Mary.
10.	Cad is ainm duit?	What is your name?
11.	Séamas is ainm dom.	My name is James.

When you address someone or want to attract their attention, you use the vocative case (*an tuiséal gairmeach*). This is similar to the English word O sometimes seen in literature or in certain expressions (e.g. O noble sir, ...). In Irish, the vocative is formed by the word a followed by a modified form of the name. Specifically, the first letter of the name is lenited (shown by an *h* after the letter) and in most masculine names, the last letter is slenderized (usually by placing an *i* before it).

12.	Dia duit, a Shéamais.		Hi James.			
13.	A Shéamais!		James!			
14.	Sea?		Yes? (when someone calls your name).			
	Áine	a Áine	Anne	Daithí	a Dhaithí	David
	Aoife	a Aoife	Eva	Fionn	a Fhinn	Finn
	Bairbre	a Bhairbre	Barbara	Liam	a Liam	William
	Caitlín	a Chaitlín	Kathleen	Mícheál	a Mhíchíl	Michael
	Deirdre	a Dheirdre	Deirdre	Pádraig	a Phádraig	Patrick
	Gráinne	a Ghráinne	Grace	Pól	a Phóil	Paul
	Máire	a Mháire	Mary	Roibeard	a Roibeard	Robert
	Nuala	a Nuala	Nuala	Séamas	a Shéamais	James
	Pádraigín	a Phádraigín	Patricia	Seán	a Sheáin	John
	Síle	a Shíle	Sheila	Tadhg	a Thaidhg	Timothy
	Úna	a Úna	Una	Tomás	a Thomáis	Tom

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There are different ways to ask how someone is depending on which dialect of Irish you are speaking.

15.	Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú?	How are you (Connaught)?
16.	Conas tá tú?	How are you (Munster)?
17.	Cad é mar atá tú?	How are you (Ulster)?

One way to say how you are is by using tá mé or táim (I am) followed by an appropriate adjective. A few adjectives use the word go in front of them when describing how you are (e.g. go maith – well).

18.	Tá mé go maith.	I'm well.
19.	Tá mé go breá.	I'm great.
20.	Tá mé ar fheabhas.	I'm excellent.
21.	Tá mé go hiontach.	I'm wonderful.
22.	Tá mé ceart go leor.	I'm ok (good enough).
23.	Tá mé cuíosach [maith].	I'm so-so.
24.	Tá mé ag coinneáil ag imeacht.	I'm keeping on.
25.	Tá mé go dona.	I'm doing badly.
26.	Tá mé go hainnis.	I'm terrible.
27.	Tá mé go huafásach.	I'm awful.
28.	Níl mé go dona.	I'm not bad.
29.	Tá mé tinn.	I'm sick.
30.	Tá mé tuirseach.	I'm tired.

Another way to describe how you are is to say that a certain feeling is on you. In Irish this is done with the preposition ar (on). When talking about yourself, the prepositional pronoun orm (on-me) is used. When asking about someone, the prepositional pronoun ort (on-you) is used. Many things that affect how you feel can be on you in Irish (e.g. tuirse – tiredness, ocras – hunger, tinneas cinn – sickness of head = headache). You can ask what is wrong with someone by asking them Cad atá ort? (What is on-you? = What's wrong?).

31.	Cad atá ort?	What's wrong?
32.	Tá tuirse orm.	I'm tired.
33.	Tá ocras orm.	I'm hungry.
34.	Tá tart orm.	I'm thirsty.
35.	Tá slaghdán orm.	I have a cold.
36.	Tá an fliú orm.	I have the flu.
37.	Tá tinneas cinn orm.	I have a headache.
38.	Tá tinneas fiacaile orm.	I have a toothache.
39.	Tá brón orm.	I'm sorry.
40.	Tá biseach orm.	I'm better.

Following are a few useful expressions that can be employed to add some variety to your conversations. You can use tusa (YOU) or tú féin (you yourself) to ask about the person who just asked you how you were. The expression Go raibh maith agat meaning Thank you literally means May you have good in Irish.

41.	Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú féin?	How are you yourself (Connaught)?
42.	Agus tusa?	And yourself?
43.	Go raibh maith agat.	Thank you.
44.	Buíochas le Dia.	Thank God.
45.	Bhuel, caithfidh mé imeacht.	Well, I have to go.

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Leathanach 3

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Comhrá 1

S: Dia daoibh. Is mise Séamas.

Comhrá 2

(Pádraigín ina suí; Tadhg ag dul thart)

T: Dia duit. Is mise Tadhg. Cad is ainm duit?

P: Is mise Pádraigín. Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú?

T: Tá mé go breá, agus tú féin?

P: Tá mé go maith, go raibh maith agat.

T: Slán agat.

P: Slán leat.

Comhrá 3

C: Dia duit, a Shéamais.

S: Dia 's Muire duit, a Chaitlín.

C: Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú?

S: Tá mé tinn.

C: Cad atá ort?

S: Tá slaghdán orm.

C: Tá brón orm.

S: Bhuel, caithfidh mé imeacht.

C: Slán leat, a Shéamais.

S: Slán agat, a Chaitlín.

Conversation 1

Hello. I'm James.

Conversation 2

(Patricia sitting; Tim going by)

Hi. I'm Tim. What's your name?

I'm Patricia. How are you?

I'm great. And yourself?

I'm well, thanks.

Goodbye (as leaving).

Goodbye (to person leaving).

Conversation 3

Hello, Jim.

Hello, Kathleen.

How are you?

I'm sick.

What's wrong with you?

I have a cold.

I'm sorry.

Well, I've got to go.

Goodbye, Jim.

Goodbye, Kathleen.

tá ta: pres of *bi*
tábhacht ta:vəxt f3 importance; substance
tábhachtach ta:vəxtəx a1 important; substantial
tabhaigh tauí: vt earn, deserve
tabhair tu:r' ~ taur' ~ to:r' vt & i give, grant; assign; give way, fail; take, remove; bring; cause, *mionn a thabhairt* to take an oath, *thug an fiabhras a bhás* the fever caused his death, *ná bí ag ~ t amach mar sin* don't be giving out like that, *cath a thabhairt* to engage in battle, *thug sé ruid orm* he made a rush at me, *thug sé amadán orm* he called me a fool, ~ *orthu sí* síos make them sit down, *thug sé an sliabh air féin* he took to the mountain, *thug an misneach air* his courage failed him, ~ *t faoi rud a dhéanamh* to set about doing sth, *thug sé fúm* he attacked me, *failli a thabhairt i rud* to neglect sth, *thug sé a bheo leis* he escaped with his life, *thug an balla uaidh* the wall collapsed

Foclóir Póca

English – Irish / Irish – English Dictionary

Foclóir Póca (Pocket Dictionary) is a handy little dictionary published in Ireland. The biggest advantage of Foclóir Póca is that phonetic pronunciations are given for all the Irish words using standard IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) symbols, so it's a great tool for getting a rough pronunciation of unfamiliar words. A couple disadvantages are that it doesn't contain recent vocabulary and that various uses of a word are not as easy to find within an entry in comparison with other pocket dictionaries (e.g. Oxford or Collins).

Also by the same publisher is Foclóir Scoile (School Dictionary, ISBN 1-85791-132-6), which is a larger format version of the same dictionary. There is a revision of Foclóir Scoile from 1994, so it's a little bit more up to date than Foclóir Póca.

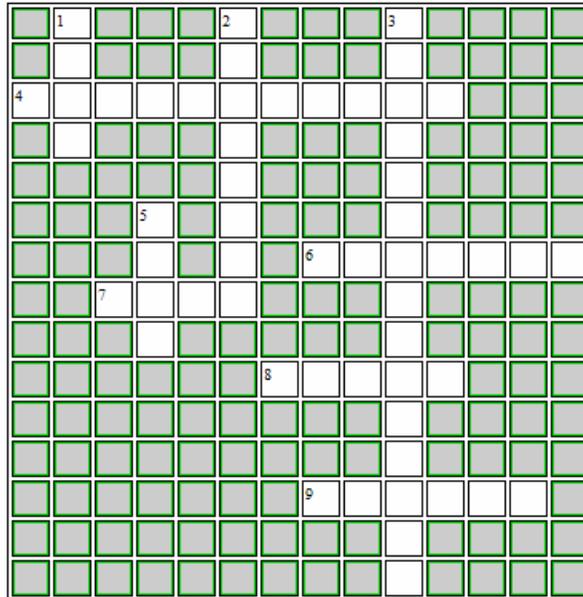
ISBN: 1-85791-047-8

Publisher: An Gúm

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Cad atá ort?

In Irish, the way you feel is often expressed by saying that something is on you. In the puzzle below, fill in the feelings that can be on you based on the clues given. Note that there are no spaces when Irish uses two words.



Across

- 4. I have a headache. Tá orm.
- 6. I'm better. Tá ... orm.
- 7. I'm sorry. Tá ... orm.
- 8. I'm hungry. Tá ... orm.
- 9. I'm tired. Tá ... orm.

Down

- 1. I have the flu. Tá an ... orm.
- 2. I have a cold. Tá ... orm.
- 3. I have a toothache. Tá orm.
- 5. I'm thirsty. Tá ... orm.