

LESSON 1

Part 1 - The Present Tense of the Verb TO BE

Like all verbs in Gàidhlig there is only one form for all persons. For a positive statement in the present tense this is **Tha**. Just add the subject to it, either a pronoun or a noun.

The pronouns combine with the verb **Tha** as follows;

Tha mi - I am	Tha sinn - we are
Tha thu - you are	Tha sibh - you are
Tha e - he is	Tha iad - they are
Tha i - she is	

Sibh - You, plural. Also singular for formal situations as a mark of respect.

Thu - You, singular only. Informal form.

Similarly with nouns;

Tha am fear .. - The man is ..

Tha an là .. - The day is ..

Adjectives

Adjectives can be used following the verb **To Be**. The adjective is the same for all subjects;

Feminine subject	Tha i fuar - She is cold
Plural subject	Tha iad fuar - They are cold
Masculine subject	Tha Calum fuar - Calum is cold

NEW WORDS

Adjectives

beag - small	blàth - warm
fliuch - wet	fuar - cold
leisg - lazy, reluctant, loath	mòr - big, large
sgìth - tired	tioram - dry
trang - busy	snog - nice
toilichte - pleased, happy	

Nouns

là - day	fear - male, man
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Pronouns

mi - I, me	sinn - we, us
thu - you (singular, familiar)	sibh - you (plural, formal)
e - he, him, it	iad - they, them
i - she, her, it	

EXERCISE 1 Translate into English

1. Tha mi sgìth
2. Tha iad trang
3. Tha i fuar
4. Tha iad blàth
5. Tha sinn leisg
6. Tha sibh tioram

EXERCISE 2 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. We are cold
2. You are small
3. They are big
4. I am lazy
5. He is busy
6. She is tired

Part 2. A bhith - To be

All verbs have what is known as an **independent** form; for the verb **To Be** this is **Tha**, which as you saw above is used to form positive statements. All verbs have another form, the **dependent**; this is used to form the negative statement and interrogatives (question forms). For the present tense of the verb **To Be**;

independent - **tha**

dependent - **bheil**

Tha for positive statements:

Tha e fuar - I t is cold

Chan eil for negative statements:

Chan eil e fuar - I t is not cold

A bheil? for asking a question (interrogative)*:

A bheil e fuar? - I s it cold?

Nach eil? for a negative question (negative interrogative):

Nach eil e fuar? - I s it not cold?*

* In addition you will also find the form **Am bheil?** and in spoken Gàidhlig both are frequently contracted to **Eil?** This is the form always used for a negative statement and question.

EXERCISE 3 Translate into English

1. A bheil thu sgìth?
2. Nach eil i fliuch?
3. Chan eil iad trang
4. Chan eil sinn fuar

5. Nach eil iad leisg?
6. A bheil sibh fuar?

EXERCISE 4 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. I am not cold
2. Are you warm?
3. Are you not warm?
4. Is she tired?
5. Are they pleased?
6. Isn't she nice?
7. He isn't dry
8. We aren't lazy

8. Chan eil sinn leisg
7. Chan eil e tioram
6. Nach eil i snog?
5. A bheil iad toilichte?
4. A bheil i sgìth?
3. Nach eil thu/sibh blàth?
2. A bheil thu/sibh blàth?
1. Chan eil mi fuar

LESSON 1: ANSWERS 4

6. Are you cold?
5. Aren't they lazy?
4. We aren't cold
3. They aren't busy
2. Isn't she wet?
1. Are you tired?

LESSON 1: ANSWERS 3

6. Tha i sgìth
5. Tha e trang
4. Tha mi leisg
3. Tha iad mòr
2. Tha thu/sibh beag
1. Tha sinn fuar

LESSON 1: ANSWERS 2

6. You are dry
5. We are lazy
4. They are warm
3. She/it is cold
2. They are busy
1. I am tired

LESSON 1: ANSWERS 1