

LESSON 16

The Root of the Verb, Imperatives and Past Participles

VERB ROOT & IMPERATIVES

In Gàidhlig the 2nd person singular (thu) imperative is the same as the ROOT of the verb. For the 2nd person plural and formal form (sibh) add: **-ibh/-aibh** to the root according to the spelling rule:

Verbal Noun	Verb Root and 2nd Person Singular Imperative	2nd Person Plural Imperative
bualadh - striking	buail - strike	buailibh - strike
togail - lifting	tog - lift	togaibh - lift
sgrìobhadh - writing	sgrìobh - write	sgrìobhaibh - write

For 1st person plural adds **-eamaid/-amaid** to the root:

Cuireamaid litir thuige - Let's send a letter to him

Rachamaid dhachaigh - Let's go home

Negative forms have **Na** before the imperative (**Na h-** before vowels):

Na dùin an doras - Don't close the door

Na h-òlaibh am bainne - Don't drink the milk

Na bitheamaid* muldach - Lets not be sad

* With the verb **To Be** this is more usually written as **biomaid** for the 1st person plural unless emphasis is required.

1st person singular adds **-im/-aim** to the root.

3rd person singular and plural add **-eadh/-adh** to the root.

Both these forms are becoming less frequent in spoken Gàidhlig; being replaced by the verb **leig** (let) followed by the preposition **le** and its associated prepositional pronouns:

Leig leam fhaicinn - Let me see it

Leig leatha a dhol dhachaigh - Let them go home

Leig leis a-muigh - Let him out

Leig leatha a-staigh - Let her in

PAST PARTICIPLES

These are formed by adding **-te** to the root of the verb. The past participle may break the spelling rule:

Tha an uinneag dùinte - The window is closed

Bha an doras fosgailte - The door was open(ed)

Tha an litir sgrìobhte - The letter is written

There are a few resistant historic forms that add **-ta** in preference to **-te**:

Tha an obair dèanta - The job is done

Tha iad pòsta trì bliadhna - They are married three years

As in English the past participles can be used as adjectives:

Tha a' chàraid phòsta ag obair còmhla - The married couple are working together

Bha an copan briste air an ùrlar - The broken cup was on the floor

NEW WORDS

Adjectives

dìreach - straight, direct

muladach - sad

Nouns

càraid (f) - couple, pair

dìnnear (f) - dinner

sùil (f) - eye, glimpse, look

teanga (f) - tongue

Phrases

mas e do thoil e - please (informal,singular)

mas e ur toil e - please (formal,plural)

thoir sùil air - take a look at it

Verbs

can, cantainn (ri) - say (to)

cluinn, cluinntinn - hear

cum/cùm, cumail - keep, hold

faigh, faighinn - get, find

fan, fantainn (ri) - wait (for)

fàs, fàs - grow

fosgail, fosgladh - open

gluais, gluasad - move

rach, dol - go

seas, seasamh - stand

suidh, suidhe - sit

thig, tighinn - come

thoir, toirt (do) - take, give (to)

tilg, tilgeil (air) - throw (at)

tog, togail - lift, build

EXERCISE 1 Translate into English

1. Thoir an leabhar dhan chailleig sin
2. Dùinibh an doras mas e ur toil e
3. Na ruith cho luath
4. Can a-rithist e
5. Rach dhan t-seòmar agad fhèin a-nis
6. Cumaibh ur sùilean fosgailte
7. Bha an taigh togte an-uiridh
8. Seas gu dìreach
9. Thigibh a-staigh agus suidhibh sìos
10. Na creidibh e

EXERCISE 2 Translate into Gàidhlig using (i) sibh, (ii) thu

1. Don't throw paper on the floor
2. Give the pen to the boy
3. Move your hand please
4. Put the cup down
5. Say that again slowly please
6. Wait here
7. Eat your dinner
8. Don't do that again
9. Believe me, I'm correct
10. Think again

- LESSON 16: ANSWERS 2 using sibh**
1. Na tilgibh pàipear air an làr
 2. Thoiribh am peann dhan bhalach
 3. Gluaisibh ur làmh mas e ur toil e
 4. Cuiribh an copan sìos
 5. Canaibh a-rithist sin gu mall mas e ur toil e
 6. Fuirichibh an seo
 7. I thibh ur dinnear
 8. Na déanaibh a-rithist sin
 9. Creidibh mi. Tha mi ceart
 10. Smaoinichibh a-rithist

- LESSON 16: ANSWERS 2 using thu**
1. Na tilg pàipear air an làr
 2. Thoir am peann dhan bhalach
 3. Gluais do làmh mas e do thoil e
 4. Cuir an copan sìos
 5. Can a-rithist sin gu mall mas e do thoil e
 6. Fuirich an seo
 7. I th do dhinnear
 8. Na déan a-rithist sin
 9. Creid mi. Tha mi ceart
 10. Smaoinich a-rithist

- LESSON 16: ANSWERS 1**
1. Give the book to that girl
 2. Close the door please
 3. Don't run so fast
 4. Say it again
 5. Go to your own room now
 6. Keep your eyes open
 7. The house was built last year
 8. Stand (up) straight
 9. Come in(side) and sit down
 10. Don't believe him/it