

LESSON 2

Part 1 - Some Simple Adverbs

The adjective **uabhasach** - **terrible/awful** is often used to convey the meaning **very** when used with another adjective:

Tha e uabhasach mòr - He is awfully big

Tha e uabhasach fliuch - It is terribly wet

Similarly the words **glè** - **very** and **ro** - **too** are used with adjectives to emphasise qualities.

The two words **glè** and **ro** lenite* the following adjective whenever possible:

Tha iad glè mhòr - They are very big

Tha e ro fhuar - It is too cold*

As you can see lenition means the introduction of a letter **h** after the first letter of the adjective. This always results in a slight change in sound at the beginning of the adjective. However, words beginning with **l, n, r, sg, sp, st** or **a vowel** cannot be lenited in their spelling. **L, n** and **r** are affected, but only in their pronunciation.

Another useful little word is **cho** - **so**. It is used like **glè** and **ro**, but luckily you do not have to worry about leniting the next word:

Tha thu cho snog - You are so nice

NEW WORDS

Adjectives

àrd - tall, high

uabhasach - terrible, awful, very

Adverbs

cho - so

glè - very

ro - too, excessively

Conjunctions

ach - but

agus - and

EXERCISE 1 Translate into English

1. Tha am fear glè thrang
2. Tha an là glè fhliuch
3. Nach eil am fear àrd?
4. A bheil i ro fhuar?
5. A bheil thu uabhasach sgìth?
6. Tha e ro bheag
7. Tha sin uabhasach
8. Tha mi fuar agus fliuch

EXERCISE 2 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. I am so cold
2. The man is very lazy
3. Isn't she awful?
4. We are too tired
5. They're not very wet
6. He isn't too pleased
7. She isn't wet but she is cold
8. They're not so nice

Part 2 - Past Tense of the Verb TO BE

The independent form is **Bha**, the dependent form is **Robh**. Like the present tense these are used to provide the four distinct forms of the past tense of the verb **To Be**:

Bha for positive statements:

Bha e fuar - It was cold

Cha robh for negative statements:

Cha robh e fuar - It was not cold

An robh? for asking a question (interrogative):

An robh e fuar? - Was it cold?

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

Nach robh e fuar? - Wasn't it cold?

Saying Yes and No

Gàidhlig has no single word for yes or no. The positive or negative forms of the verb need to be used in responding to a question.

In the present tense:

A bheil thu fliuch? - Are you wet?

Chan eil - No

Tha - Yes

Nach eil iad àrd - Aren't they tall?

Chan eil - No

Tha - Yes

In the past tense:

An robh sibh trang? - Were you busy?

Cha robh - No

Bha - Yes

Nach robh i leisg? - Wasn't she lazy?

Cha robh - No

Bha - Yes

EXERCISE 3 Translate into English

1. Bha iad glè thoilichte
2. Cha robh i ro shnog
3. An robh iad sgìth? Cha robh
4. A bheil i tioram? Tha

5. Nach robh am fear leisg?
6. Bha iad trang agus toilichte
7. Bha an là fliuch ach blàth
8. An robh thu blàth? Bha
9. Nach eil iad snog? Chan eil

EXERCISE 4 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. The man wasn't tired
2. Aren't you warm? No
3. Wasn't she very wet? Yes
4. Am I not nice? Yes
5. She wasn't busy, she is lazy
6. He was too tall
7. We were very pleased
8. The day wasn't so warm
9. They weren't terribly pleased, were they? No

- robh
9. Cha robh iad uabhasach toilichte, an robh? Cha
 8. Cha robh an là cho blàth
 7. Bha sinn glè thoilichte
 6. Bha e ro àrd
 5. Cha robh i trang, tha i leisg
 4. Nach eil mi snog? Tha
 3. Nach robh i glè fhliuch? Bha
 2. Nach eil thu/sibh blàth? Chan eil
 1. Cha robh am fear sgìth
- LESSON 2: ANSWERS 4**

9. Aren't they nice? No
 8. Were you warm? Yes
 7. The day was wet but warm
 6. They were busy and content
 5. Wasn't the man lazy?
 4. Is it/she dry? Yes
 3. Were they tired? No
 2. She wasn't too nice
 1. They were very pleased
- LESSON 2: ANSWERS 3**

8. Chan eil iad cho snog
 7. Chan eil i fliuch, ach tha i fuar
 6. Chan eil e cho toilichte
 5. Chan eil iad glè fhliuch
 4. Tha sinn ro sgìth
 3. Nach eil i uabhasach?
 2. Tha am fear glè leisg
 1. Tha mi cho fuar
- LESSON 2: ANSWERS 2**
8. I am cold and wet
 7. That's awful
 6. It/he is too small
 5. Are you terribly tired?
 4. Is it/she too cold?
 3. Isn't the man tall?
 2. The day is very wet
 1. The man is very busy
- LESSON 2: ANSWERS 1**