LESSON 22

Interrogative Pronouns - Asking Questions

The interrogative pronouns Cò - Who, Dè - What, Ciamar - How, Carson - Why and **Cuin - When** are all followed by the relative forms of the verb:

Tenses of the Verb TO BE

Present	**Past**	**Future**	**Conditional**
a tha	a bha	a bhitheas/a bhios	a bhithinn/a bhiodh
nach eil	nach robh	nach bi	nach bithinn/nach biodh

Uses:
Cò bha ag òl?***** - Who was drinking?
Cò nach eil ag iarraidh deoch? - Who doesn't want a drink?
Dè bha i a' dèanamh? ***** - What was she doing?
Dè nach eil air an liosta? - What's not on the list?
Ciamar a tha thu? - How are you?
Carson a bhios i ag reic an taighe? - Why will she be selling the house?
Carson nach eil sibh a' fuireach? - Why are you not staying?
Cuin a bhithinn sàbhailte? - When would I be safe?
Cuin a bhiodh iad sàbhailte? - When would they be safe?
Cuin nach bi e sàbhailte? - When will it not be safe?

***** Where the interrogative pronoun ends in a vowel the relative pronoun **a** is frequently elided in both speech and literature

The interrogative pronoun Càite - Where is followed by the the interrogative forms of the verb:

Tenses of the Verb TO BE

Present	**Past**	**Future**	**Conditional**
a bheil	an robh	am bi	am bithinn/am biodh
nach eil	nach robh	nach bi	nach bithinn/nach biodh

Uses:
Standing alone the form to use is **Càite** but this is contracted to **Càit** in all other positions.
In the spoken language **Càit** is frequently shortened to simply **Cà**:
Càit an robh thu a-raoir? - Where were you last night?
Cà 'n robh thu a-raoir? - Where were you last night?
Càit a bheil iad a' dol? - Where are they going?
Cà bheil iad a' dol? - Where are they going?
Càit am bi e a-màireach? - Where will he be tomorrow?
Cà 'm bi e a-màireach? - Where will he be tomorrow?

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NEW WORDS

Adverbs

air ais - back, behind

Nouns

ainm (m) - name
caisteal (m) - castle
comann (m) - society
sealladh (m) - view, sight
not(a) (m) - pound sterling
banais (f) - wedding
duais (f) - prize
ùpraid (f) - din, carry-on
àite (m) - place
ceannard (m) - chief, head
leabharlann (m) - library
seòrsa (m) - sort, type, kind
piàna (m) - piano
deoch (f) - drink
liosta)f) - list

Verbs

giùlain, giùlan - carry
streap, streap - climb
siubhail, siubhal - travel

Verbal Phrases

Tha a dhìth orm - I need/lack
Tha a dhìth ort - You need/lack
Tha a dhìth air - He needs/lacks
Tha a dhìth oirre - She needs/lacks
Tha a dhìth oirnn - We need/lack
Tha a dhìth oirbh - You need/lack
Tha a dhìth orra - They need/lack

EXERCISE 1 Translate into English

1. Cò tha a' falbh leis an nighean sin? 'S mise
2. Dè seòrsa (de) bhiadh a tha sibh ag iarraidh?
3. Càit am bi iad a' fuireach a-nochd?
4. Cò tha a' dol a chosnadh duais aig a' Mhòd am bliadhna?
5. Ciamar a bha do mhàthair a' faireachdainn a-raoir?
6. Cò 's urrainn cluiche air a' phiàna?
7. Dè an t-ainm a tha air ur piuthar?
8. Cò am fear ris an robh iad a' bruidhinn a-raoir?
9. Dè bha ga cumail air ais?
10. Cuin a bhitheas iad a' fàgail Ghlaschu?
11. Carson as toil leibh an sealladh den chaisteal?
12. Cuin a bhitheas tu a' tilleadh dhachaigh?

EXERCISE 2 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. What do you need now? I need some money
2. How are they travelling to Edinburgh?
3. Who is the chief of that society?
4. When will the wedding be?
5. Who is going to give me a pound?

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6. What type of place does she live in?
7. Who works in the new library?
8. What were they carrying in the bag?
9. What sort of carry-on were they making?
10. Why was Màiri not at school today?
11. Who can't climb up that hill?
12. Where are they going to play?

LESSON 22: ANSWERS 1

1. Who's going out with that girl? Me
2. What sort of food do you want?
3. Where will they be staying tonight?
4. Who's going to win the prize at the Mod this year?
5. How was your mother feeling last night?
6. Who can play the piano?
7. What's the name of your sister?
8. Who's the man to which they were speaking last night?
9. What was keeping her back/behind?
10. When will they be leaving Glasgow?
11. Why do you like the view of the castle?
12. When will you be returning home?

LESSON 22: ANSWERS 2

1a. Dè tha dhìth ort a-nis? Tha airgead a dhìth orm
1b. Dè tha dhìth ort a-nis? 'S e airgead a tha dhìth orm
2. Ciamar a tha iad a' siubhal gu Dùn Èideann?
3. Cò 's e an ceannard den chomann sin?
4. Cuin a bhitheas a' bhanais ann?
5. Cò tha a' dol a thoirt nota dhomh?
6. Dè seòrsa de dh'àite anns a bheil i a' fuireach?
7. Cò tha ag obair anns an leabharlann ùr?
8. Dè bha iad a' giùlan anns a' bhaga?
9. Dè seòrsa de dh'ùpraid a bha iad a' dèanamh?
10. Carson nach robh Màiri anns an sgoil an-diugh?
11. Cò nach urrainn streap suas an cnoc sin?
12. Càit a bheil iad a' dol a chluiche?

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