

LESSON 31

Cardinal Numbers 1 - 30

There are two distinct forms: 1) without a noun and 2) with a noun.

There are also two concurrent systems: a) traditional; based on units of twenty and b) decimal (preferred in education)

The numbers **aon** (one) to **naoi deug** (nineteen), both simple or compounded, are preceded by **a** (**a h-** before a vowel)

1. Without a noun

a. Traditional:

1 a h-aon	11 a h-aon deug	21 a h-aon air fhichead
2 a dhà †	12 a dhà dheug †	22 a dhà air fhichead
3 a trì	13 a trì deug	23 a trì air fhichead
4 a ceithir	14 a ceithir deug	24 a ceithir air fhichead
5 a còig	15 a còig deug	25 a còig air fhichead
6 a sia	16 a sia deug	26 a sia air fhichead
7 a seachd	17 a seachd deug	27 a seachd air fhichead
8 a h-ochd	18 a h-ochd deug	28 a h-ochd air fhichead
9 a naoi	19 a naoi deug	29 a naoi air fhichead
10 a deich	20 fichead	30 a deich air fhichead

† **dà** is always lenited to **dhà** after **a**.

† **deug** always becomes **dheug** after **dhà**.

b. Decimal (These are the same as traditional forms for numbers 1 to 20):

1 a h-aon	11 a h-aon deug	21 fichead 's a h-aon
2 a dhà †	12 a dhà dheug †	22 fichead 's a dhà
3 a trì	13 a trì deug	23 fichead 's a trì
4 a ceithir	14 a ceithir deug	24 fichead 's a ceithir
5 a còig	15 a còig deug	25 fichead 's a còig
6 a sia	16 a sia deug	26 fichead 's a sia
7 a seachd	17 a seachd deug	27 fichead 's a seachd
8 a h-ochd	18 a h-ochd deug	28 fichead 's a h-ochd
9 a naoi	19 a naoi deug	29 fichead 's a naoi
10 a deich	20 fichead	30 trithead

2. With a noun

Examples are given for both masculine [**cat**, **pl. cait (m) - cat**] and feminine [**cearc**, **pl. cearcan (f) - hen**] nouns.

a. Traditional:

1	<u>aon chat (m) †</u> aon chearc (f)	11	<u>aon chat dheug #</u> aon chearc dheug	21	<u>aon chat fichead \$</u> aon chearc fichead
2	<u>dà chat</u> dà chirc ‡	12	<u>dà chat dheug #</u> dà chirc dheug	22	<u>dà chat fichead</u> dà chirc fichead
3	<u>trì cait</u> trì cearcan	13	<u>trì cait dheug *</u> trì cearcan deug	23	<u>trì cait fichead</u> trì cearcan fichead
4	<u>ceithir cait</u> ceithir cearcan	14	<u>ceithir cait dheug</u> ceithir cearcan deug	24	<u>ceithir cait fichead</u> ceithir cearcan fichead
5	<u>còig cait</u> còig cearcan	15	<u>còig cait dheug</u> còig cearcan deug	25	<u>còig cait fichead</u> còig cearcan fichead
6	<u>sia cait</u> sia cearcan	16	<u>sia cait dheug</u> sia cearcan deug	26	<u>sia cait fichead</u> sia cearcan fichead
7	<u>seachd cait</u> seachd cearcan	17	<u>seachd cait dheug</u> seachd cearcan deug	27	<u>seachd cait fichead</u> seachd cearcan fichead
8	<u>ochd cait</u> ochd cearcan	18	<u>ochd cait dheug</u> ochd cearcan deug	28	<u>ochd cait fichead</u> ochd cearcan fichead
9	<u>naoi cait</u> naoi cearcan	19	<u>naoi cait dheug</u> naoi cearcan deug	29	<u>naoi cait fichead</u> naoi cearcan fichead
10	<u>deich cait</u> deich cearcan	20	<u>fichead cat §</u> fichead cearc	30	<u>deich cait fichead</u> deich cearcan fichead

† **aon** lenites all nouns except those beginning with **d**, **t**, and occasionally **s**.

‡ **dà** is followed by the dative singular noun and always lenites the noun. In both the spoken and written language there is a growing tendency to use just the lenited nominative noun.

deug is lenited in conjunction with **aon** and **dà**. A notable exception is **aon uair deug** (eleven o'clock).

* **deug** is lenited after a plural noun which has a final narrow vowel (**i**).

§ **fichead** is always followed by the singular nominative noun.

\$ **air fichead** usually changes to simply **fichead** for numbers between twenty-one and thirty with a noun.

b. Decimal (These are the same as traditional forms for numbers 1 to 20):

1	aon chat (m) † aon chearc (f)	11	aon chat dheug # aon chearc dheug	21	fichead 's a h-aon chat fichead 's a h-aon chearc
2	dà chat dà chirc ‡	12	dà chat dheug # dà chirc dheug	22	fichead 's a dà chat fichead 's a dà chirc
3	trì cait trì cearcan	13	trì cait dheug * trì cearcan deug	23	fichead 's a trì cait fichead 's a trì cearcan
4	ceithir cait ceithir cearcan	14	ceithir cait dheug ceithir cearcan deug	24	fichead 's a ceithir cait fichead 's a ceithir cearcan
5	còig cait còig cearcan	15	còig cait dheug còig cearcan deug	25	fichead 's a còig cait fichead 's a còig cearcan
6	sia cait sia cearcan	16	sia cait dheug sia cearcan deug	26	fichead 's a sia cait fichead 's a sia cearcan
7	seachd cait seachd cearcan	17	seachd cait dheug seachd cearcan deug	27	fichead 's a seachd cait fichead 's a seachd cearcan
8	ochd cait ochd cearcan	18	ochd cait dheug ochd cearcan deug	28	fichead 's a h-ochd cait fichead 's a h-ochd cearcan
9	naoi cait naoi cearcan	19	naoi cait dheug naoi cearcan deug	29	fichead 's a naoi cait fichead 's a naoi cearcan
10	deich cait deich cearcan	20	fichead cat § fichead cearc	30	trithead cat † trithead cearc

† **trithead** is always followed by the singular nominative noun.

Nouns of measure are usually only found in the singular. A few common ones are:

bliadhna - year

sgillinn - penny

mile - mile

The remaining cardinal numbers are reviewed in Lesson 44.

NEW WORDS

Adverbs

a dh'aois - of age

a-mhàin - only

Nouns

buntàta (m) - potato(es)

sporan (m) - sporran, purse

tombaca (m) - tobacco

aois (f) - age

punnd (m) - pound weight

taigh-seinnse (m) - public house

ùnnsa (m) - ounce

bò (f) - cow

cluas (f) - ear
iomlaid (f) - change, exchange
sgillinn (f) - penny

crìoch (f) - end
mìle (f) - mile

Prepositions

airson - for

Verbs

cunnt, cunntadh - count
faighnich, faighneachd (de) - ask, enquire (of)
dìochuimhnich, dìochuimhneachadh (air) - forget (about)

EXERCISE 1 Translate into English

1. Thuirt e gu bheil dà thaigh aige
2. Bha trì duine fichead anns an taigh-sheinse
3. Fhuair mi fichead nota mar dhuais
4. Chunnt sinn fichead seòmar anns an taigh-òsta
5. Tha dà chluais, dà làimh, agus dà shùil againn uile
6. Tha a trì is a trì a' dèanamh a sia
7. Dè na tha agad nad phòcaid? Fichead sgillinn a-mhàin
8. Dè na tha sin a' cosg? Ochd notaichean mas e do thoil e
9. Fuirich, na dìochuimhnich d' iomlaid. Seo dhut dà nota
10. Shaoil mi gun robh ochd nota fichead nam sporan
11. Tha mo bhràthair ceithir bliadhna a dh'aois
12. Dè an aois a tha do phiuthar? Ochd bliadhna fichead

EXERCISE 2 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. How much money do you have? Five pounds twenty pence
2. Five plus five makes ten
3. We spent twenty seven pounds in that shop
4. I bought a new book for nine pounds fifteen pence
5. That man only has one eye
6. I asked him (dheth) how many children he had
7. He ate nearly (faisg air) twenty sweets before dinner
8. There are six plates and six cups in the cupboard
9. The end of this road is ten miles away
10. I want five pounds of potatoes and three ounce of tobacco please

LESSON 31: ANSWERS 1

1. He said he had two houses
2. There were twenty three in the hotel
3. I got twenty pounds as a prize
4. We counted twenty rooms in the hotel
5. We all have two ears, two hands, and two eyes
6. Three and three is six
7. How much do you have in your pocket? Only twenty pence
8. How much does that cost? Eight pounds please
9. Wait, don't forget your change. Here (for you) two pounds
10. I thought that there was twenty eight pounds in my purse
11. My brother is four years old (of age)
12. What age is your sister? Twenty eight (years)

LESSON 31: ANSWERS 2

1. Dé na tha agad de airgead? Cóg nota is fichead sgíllinn
2. Tha a cóg agus a cóg a' déanamh a deich
3. Chosg sinn seachd nota fichead anns a' bhúth sin
4. Cheannaich mi leabhar úr airson naoi nota is cóg sgíllinn deug
5. Chan eil ach aon súil aig an fhear sin
6. Dh'fhaighnich mi d'heath de na bha aige de chloimn
7. Dh'ith é faisg air fichead mílseag ron dinnear
8. Tha sia truinsearan agus sia copannan ann anns a' phreas
9. Tha a' chríoch den rathad seo deich míle air falbh
10. Tha mi ag iarraidh cóg puinnid de bhuntáta agus trí unnsachan de thombaca mas é ur toil é