

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 nach eil	a bha nach robh	a bhitheas/a bhios nach bi	a bhithinn/a bhiodh 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 nach eil	an robh nach robh	am bi nach bi	am bithinn/am biodh 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?

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 oirnn - We need/lack

Tha a dhìth ort - You need/lack

Tha a dhìth oirbh - You need/lack

Tha a dhìth air - He needs/lacks

Tha a dhìth orra - They need/lack

Tha a dhìth oirre - She needs/lacks

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?

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?

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

LESSON 22: ANSWERS 2

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 1