

LESSON 26

The Future Tense - Regular Verbs

The formation of the Future Tense of regular verbs is identical to that seen in Lesson 9 for the verb **To Be**. As you discovered the Future Tense of the verb **To Be** is used with the **present participle** to express both a continuous future action and a repeated present action:

Bidh iad a' cluich anns a' phàirc - They will be playing in the park

Bidh iad a' cluich anns a' phàirc a h-uile là - They play in the park every day

In contrast, the Future Tense of a verb must be used to express an immediate future action as well as a repeated action in the present.

The dependent form of the verb is identical to the root. To get the independent form of the verb take the root and add either **-idh** or **-aidh** according to the spelling rule:

Verbal Noun	Root	Independent	Dependent
bualadh - hitting	buail	buailidh	buail
fàgail - leaving	fàg	fàgaidh	fàg
leughadh - reading	leugh	leughaidh	leugh
ruith - running	ruith	ruithidh	ruith
sgrìobhadh - writing	sgrìobh	sgrìobhaidh	sgrìobh
seasamh - standing	seas	seasaidh	seas
togail - lifting/building	tog	togaidh	tog
òl - drinking	òl	òlaidh	òl

As with the verb **To Be** add either **Cha/Chan** (before a vowel), **An/Am** or **Nach** to the dependent to get the negative and interrogative forms of the verb.

Example Uses:

Buailidh mi - I will hit

Cha bhuail mi - I will not hit

Am buail mi? - Will I hit?

Nach buail mi? - Will I not hit?

Fàgaidh mi - I will leave

Chan fhàg mi - I will not leave

Am fàg mi? - Will I leave?

Nach fhàg mi? † - Will I not leave?

Leughaidh mi - I will read

Cha leugh mi - I will not read

An leugh mi? - Will I read?

Nach leugh mi? - Will I not read?

Ruithidh tu ‡ - You will run

Cha ruith thu * - You will not run

An ruith thu? - Will you run?

Nach ruith thu? - Will you not run?

Sgrìobhaidh mi - I will write

Cha sgrìobh mi - I will not write

An sgrìobh mi? - Will I write?

Nach sgrìobh mi? - Will I not write?

Seasaidh tu ‡ - You will stand

Cha sheas thu * - You will not stand

An seas thu? - Will you stand?

Nach seas thu? - Will you not stand?

Òlaidh tu - You will drink
Chan òl thu - You will not drink
An òl thu - Will you drink?
Nach òl thu? - Will you not drink?

Togaidh mi - I will lift
Cha thog mi * - I will not lift
An tog thu - Will you lift?
Nach tog thu? - Will you not lift?

* **cha/chan** should only lenite verbs beginning with **b, f, m, p, c** or **g**. However there is a growing tendency with the regular verbs to lenite whenever possible.

† **nach** lenites verbs beginning with **f**.

‡ As with the verb **To Be** the second person singular becomes **tu** with the independent form of the verb.

With the Dependent Clause

Some examples are given below.

The pattern is the same as the verb **To Be** (see Lesson 15):

Tha e ag ràdh gum buail e mi - He says that he will hit me

Tha e ag ràdh nach buail e mi - He says that he will not hit me

Tha e ag ràdh gum fàg e - He says that he will leave

Tha e ag ràdh nach fhàg e - He says that he will not leave

The Relative Verb

Some examples are given below.

The pattern is the same as the Future Tense of the verb **To Be** (see Lesson 21):

Is mise a bhuaileas thu - It's I who will hit you

Is mise a bhuaileas tu - It's I who you will hit

Is mise nach fhàg thu - It's I who will not leave you

Seo an leabhar a leughas tu * - Here's the book you will read

Agus seo an leabhar nach leugh thu - And here's the book you will not read

* remember that after the relative future verb the second person singular subject becomes **tu**.

With Interrogative Pronouns

Some examples are given below.

The pattern is the same as the Future Tense of the verb **To Be** (see Lesson 22):

Dè sgrìobhas tu anns an litir? - What will you write in the letter?

Cò thogas dealbh dhìom? - Who will take a photograph of me?

Carson a bhuaileas tu am balach? - Why will you hit the boy?

Ciamar a sheasas i? - How will she stand?

Cuin a dh'fhàgas tu? - When will you leave?

Càit an òl sinn? - Where will we drink?

With Conjunctions

Some examples are given below.

The pattern is the same as the Future Tense of the verb **To Be** (see Lesson 23):

Sgrìobhaidh mi litir mus fàg mi - I will write a letter before I leave

Ma dh'fhàgas tu an taigh, bidh mi nam aonar - If you (will) leave the house, I'll be alone

Leughaidh mi an leabhar fhads a dh'itheas mi dinnear - I'll read the book while I (will) eat dinner

Mura fàg thu an dràsta bidh tu fadalach - Unless you (will) leave now you will be late

Saying Yes and No

The pattern is the same for the verb **To Be**. You need to use the positive or negative forms of the verb in the Future Tense:

An sgrìobh thu litir thugam?- Will you write me a letter? Sgrìobhaidh - Yes Cha sgrìobh - No

Nach òl thu am bainne? - Will you not drink the milk? Òlaidh - Yes Chan òl - No

Repeated Actions in the Present

The meaning is understood from the context:

Gabhaidh e bracaist a h-uile madainn - He takes breakfast every morning

Sgrìobhaidh sinn litir thuige a h-uile là - We write (to) him a letter every day

Able To Do

The Future Tense may convey the idea of being able to do something. This meaning is usually understood from context:

An sgrìobh thu litir dhomhsa?- Will you/Can you write a letter for me?

Am buail thu an doras a-rithist? - Will you/Can you knock the door again?

An òl thu an t-uisge gu luath? - Will you/Can you drink the water quickly?

NEW WORDS

Adjectives

fadalach - late (in arriving)

Nouns

beagan (m) - little

post (m) - post

teanga (f) - tongue

drama (m) - dram of drink

Verbs

gabh, gabhail (ri) - accept, betake, have

tog dealbh, togail dealbh - take a photograph

leig, leigeil (le) - let, allow

Verbal phrases

Tha mi nam aonar - I am alone

Tha thu nad aonar - You are alone

Tha e na aonar - He is alone

Tha i na h-aonar - She is alone

Tha sinn nar n-aonar - We are alone

Tha sibh nur n-aonar - You are alone

Tha iad nan aonar - They are alone

EXERCISE 1 Translate into English

1. Togaidh mi taigh ùr anns a' ghleann
2. Tha e ag ràdh nach till e gus madainn a-màireach
3. Cha chuir mi seachad bliadhna anns an obair sin
4. Cò cheannaicheas cù dhomhsa?
5. Tha mi cinnteach gun caidil thu gu math a-nochd
6. 'S e Calum a phòsas mo nighean a-màireach
7. Càit am fuirich sinn nuair a tha sinn an Glaschu?
8. 'S e duine làidir a ghluaiseas a' chlach seo
9. Nach cùm thu do theanga
10. Leughaidh mi riut an litir a fhuair mi bhuapa

EXERCISE 2 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. Will you put this letter in the post for me?
2. I start work about mid-day
3. Will you not sit down and keep quiet?
4. Who will take a dram with me? It's I who will
5. Will you please open the window a little
6. It's me who will sing at the ceilidh tonight
7. I will speak to them tomorrow
8. Who will buy me a new coat?
9. I will not want anything else
10. It's my mother who will not let me (learn) to go to the beach

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|---|---|
| 1. An cuir sibh an litir seo anns a' phost dhomh? | 1. I'll build a new house in the Glen |
| 2. Toisichidh mi ri obair mu mheadhan-là | 2. He says he won't return until tomorrow morning |
| 3. Nach suidh thu sìos agus cùm samhach? | 3. I won't spend a year in that job |
| 4. Cò ghabhas drama còmhla rium? 'S mise a ghabhas | 4. Who'll buy a dog for me? |
| 5. Am fosgail sibh an uinneag beagan | 5. I'm sure that you'll sleep well tonight |
| 6. 'S mise a sheinneas aig a' chèilidh a-nochd | 6. It's Calum who marries my daughter tomorrow |
| 7. Bruidhnidh mi riutha a-màireach | 7. Where will we stay when we are in Glasgow? |
| 8. Cò cheannaicheas còta ùr dhomh? | 8. It's a strong man who can (will) move this stone |
| 9. Chan iarr mi cail eile | 9. Won't you hold your tongue! |
| 10. 'S i mo mhàthair nach leig leam a bhith a' dol dhan | 10. I'll read (to) you the letter I got from them |

LESSON 26: ANSWERS 2

LESSON 26: ANSWERS 1