

LESSON 53

Passive Forms of Verbs -Part 3

Method 3. Using the active tense of the verb To Be

This is the most common spoken form.

The formation pattern is **active tense of verb To Be + subject + air + possessive adjective + verbal noun**.

The possessive adjective must agree in gender and plurality with the subject.

The possessive adjectives **mo**, **do** and **a** (his/its) lenite the following word whenever possible.

In the Present Passive:

Forms	Present Passive Construction
Statement	Tha an leabhar air a thogail - The book is lifted/The book has been lifted
	Tha e air a thogail - It is lifted/It has been lifted
Negative	Chan eil am balach air a bhualadh - The boy is not hit/The boy has not been hit
	Chan eil e air a bhualadh - He is not hit/He has not been hit
Interrogative	A bheil an uinneag air a fosgladh? - Is the window opened?/Has the window not been opened?
	A bheil i air a fosgladh? - Is it opened?/Has it been opened?
Negative Interrogative	Nach eil an dinnear air a h-ullachadh? - Is the dinner not prepared?/Has the dinner not been prepared?
	Nach eil i air a h-ullachadh? - Is it not prepared?/Has it not been prepared?

In the Past Passive:

Forms	Past Passive Construction
Statement	Bha a' chaileag air a togail - The girl was lifted/The girl had been lifted
	Bha i air a togail - She was lifted/She had been lifted
Negative	Cha robh na balaich air am bualadh - The boys were not hit/The boys had not been hit
	Cha robh iad air am bualadh - They had not been hit
Interrogative	An robh na coin air am faicinn? - Were the dogs seen?/Had the dogs not been seen?
	An robh sinn air ar faicinn? - Were we seen?/Had we been seen?
Negative Interrogative	Nach robh a' chlann air am biadhadh? - Were the children not fed?/Had the children not been fed?
	Nach robh iad air am biadhadh? - Were they not fed?/Had they not been fed?

In the Future (Habitual Present) Passive:

Forms	Future Passive Construction
Statement	Bidh an sgeul air a mìneachadh - The story will be explained/The story will have been explained
	Bidh i air a mìneachadh - It will be explained/It will have been explained
Negative	Cha bhi na balaich air an cur a-muigh - The boys will not be put out/The boys will not have been put out
	Cha bhi iad air an cur a-muigh - They will not be put out/They will not have been put out
Interrogative	Am bi am pàiste air a bhìadhadh? - Will the child be fed?/Will the child have been fed?
	Am bi e air a bhìadhadh? - Will he be fed?/Will it have been fed?
Negative Interrogative	Nach bi a' chraobh air a gearradh sìos? - Will the tree not be cut down?/Will the tree not have been cut down?
	Nach bi i air a gearradh sìos? - Will it not be cut down?/Will it not have been cut down?

In the Conditional (Habitual Past) Passive:

Forms	Conditional Passive Construction
Statement	Bhiodh am prògram air a dhèanamh - The programme would be made/The programme would have been made
	Bhithinn air mo thogail - I would be lifted / I would have been lifted
Negative	Cha bhiodh na h-uinneagan air an glanadh - The windows would not be cleaned/The windows would not have been cleaned
	Cha bhiodh iad air an glanadh - They would not be cleaned/They would not have been cleaned
Interrogative	Am biodh an càr air a chàradh? - Would the car be repaired?/Would the car have been repaired?
	Am biodh e air a chàradh? - Would it be repaired?/Would it have been repaired?
Negative Interrogative	Nach biodh an teine air a chur thuige? - Would the fire not be lit?/Would the fire not have been lit?
	Nach biodh e air a chur thuige? - Would it not be lit?/Would it not have been lit?

Method 3 with The Interrogative Pronouns Dè, Cò and Cia Mheud

The possessive adjective **a** (his/its) always precedes the verbal noun:

Dè bhiodh air a thogail an-sin? - What would be built there?

Cò bhios air fhàgail air ais? - Who will be left behind?

Cia mheud duine a bha air a chur air falbh? - How many people were sent away?

The Continuous Passive Mood

The formation pattern is **active tense of verb To Be + subject + augmented prepositions of aig + verbal noun**.

The augmented preposition (see Lesson 17) must agree in gender and plurality with the subject.

The augmented prepositions **gam**, **gad** and **ga** (his/its) lenite the following word whenever possible.

Only the present and past tenses need be considered:

Tense	Continuous Passive Construction
Present	Tha mi gam bhualadh - I am being hit
	Chan eil taigh ga thogail - A house is not being built
	A bheil iad gan giùlan? - Are they being carried?
	Nach eil litir ga cur? - Is a letter not being sent?
Past	Bha e ga fhàgail - He was being left
	Cha robh an càr ga ghluasad? - The car was not being moved?
	An robh sinn gar coinneachadh? - Were we being met?
	Nach robh na cearcan gam biadhadh? - Were the chickens not being fed?

The Passive Infinitive Verb

The formation pattern is **active tense of verb To Be + subject + ri + lenited verbal noun**:

Only the present and past tenses need be considered:

Tha taigh ri thogail an-seo - A house is to be built here

A bheil an t-òrd ri bhualadh - Is the hammer to be struck

Bha sinn ri giùlan - We were to be carried

An robh i ri ghluasad? - Was she to be moved?

In literature the augmented prepositions of **ri** are frequently encountered. They then must agree in gender and plurality with the subject. The forms **rim**, **rid** and **ri** (his/its) lenite the following word whenever possible:

Tha taigh ri thogail an-seo - A house is to be built here

A bheil an t-òrd ri bhualadh - Is the hammer to be struck

Bha sinn ri giùlan - We were to be carried

An robh i ra ghluasad? - Was she to be moved?

All augmented prepositions are shown in Appendix 1

Method 4. Using the Past Participle

To form past participles add **-te** to the root of the verb irrespective of the spelling rule. However, a few historic forms persist which adhere to the traditional spelling rule. This method has limited use in both the written and spoken language:

Tha am balach togte - The boy is lifted

Bha an doras dùinte - The door was closed

Bidh an obair dèante (dèanta) - The work will be done

Bhiodh an duine pòsta - The man would be married

Method 5. Using the Third Person Plural with the Active Verb

Frequently in spoken Gàidhlig the passive is conveyed as in English by using the 3rd person plural in an impersonal way:

Tha iad a' togail bùth ùr - A new shop is being built - lit. They are building a new shop

A bheil iad a' reic buntàta an seo? - Are potatoes sold here? - lit. Do they sell potatoes here?

NEW WORDS

Nouns

pàiste (m) - child, infant

prògram (m) - programme

Verbs

minich, mineachadh (do) - explain (to)

EXERCISE 1 Change the following to Method 3

1. Thuirt an cathraiche gun cùmar a' choinneamh aig seachd uairean
2. Rugadh agus thogadh mi ann an Steòrnabhagh
3. Bhleoghainnte an crodh dà thuras gach là
4. Gheàrradh am feur agus thogadh na cruachan leis an tuathanach
5. Fàgar an cù na aonar fad an là
6. Cha do bhruidhneadh Gàidhlig riutha nuair a bha iad òg
7. Cuirear dhan leabaidh thu mura bi thu math
8. Chualas fuaim neònach taobh a-muigh
9. Glacar deagh bhrìc anns an abhainn sin
10. Clòbhuailear na leabhraichean ann an Dùn Èideann
11. Dhùinte na dorsan aig meadhan oidhche
12. Chìthear anns a' phàirc iad a h-uile meadhan-là
13. Nach do sgrìobhadh an seann leabhar sin le manaich
14. Caillear mòran obraichean le bhith a' dùnadh na mèinne

EXERCISE 2

a. Translate into Gàidhlig using Method 3

b. Translate into Gàidhlig using Method 3 replacing the nouns subjects with pronouns

1. The thief was caught and put in prison
2. Many people were banished from their homes in the highlands

3. Dinner was made and eaten in less than an hour
4. The people were deceived when the taxes were increased
5. The baby would be given a new toy on her birthday
6. Neither the doors nor the windows were locked
7. Poverty is seen throughout Africa
8. The top of the mountain was reached by (tre) the difficult route
9. The boys were seen stealing in the shop
10. The game will be played in the rain
11. The stories will be translated from Gàidhlig to English
12. The car door was left unlocked (gun a ghlasadh)

EXERCISE 3 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. Why was the food returned to the shop?
2. What was written in the letter you got from your sister?
3. When will the house be built?
4. Where will the game be played?
5. When was the road repaired?
6. Who was left without a drink?
7. How could (would) that be done?
8. Where are the dishes put?

EXERCISE 4 Translate into English

1. Bha dinnear ga deasachadh anns a' chidsin
2. Chan ann tric a tha breac ga ghlacadh anns an allt seo
3. Tha na caoraich gan cruinneachadh còmhla
4. Tha saoghalan eile gan ruigsinn a-nis
5. A bheil prìsean gam meudachadh anns a' bhùth aca?
6. Tha a' choille seo ri ghearradh sìos a dh'aithghearr

EXERCISE 5 Translate into Gàidhlig

1. A house is being built in the middle of the park
2. The coal was being carried on his back
3. A story was being read by the pupil
4. The old woman was being moved to another hospital
5. He is being deceived by them
6. That has to be seen (for) to be believed

LESSON 53: ANSWERS 1

1. Thuir an cathraiche gum bi a' choinneamh air a

cumail aig seachd uairean

2. Bha mi air mo bhreith agus mo thogail ann an

Steòrnabhagh

3. Bhiodh an crodh air am bleoghann da thuras gach là

4. Bha am fear air a ghearradh is na cruachan air an

togail leis an tuathanach

5. Bith an cu air fhàgail na aonar fad an là

6. Cha robh Gàidhlig air a bruidhinn riutha nuair a bha

lad og

7. Bith thu air do chur dhan leabaidh mura bi thu

math

8. Bha fuaim neònach air a cluinntinn taobh a-muigh

9. Bith deagh bhrìc air an glacadh anns an abhainn sin

10. Bith na leabhraichean air an clòbhualach ann an

Dùn Eideann

11. Bhiodh na dorsan air an dùnadh aig meadhan

oidhche

12. Bith iad air am faicinn anns a' phàirc a h-uile

meadhan-là

13. Nach robh an seann leabhar sin air a sgrìobhadh le

manaich

14. Bith mòran obrachichean air an call le bhith a'

dùnadh na mèinne

LESSON 53: ANSWERS 2

1. Bha am mèirleach air a ghilacadh agus a chur ann am

prìosan

2. Bha mòran daoine air am fuadachadh às an

dachalighèan air a' Ghàidhealtachd

3. Bha dinnear air a dèanamh is ithe ann an na bu

lughna na lethuir a thide

4. Bha na daoine air am mealladh nuair a bha na cisean

air am meudachadh

5. Bhiodh dèidag ur air a toirt dhan leanabh air a

co-la-breith

6. Cha robh na dorsan no na h-uinneagan air an

glasadh

7. Bith bochdainn air a faicinn air feadh Afraga

8. Bha mullach na beinne air a ruigsinn tre na slighe

doirbhe

9. Bha na balach air am faicinn a' goid anns a' bhùth

10. Bith an gèama air a chluich anns an uisge

11. Bith na sgeòil air an eadar-theangachadh bho

Ghàidhlig gu Beurla

12. Bha doras a' chàir air fhàgail gun a ghilasadh

LESSON 53: ANSWERS 2B

1. Bha e air a ghilacadh agus a chur ann am prìosan

Ghàidhealtachd

2. Bha iad air am fuadachadh às an dachalighèan air a'

3. Bha i air a dèanamh is a h-ithe ann an na bu lughna

na lethuir a thide

4. Bha iad air am mealladh nuair a bha na cisean air am

meudachadh

5. Bhiodh i air a toirt dhan leanabh air a co-la-breith

6. Cha robh iad air an glasadh

7. Bith i air a faicinn air feadh Afraga

8. Bha e air a ruigsinn tre na slighe doirbhe

9. Bha iad air am faicinn a' goid anns a' bhùth

10. Bith e air a chluich anns an uisge

11. Bith iad air an eadar-theangachadh bho Ghàidhlig

12. Bha e air fhàgail gun a ghilasadh

LESSON 53: ANSWERS 3

1. Carson a bha am bladh air a thilleadh dhan bhùth?

2. De bha air a sgrìobhadh anns an litir a fhuaire thu

bho do phìuthar?

3. Cui a bhios an taigh air a thogail?

4. Càit am bi an gèama air a chluich?

5. Cui a bha an rathad air a chàradh?

6. Co bha air fhàgail gun deoch?

7. Ciamar a bhiodh sin air a dhèanamh?

8. Càit am bi na soitheichean air an cur?

LESSON 53: ANSWERS 4

1. Dinner was being prepared in the kitchen

2. It isn't often that trout are caught in this burn

3. The sheep are being rounded together

4. Other worlds are being reached now

5. Are prices being increased in their shop?

6. This forest is to felled soon

LESSON 53: ANSWERS 5

1. Tha taigh ga thogail ann am meadhan na pàirce

2. Bha gual ga ghùlan air an druim aige

3. Bha sgeul ga leughadh leis an sgoilear

4. Bha a' chailleadh ga gluasad gu ospadal eile

5. Tha e ga mhealladh leotha

6. Tha sin ri fhaicinn airson a chreidsinn