

ÙGHDARRAS  
THEISTEANAS  
NA H-ALBA



# Gaelic Orthographic Conventions 2005





# Gaelic Orthographic Conventions 2005

Published date: August 2005  
Publication code: BB1532

First Published by the Scottish Certificate of Education Examination Board (SCEEB) in 1981 and revised by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) in 2005.

Published by the Scottish Qualifications Authority  
Hanover House, 24 Douglas Street, Glasgow G2 7NQ  
Ironmills Road, Dalkeith, Midlothian EH22 1LE

**[www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)**

The information in this publication may be reproduced in support of SQA qualifications. If it is reproduced, SQA should be clearly acknowledged as the source. If it is to be used for any other purpose, then written permission must be obtained from the Publications Team, Customer Relations and Marketing at SQA. It must not be reproduced for trade or commercial purposes.

For an up-to-date list of prices visit the **Publication Sales and Downloads** section of SQA's website.

This document can be produced, on request, in alternative formats, including large type, braille and numerous community languages. For further details telephone SQA's Customer Contact Centre on 0845 279 1000.

SQA is committed to using plain English. We will try to make our publications as easy and straightforward to understand as we can, and will try to avoid all unnecessary jargon. If there's any language in this document that you feel is hard to understand, or could be improved, please write to Editor, Publications Team, at the Glasgow address above or e-mail: **editor@sqa.org.uk**.



# Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Introduction.....                      | 1  |
| 1 The spelling rule.....               | 2  |
| 2 Consonant quality.....               | 2  |
| 3 Consonant groups.....                | 3  |
| 4 Vowel representations.....           | 4  |
| 5 Word stress and emphasis.....        | 5  |
| 6 Apostrophes and spacing.....         | 7  |
| 7 Sound adaptation and loan words..... | 8  |
| 8 Verbs.....                           | 9  |
| 9 Prepositional phrases.....           | 10 |
| 10 Hyphenation.....                    | 12 |
| 11 Other orthographic issues           |    |
| A Numbers.....                         | 14 |
| B Months of the year.....              | 15 |
| C Dates.....                           | 15 |
| D Days.....                            | 15 |
| E Surnames.....                        | 15 |
| F Place names.....                     | 15 |
| G Titles.....                          | 16 |
| H Acronyms.....                        | 17 |
| I Abbreviations.....                   | 17 |
| 12 Word list.....                      | 18 |





# Gaelic Orthographic Conventions 2005

## Introduction

In 1976, the Scottish Certificate of Education Examination Board (SCEEB), at the request of its Gaelic Panel, set up a Sub-committee of the Panel to investigate issues pertaining to Gaelic orthography. Inconsistencies in the standard of written Gaelic had been noted by SCEEB examiners and it was felt that guidelines should be created to ensure that an authoritative set of orthographic conventions was adopted by teachers and examination candidates. It was also important that examiners, setters and markers would use the document when dealing with Gaelic examination papers and scripts.

The findings of the Sub-committee were published in 1981 in the document *Gaelic Orthographic Conventions (GOC)*. This document has proved to be a valuable foundation for many areas of Gaelic development since then as Gaelic usage has expanded into different domains of public life in Scotland. More recently the *GOC* recommendations have been adopted in the compilation of *Faclair na Pàrlamaid*.

It has now been decided by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), which superseded the SCEEB, that the document should be reviewed and updated, whilst adhering to the principles and recommendations contained in the original. It is intended that this updated document should be easier to use, and the extended list of nearly 2,000 words is designed to illustrate more fully the application of the conventions. In most cases a single orthographic form is recommended, although it is recognised that, in some instances, more than one form is in use.

The revised word list is not intended to be, nor to resemble, a dictionary. It is a source of reference which users of the document may wish to consult when in doubt as to how a word, or related word or phrase, should be spelt. Explanatory notes have been kept to a minimum.

SQA gratefully acknowledges part-funding from the Scottish Executive and Bòrd na Gàidhlig for the revision of *GOC*.

#### PROJECT CONSULTANT

Donald John Maciver, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar

#### STEERING GROUP

Annie MacSween, Lews Castle College

A G Boyd Robertson, University of Strathclyde

Ian MacDonald, The Gaelic Books Council

#### SQA OFFICER

Marilyn M Waters

#### SQA CONSULTANT

Evgeniya Matyunina

# 1 The spelling rule

The spelling rule — ‘leathann ri leathann is caol ri caol’ (‘broad to broad and slender to slender’) — is the most common device to indicate orthographic forms in Gaelic. This means that when one or more consonants come between two vowels, the vowels on either side of the consonant(s) should be of the same class.

**A** If the vowel preceding the consonant(s) is broad, **a, o** or **u**, the vowel following should also be broad.

- ◆ *bodach, ceòlmhor, cumadh*

**B** Where the vowel before the consonant(s) is slender, **i** or **e**, then the vowel after the consonant(s) should be slender.

- ◆ *caileag, coinnich, oidhche*

An exception to this rule occurs with some past participles passive, eg:

- ◆ *glacte, leagte, togte, dèante*

with certain compounds, eg:

- ◆ *banrigh, choreigin, mocheirigh, rudeigin*

and with some borrowed words, eg:

- ◆ *mosgioto, soircas, telefòn*

# 2 Consonant quality

**A** Consonants or consonant groups with palatal quality should be indicated by placing slender vowels (**e, i**) adjacent to them:

- ◆ at the beginning of a word: *ceann, geall, greann, seall, steall*
- ◆ at the end of a word: *cruinn, cuirm, Goill, rùisg, sail*
- ◆ in the middle of a word: *clisgeadh, cruinne, sailleadh, tuilleadh*

**B** Consonants or consonant groups with velar quality should be indicated by placing broad vowels (**a, o, u**) adjacent to them:

- ◆ at the beginning of a word: *gràn, sprùilleach, stòr*
- ◆ at the end of a word: *balach, ceann, cosg, geal, sealg*
- ◆ in the middle of a word: *ceannaich, balach, cosgais, lochdan*

**C** The forms *seo* and *siud*, showing palatal quality, should be used. In the case of *neo* or *no*, the latter is the preferred form, although the former is appropriate in the phrase *air neo*.

**D** *Taigh* should be used instead of ‘*tigh*’, to reflect the sound quality of the consonant.





### 3 Consonant groups

**A** The letters **sg** should be used in all positions in place of **sc**:

- ◆ *basgaid, cosg, pasgan, Sgalpaigh, sgian*

The letters **sp** should be used in all positions in place of **sb**:

- ◆ *cuspair, cuspann, speal, uspag*

However, because of their frequency and familiarity, the spelling of the words *deasbad, easbaig, Gilleasbaig* and *taisbeanadh* should be left unchanged.

The letters **st** should be used in all positions in place of **sd**:

- ◆ *aosta, a-rithist, èist, furasta, gasta, pòsta, staidhre, tuarastal, tubaist*

An exception would arise in a compound place name where the final element is ‘dal’ or ‘dail’, eg:

- ◆ *Gramasdail, Lacasdail, Loch Baghasdail*

Exceptions may also be found in the case of established forms of personal names and nomenclature on signage, eg:

- ◆ *Alasdair, Colaisde, Fionnlasdan, Taigh-òsda, Ùisdean*
- ◆ Likewise, *Crìosd(a), Crìosdaidh* etc

**B** The prefix formerly written as **comh-** should be written as **co-** where it does not take stress, eg:

- ◆ *co-chomann, co-chòrdadh, co-labhairt, co-ogha*

Where it bears stress but does not have nasalisation, words should be written as in the examples below:

- ◆ *coileanta, coitheanal, coluadar*

Where it bears stress and does have nasalisation, the form **comh/còmh** without a hyphen should be used:

- ◆ *coimhleanta* (compos-mentis), *comhaois* (person of similar age), *còmhdhail* (conference, transport), *còmhradh* (speech)

**C** Consonant groups should be simplified in:

- ◆  *cudrom* (*cuideam* also acceptable),  *cudromach, meòraich* and *meòrachan*

## 4 Vowel representations

The following are recommended forms:

**A** **eu** rather than **ia** as in the words *beul*, *feur*, *meud*, *sgeul*

**B** **ìo** rather than **ia** as in the words *dìon*, *fìon*, *fìor*, *mìos*

**C** Homophones (words with the same sound but a different meaning) should be differentiated where possible. For example, *ceud* should be retained for ‘a hundred’ and the word for ‘first’ should be written *ciad*. Similarly, ‘month’ would be *mìos* and the word for ‘basin’ should be written *mias*. The words for ‘grass’, ‘squint’ and ‘true’ should be spelt *feur*, *fiar* and *fìor* respectively. The words for ‘anything’, ‘charm/spell’ and ‘storm’ should be spelt *sìon*, *seun* and *sian* respectively.

**D** The sound previously represented by the vowel combination **ao** should be written as **adh** in words such as:

♦ *adhbhar*, *adhbrann*, *adhradh*

The combination **ao** is retained to represent the different sound in, for example:

♦ *daor*, *faobhar*, *gaoth*, *saor*

**E** The use of **a** (rather than **u**) to render the sound in the unstressed second syllable in words like *balach*, *bodach* and *tioram* should be extended to most words, eg:

♦ *àlainn*, *altram*, *Bìoball*, *comann*, *doras*, *fallas*, *foghlam*, *madainn*, *solas*, *turas*

An exception to this is *agus*, in which *u* should not change to *a*, because of frequency and familiarity.

Similarly, **ea** should be used rather than **io** in words like:

♦ *boireann*, *doilgheas*, *Èireannach*, *fireannach*, *gailleann*, *timcheall*

However, the words *aotrom*, *cothrom*, *cudrom*, *cudromach* should reflect the element *trom* in their spelling.

**F** In the case of diphthongs with **m** in words such as:

♦ *cam*, *lampa*, *lom*, *trom*

the spelling without the accent should be retained except in:

♦ *àm* (time)

which should have an accent to differentiate it from other words spelt *am*.

**G** The conventional spelling should be used in the representation of the vowel quality of the adjectival endings in words such as:

♦ *ainmeil*, *duineil*, *sgileil*, *sgoinneil*

although in many areas these contain back vowels when spoken. The spelling rule does sometimes allow a closer representation of such back vowels:

♦ *bodachail*, *cuideachail*, *fearail*



**H** The **grave accent** only should be used to indicate length:

- ◆ *an-dè, bò, cù, làmh, lèine, mòr, tìr*

The accent should be written on *à/às* (out of) and on *às* whenever the vowel is open (*às bith, às dèidh, às mo chadal*) to distinguish it from *as* when the vowel is not open (*as fheàrr, as t-earrach, as t-samhradh* etc).

The accent should also be used to indicate length on capital letters:

- ◆ *Àird Àsaig, Ìle, Ìomhar, An t-Òban, Ùig, Ùna*

**I** The conventional spelling without an accent should be retained on the long vowel sound before **ll** and **nn** in words such as

- ◆ *cinnteach, fillte, inntinn, till*

- ◆ *bonn, cunntas, sanntach*

This principle should also be applied to words formerly spelt with the accent, eg:

- ◆ *dilleachdan, dinnear* and *trilleachan*

## 5 Word stress and emphasis

### A Initial Stress

Where stress is on the first syllable of words, including proper compounds, these should be spelt as one word:

- ◆ *atharrais, banrigh, barrall, cuingealachadh, dìochuimhnich, eatarrasan, imeachd, smaoineachadh*

Words with prefixes conform to the same pattern:

- ◆ *anabarrach, anacothrom, aocoltach, aodomhainn, eucoir*

### B Non-initial Stress

Words in which stress does not fall on the first syllable should generally be hyphenated, with the hyphen coming before the part of the word bearing the stress:

- ◆ *ban-diùc, cas-chrom*

Words with prefixes conform to the same pattern:

- ◆ *ana-miann, ath-bheothachadh*

However, hyphens should not be used in borrowed or adapted words that have non-initial stress:

- ◆ *buntàta, telebhisean, tombaca*

Pronouns with emphasising particles (**-ne -sa, -se, -san**) should generally be written as one word:

- ◆ *dhaibhsan, dhàsan, dhìse, dhòmhsa, dhuibhse, dhuinne, dhutsa*

But *leis-san* and *ris-san* should be hyphenated to avoid the juxtaposition of **ss**.

**C** Where the emphasising particle follows a noun or an adjective, the word should be hyphenated:

- ◆ *a brògan-se, ar càirdean-ne, mo leabhar-sa, mo sheacaid ùr-sa*

However, adjectival forms of *seo, sin* and *siud* should be written as separate words:

- ◆ *an rud seo / an rud sa, an rud sin, an rud ud*

**D** The following adverbial expressions of time and place, which constitute units, should be hyphenated:

- ◆ *an-dè, an-diugh, an-dràsta, a-nis, a-ris, a-rithist*
- ◆ *a-bhàn, a-bhos, an-àird, a-nall, a-nìos, a-nuas, a-null*
- ◆ *a-chaidh, a-cheana, am-feast, a-mhàin, a-riamh*
- ◆ *a-mach, a-muigh, a-staigh, a-steach*
- ◆ *a-màireach, am-bliadhna, an-earar, an-uiridh, a-raoir*

**E** In the following common adverbial expressions, meaning ‘next year’, ‘tomorrow night’ and ‘next week’, hyphens should be used:

- ◆ *an-ath-bhliadhn(a), an-ath-oidhch, an-ath-sheachdain*

However, when they are nouns used in the sense of ‘the following’ or ‘the next’ they should be written as separate words, eg:

- ◆ *Bha an ath bhliadhna na b' fheàrr*  
(The following/the next year was better)
- ◆ *Bhiodh an ath oidhche glè eadar-dhealaichte*  
(The following/the next night would be very different)
- ◆ *Thòisich an ath sheachdain le gaoth is uisge*  
(The following/the next week began with wind and rain)

**F** Compound prepositions with stress on non-initial elements should be written as two words:

- ◆ *a chum, am broinn, à measg, am measg, a rèir, a thaobh, os cionn, ri taobh*

**G** *airson, carson* and *ciamar* should be written as one word, but *son/shon* in expressions such as *air a son fhèin* and *air mo shon fhèin* should be written as separate words.

**H** Words ending in the element **-eigin** should generally be written as one word, even where the spelling rule is broken:

- ◆ *air choreigin, cuideigin, feareigin, latheigin, neacheigin, rudeigin, uaireigin*

The word *tè-eigin* should, however, be hyphenated to avoid the juxtaposition of **ee**.

## 6 Apostrophes and spacing

**A** Apostrophes are used for the following:

- ◆ forms of the article before a noun, eg *a' ghealach*
- ◆ verbal nouns beginning with a consonant, eg *a' falbh*
- ◆ shortened version of *is*, eg *'s ann*, *'s dòcha*, *'s e*, *'s math*
- ◆ shortened version of *bu*, eg *b' ann*, *b' e*, *b' fheàrr*
- ◆ shortened version of *is/agus*, eg *cho luath 's a tha e*, *math 's gu bheil e*
- ◆ shortened version of possessive pronouns, eg *d' fhàinne*, *m' amhach*
- ◆ after the past tense marker *dh'*, eg *dh'fhalbh*, *dh'ith*
- ◆ when the preposition *do* becomes *a dh'* before vowels, eg *a dh'iarraidh*, *a dh'Uibhist*

**B** The apostrophe should not be used in the following:

- ◆ *gum faigh*, *gun creideadh*, *gur ann*
- ◆ *làrna-mhàireach*, *nuair*

**C** The apostrophe should not be used in possessive phrases, eg:

- ◆ *nam thaigh*; *na mo thaigh*
- ◆ *nad thaigh*; *na do thaigh*
- ◆ *na thaigh*
- ◆ *na taigh*; *na h-àite*
- ◆ *nar taigh*; *na ar taigh*
- ◆ *nur taigh*; *na ur taigh*
- ◆ *nan taighean*; *nam brògan*

**D** The apostrophe should not be used with forms such as *ga*, eg:

- ◆ *gam thuigsinn*; *ga mo thuigsinn*
- ◆ *gad chreidsinn*; *ga do chreidsinn*
- ◆ *ga chluinntinn*
- ◆ *ga h-aithneachadh*
- ◆ *gar togail*, *ga ar togail*
- ◆ *gur leantainn*, *ga ur leantainn*
- ◆ *gan coinneachadh*
- ◆ *gam faicinn*

**E** It should be noted that the forms *a'*, *b'*, *d'* and *m'* are always followed by a space. There should not, however, be a space after *dh'*.

Where *an* or *am* are shortened to *'n* and *'m*, and are preceded by a noun or a pronoun, they should be written as separate words, with a space left, eg:

- ◆ *a bheil thu 'm beachd?*, *bha an duine 'n dùil*, *tha mi 'n dòchas*

A space should always follow *'s*, and it should never be joined to the following word, eg:

- ◆ *'s ann à Nis a tha mi*
- ◆ *'s e sin as fheàrr*, *'s mise a th' ann*, *'s dòcha gun tig iad*
- ◆ *mi fhìn 's tu fhèin*, *cho luath 's a chì mi*

## 7 Sound adaptation and loan words

**A** Words or sounds integrated into Gaelic should be written as follows:

- ◆ Initial **CH** may be represented by **se** or **te**:  
*seòclaid* (chocolate), *teans(a)/seansa* (chance)
- ◆ Initial **J** may be represented by **i**: *Iapan* (Japan), *Iupatar* (Jupiter)
- ◆ Initial **K** may be represented by **c**:  
*cileagram/cg* (kilogram/kg), *cilemeatair/km* (kilometre/km) (*km* is used to avoid confusion with *cm*)
- ◆ Initial **Q** may be represented by **cu**:  
*cuaraidh* (quarry), *cuota* (quota)
- ◆ Initial **V** may be represented by **bh**:  
*bhana* (van), *Bhictòria* (Victoria)
- ◆ Initial **W** may be represented by **u(a)** or **u(e)**:  
*uàlras* (walrus), *uèir* (wire)
- ◆ Initial **WH** may be represented by **cu** or **chu**:  
*chuip* (whipped), *cuibheall* (wheel), *cuip* (whip)
- ◆ Initial **X** may be represented by **s**:  
*saidhleafòn* (xylophone); **X** in the middle of a word may be represented by **gs**: *bogsa* (box), *tagsaidh* (taxi)
- ◆ Initial **Y** may be represented by **gh** or **i**:  
*gheat* (yacht), *iogart* (yoghurt), *Iorc* (York)
- ◆ Initial **Z** may be represented by **s**:  
*sinc* (sink/zinc), *sù/sutha* (zoo)

**B** The following words are adapted in this way:

The combination of letters **oi** represents a variation of sounds in English loan words, as in *coiridh* (curry) and *soircas* (circus), although the word *bus* should remain an exception because it is familiar in that form.

Diphthongs in adapted words should be represented by *-dh*, not *-gh*, eg:

- ◆ *baidhsagal* (bicycle), *loidhne* (line), *soidhne* (sign), *stoidhle* (style)

Final **-ee** and **-y** should be represented by *-(a)idh*, eg:

- ◆ *cofaidh* (coffee), *comadaidh* (comedy), *comataidh* (committee), *poileasaidh* (policy), *tofaidh* (toffee)

## 8 Verbs

**A** The following forms should be used for the verb ‘to be’, with stress determining the choice of alternative form where a comma is used. An oblique is used to indicate dialectal alternatives.

|                      |  |   |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Past Tense forms     | <i>an robh?</i><br><i>gun robh</i><br><i>nach robh</i>   | (was/were?)<br>(that ... was/were)<br>(that ... was/were not)   |
| Past Participle form | <i>bhite/bhithist(e)</i>   | (used to be)  |
| Conditional form     | <i>bhiodh, bhithheadh</i><br><i>cha bhiodh, cha bhithheadh</i>   | (would be)<br>(would not be)  |
| Future Tense forms   | <i>bidh, bithidh</i><br><i>cha bhi</i><br><i>am bi?</i><br><i>... gum bi</i><br><i>... nach bi</i><br><i>a bhith</i> | (will be)<br>(will not be)<br>(will ... be?)<br>(that ... will be)<br>(that ... will not be)<br>(to be) |

**B** The following forms should be used for irregular verbs, with stress determining the choice of alternative form:

| Root              | Verbal Noun            | Past Positive            | Past Negative                  |
|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>abair</i>      | <i>ag ràdh/a' ràdh</i> | <i>thuirt, thubhairt</i> | <i>cha tuirt, cha tubhairt</i> |
| <i>beir (air)</i> | <i>a' breith</i>       | <i>rug</i>               | <i>cha do rug</i>              |
| <i>cluinn</i>     | <i>a' chuinntinn</i>   | <i>chuala</i>            | <i>cha chuala</i>              |
| <i>dèan</i>       | <i>a' dèanamh</i>      | <i>rinn</i>              | <i>cha do rinn</i>             |
| <i>faic</i>       | <i>a' faicinn</i>      | <i>chunnaic</i>          | <i>chan fhaca</i>              |
| <i>faigh</i>      | <i>a' faighinn</i>     | <i>fhuaire</i>           | <i>cha d' fhuaire</i>          |
| <i>rach</i>       | <i>a' dol</i>          | <i>chaidh</i>            | <i>cha deach</i>               |
| <i>ruig</i>       | <i>a' ruighinn</i>     | <i>ràinig</i>            | <i>cha do ràinig</i>           |
| <i>thig</i>       | <i>a' tighinn</i>      | <i>thàinig</i>           | <i>cha tàinig</i>              |
| <i>thoir</i>      | <i>a' toirt</i>        | <i>thug</i>              | <i>cha tug</i>                 |

The monosyllabic forms (eg *bidh, thuirt*) should be the norm, with the forms with two syllables (eg *bithidh, thubhairt*) being used only to show emphasis. Variants such as *a' ruigsinn, cha deachaidh, cha d' ràinig, chunna* are also acceptable.

**C** Forms of the verb *cuir* (put) should be written as follows:

| Root        | Verbal Noun   | Past Positive | Past Negative       | Infinitive    |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| <i>cuir</i> | <i>a' cur</i> | <i>chuir</i>  | <i>cha do chuir</i> | <i>a chur</i> |

## 9 Prepositional phrases

A Prepositional phrases may consist of preposition + article + noun, eg *bho + an + baile*, which yields *bhon bhaile* (from the town). The form *bhon a' bhaile* is also acceptable. The same principle is shown below with other prepositions.

|                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>fo + an</i>  | <i>fon taigh, fon an taigh</i>     |
| <i>mu + an</i>  | <i>mun bhòrd, mun a' bhòrd</i>     |
| <i>ro + an</i>  | <i>ron Nollaig, ron an Nollaig</i> |
| <i>tro + an</i> | <i>tron bhaile, tron a' bhaile</i> |

In the case of *leis* and *ris*, a different pattern is found, as they do not combine with the article to form a new word and they can be followed by two different forms of the article:

|                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>leis + an</i> | <i>leis an duine, leis a' bhaile</i> |
| <i>ris + an</i>  | <i>ris an duine, ris a' bhaile</i>   |

A similar pattern is found with *anns*, but additional contractions are also found.

|                  |                                      |                             |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>anns + an</i> | <i>anns an duine, anns a' bhaile</i> | <i>san duine, sa bhaile</i> |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

The prepositions *do* and *de* are replaced in many areas with *dha* and *dha/dhe*, resulting in a greater variety of forms than in the case of those above. When followed by the article they are also sometimes written as in the fourth column below.

|                |                                  |                 |                                    |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>do + an</i> | <i>don bhaile, don a' bhaile</i> | <i>dha + an</i> | <i>dhan bhaile, dhan a' bhaile</i> |
| <i>de + an</i> | <i>den bhaile, den a' bhaile</i> | <i>dhe + an</i> | <i>dhen bhaile, dhen a' bhaile</i> |

In the case of *do + an*, *dan bhaile* may also be found.





**B** Other prepositional phrases may consist of preposition + possessive + noun, eg *do + mo + taigh* which yields *dom thaigh* (to my house). The form *dham thaigh* is also acceptable. The following combined forms can be used, although the separate versions are also acceptable:

| Preposition   | Pronoun         | Prepositional Pronoun   |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <i>do/dha</i> | <i>mo</i>       | <i>dom/dham</i>         |
|               | <i>do</i>       | <i>dod/dhad</i>         |
|               | <i>a (masc)</i> | <i>da/dha thaigh</i>    |
|               | <i>a (fem)</i>  | <i>da/dha taigh</i>     |
|               | <i>ar</i>       | <i>dor/dar/dhar</i>     |
|               | <i>ur</i>       | <i>dur/dhur</i>         |
|               | <i>am</i>       | <i>dom/dam/dham</i>     |
|               | <i>an</i>       | <i>don/dan/dhan</i>     |
| <i>bho/o</i>  | <i>mo</i>       | <i>bhom/om</i>          |
|               | <i>do</i>       | <i>bhod/od</i>          |
|               | <i>a (masc)</i> | <i>bho/o (a thaigh)</i> |
|               | <i>a (fem)</i>  | <i>bho/o (a taigh)</i>  |
|               | <i>ar</i>       | <i>bhor/or</i>          |
|               | <i>ur</i>       | <i>bhur</i>             |
|               | <i>an</i>       | <i>bhon/on</i>          |
|               | <i>am</i>       | <i>bhom/om</i>          |

**C** Other simple prepositional phrases follow this pattern:

| Preposition       | <i>mi</i>           | <i>thu</i>          | <i>e/i</i>                | <i>sinn</i>         | <i>sibh</i>         | <i>iad</i>                   |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| <b><i>de</i></b>  | <i>dem<br/>dhem</i> | <i>ded<br/>dhed</i> | <i>de (a)<br/>dhe (a)</i> | <i>der<br/>dher</i> | <i>dur<br/>dhur</i> | <i>den/dem<br/>dhen/dhem</i> |
| <b><i>fo</i></b>  | <i>fom</i>          | <i>fod</i>          | <i>fo (a)</i>             | <i>for</i>          | <i>fur</i>          | <i>fon/fom</i>               |
| <b><i>gu</i></b>  | <i>gum</i>          | <i>gud</i>          | <i>gu (a)</i>             | <i>gar</i>          | <i>gur</i>          | <i>gun/gum</i>               |
| <b><i>le</i></b>  | <i>lem</i>          | <i>led</i>          | <i>le (a)</i>             | <i>ler</i>          | <i>lur</i>          | <i>len/lem</i>               |
| <b><i>ri</i></b>  | <i>rim</i>          | <i>rid</i>          | <i>ri (a)</i>             | <i>rir</i>          | <i>rur</i>          | <i>rin/rim</i>               |
| <b><i>ro</i></b>  | <i>rom</i>          | <i>rod</i>          | <i>ro (a)</i>             | <i>ror</i>          | <i>rur</i>          | <i>ron/rom</i>               |
| <b><i>tro</i></b> | <i>trom</i>         | <i>trod</i>         | <i>tro (a)</i>            | <i>tror</i>         | <i>trur</i>         | <i>tron/trom</i>             |

**D** However, it is also acceptable to use the full forms:

*bho do mhàthair*                      *gu do sheanair*  
*le bhur cead*                              *ro ur bracaist*

In the first and second plurals the forms would be:

*bho ar* and *bho ur*                      *le ar* and *le ur*  
*de/dhe ar* and *de/dhe ur*              *ri ar* and *ri ur*  
*do/dha ar* and *do/dha ur*              *ro ar* and *ro ur*  
*fo ar* and *fo ur*                              *tro ar* and *tro ur*  
*gu ar* and *gu ur*

**E** In many areas *dha* has replaced *do* as the normal preposition before the article, although *do* is retained when there is no article, eg:

- ♦ *dhan taigh, dhan a' bhùth, taing dhan Fhreastal*, but
- ♦ *do thaigh mòr, do bhùth an arain, taing do Dhia*

However, in some areas *dha* is used even when there is no article, especially with proper names. In these cases, the word following should never be lenited, eg:

- ♦ *dha seirbheis an Rìgh, dha Màiri, dha Seumas*

## 10 Hyphenation

### A Nouns

It is acknowledged that the spelling of words made up of more than one noun joined together presents difficulties, and the following guidelines are intended to assist. Compounds are generally hyphenated if they constitute a unit — for example, if any accompanying adjective would normally come before or after the paired words rather than between them, eg:

- ♦ *an t-eadar-lìon, brath-naidheachd, cùis-lagha, in-sheirbheis, làrach-lìn, leabhar-latha, post-dealain, ro-ràdh*

The words *àite, ball, bàta, ceann, clàr, còir, cùirt, culaidh, inneal, ionad, obair, rùm, seòmar, taigh* and *uidheam* should always be followed by a hyphen when preceding another noun which is in the genitive case, eg:

- ♦ *àite-fuirich, ball-maise, bàta-siùil, ceann-suidhe, clàr-gnothaich, còir-breith, cùirt-lagha, culaidh-thruais, inneal-nigheadaireachd, ionad-obrach, obair-làimhe, rùm-cadail, seòmar-ionnlaid, taigh-bidh, uidheam-spòrs*

The following words denoting persons or groups — *bean, buidheann, fear, luchd, neach, sgioba tè* — should be hyphenated when followed by a common noun, eg:

- ♦ *bean-taighe, buidheann-obrach, fear-siubhail, luchd-eòlais, neach-gairm(e), sgioba-glanaidh, tè-labhairt*

Similarly with the prefix *ban(a)* when the stress is on the second syllable, eg:

- ♦ *bana-phrionnsa, ban-Eadailteach, ban-s(h)einneadair*

When the stress is on the first syllable, there should be no hyphen, eg:

- ♦ *banabaidh, banacharaid, banacheard, banaltram*

Being a prefix, unlike *bean*, *ban* is never followed by the genitive case. The spelling *baintighearna* ('noblewoman/lady') should also be noted.



A similar pattern of hyphenation occurs when one noun is used (like an adjective) to prefix another noun not in the genitive case, with lenition occurring where possible, eg:

- ♦ *bròn-chluich, bun-sgoil, ceann-latha, sluagh-ghairm, speur-bhean*

It should also be noted that when the second noun (whether feminine or masculine) is not lenited in the nominative, it may still be lenited in an oblique case following a preposition and the article, eg *anns an eachdraidh-bheatha, san taigh-sheinnshe*.

Words that should not be followed by a hyphen include *aithisg, comhairle, greis, iomairt, oifigeach, oifigear, òrdugh, plana, roinn*, eg:

- ♦ *aithisg comhairleachaidh, comhairle baile, iomairt coimhearsnachd, oifigeach/oifigear leasachaidh, òrdugh cùirte, plana gnìomh, roinn dealbhachaidh*

There should be no hyphen when nouns are separated by the article or when the second or following noun is a proper noun, eg:

- ♦ *Ball Pàrlamaid, bàta Mhalaig, bean Thormoid, Cùirt an t-Seisein, fear an taighe, obair na h-ola, rùm na cloinne, sgioba rugbaidh na h-Alba, taigh Dhonnchaidh*

It is not possible to give a definitive ruling on whether a noun following a feminine noun (whether or not there is hyphenation) should be lenited, as there are many examples of when such a noun is lenited and many examples of when it is not, eg *bean-ghlùine* and *deise chlà* but *eachdraidh-beatha*.

A number of examples of recommended usage are given in the Word List.

## B Adjectives

A prefix or an adjective preceding a noun should always be hyphenated, eg

- ♦ *àrd-easbaig, ath-innse, beag-seagh, cruaidh-chàs, dubh-fhacal, iar-cheann-suidhe, leas-stiùiriche, liath-reothadh, mòr-roinn, trom-laighe*

The exceptions are adjectives that precede the noun: *droch, fìor, ioma/iomadh, prìomh, seann*, eg:

- ♦ *droch shùil, fìor dhuine, iomadh oidhche, Prìomh Mhinistear, seann sgeulachd*

An adjective preceding another adjective should always be hyphenated, eg:

- ♦ *fad-fhulangach, ioma-dhathach, iomadh-fhillte, làn-eòlach, uile-chumhachdach*

More examples of all the usages listed above are given in the Word List.

## C Adverbs

Guidance on adverbial phrases is given in Section 5 (D).

It should be noted that *an seo, an sin* and *an siud* should be spelt without the hyphen.

## D Use of fèin and fhèin

The prefix *fèin* is always followed by a hyphen, eg:

- ♦ *fèin-eòlas, fèin-mhothachail, fèin-mheas*

However, *fhèin* (and the alternative first person form *fhìn*) should always follow the word it qualifies and never be hyphenated, eg:

- ♦ *an duine fhèin, Seumas fhèin, mi fhìn, iad fhèin*

## 11 Other orthographic issues

### A Numbers

There are two counting systems in use in Gaelic — one based on twenties, the other (more recently introduced) on tens. Examples of the two systems are given below:

| No.           | Traditional (Twenties)   | Alternative (Tens)              |
|---------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 11            | <i>aon-deug</i>  | —                               |
| 19            | <i>naoi-deug</i>   | —                               |
| 27            | <i>seachd air fhichead</i>   | <i>fichead 's a seachd</i>      |
| 29            | <i>naoi air fhichead</i>   | <i>fichead 's a naoi</i>        |
| 30            | <i>deich air fhichead</i>  | <i>trithead</i>                 |
| 32            | <i>dhà-dheug air fhichead</i>  | <i>trithead 's a dhà</i>        |
| 40            | <i>dà fhichead</i>   | <i>ceathrad</i>                 |
| 46            | <i>dà fhichead 's a sia</i>  | <i>ceathrad 's a sia</i>        |
| 50            | <i>leth-cheud</i>  | <i>caogad</i>                   |
| 60            | <i>trì fichead</i>   | <i>seasgad</i>                  |
| 70            | <i>trì fichead 's a deich</i>  | <i>seachdad</i>                 |
| 80            | <i>ceithir fichead</i>   | <i>ochdad</i>                   |
| 90            | <i>ceithir fichead 's a deich</i>                                      | <i>naochad</i>                  |
| 135           | <i>sia fichead 's a coig deug<br/>ceud 's a còig-deug air fhichead</i> | <i>ceud, trithead 's a còig</i> |
| 50,000        | <i>leth-cheud mìle</i>   | <i>caogad mìle</i>              |
| 1,000,000     | <i>millean</i>   | —                               |
| 1,000,000,000 | <i>billean</i>   | —                               |

Numbers are combined with nouns thus:

*seachd bliadhna deug/sia neach air fhichead/  
fichead neach 's a sia/fichead 's a sia neach/  
còig sgillinn deug air fhichead/trithead sgillinn  
's a còig/trithead 's a còig sgillinn*

Whether the numbers 6, 7, 8 and 11 are preceded by 't-' depends on the gender of the word, eg:

*an seachdamh bogsa (masculine), but  
an t-seachdamh bròg (feminine)*

Numbers should be sequenced thus:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| <i>a' chiad</i>                          | <i>(1d)</i>     |
| <i>an dàrna/an dara</i>                  | <i>(2na/ra)</i> |
| <i>an treas/an treasamh/an trìtheamh</i> | <i>(3mh)</i>    |
| <i>an ceathramh</i>                      | <i>(4mh)</i>    |
| <i>an còigeamh</i>                       | <i>(5mh)</i>    |
| <i>an siathamh</i>                       | <i>(6mh)</i>    |
| <i>an seachdamh</i>                      | <i>(7mh)</i>    |
| <i>an t-ochdamh</i>                      | <i>(8mh)</i>    |
| <i>an naoidheamh</i>                     | <i>(9mh)</i>    |
| <i>an deicheamh</i>                      | <i>(10mh)</i>   |



## B Months of the year

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Am Faoilleach</i> | <i>An t-Iuchar</i>  |
| <i>An Gearran</i>    | <i>An Lùnastal</i>  |
| <i>Am Màrt</i>       | <i>An t-Sultain</i> |
| <i>An Giblean</i>    | <i>An Dàmhair</i>   |
| <i>An Cèitean</i>    | <i>An t-Samhain</i> |
| <i>An t-Ògmhios</i>  | <i>An Dùbhlachd</i> |

## C Dates

Dates may be written in full or using numbers, thus:

- ◆ *An seachdamh latha deug dhen Fhaoilleach*
- ◆ *An ceathramh latha fichead/air fhichead dhen Ghearran*
- ◆ *An 23mh den Mhàrt*
- ◆ *23mh (An) Giblean*
- ◆ *26 (An) Cèitean*

## D Days

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Diluain</i>   | <i>Dihaoine</i>           |
| <i>Dimàirt</i>   | <i>Disathairne</i>        |
| <i>Diciadain</i> | <i>Didòmhnaich or</i>     |
| <i>Diardaoin</i> | <i>Latha/Là na Sàbaid</i> |

Periods of the day are indicated as follows:

- ◆ *madainn Diluain*
- ◆ *feasgar Dimàirt*
- ◆ *feasgar na Sàbaid*

The names of the nights of the week should be written:

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Oidhche Luain</i>    | <i>Oidhche Haoine</i>      |
| <i>Oidhche Mhàirt</i>   | <i>Oidhche Shathairne</i>  |
| <i>Oidhche Chiadain</i> | <i>Oidhche Dhòmhnaich/</i> |
| <i>Oidhche Ardaoin</i>  | <i>Oidhche na Sàbaid</i>   |

## E Surnames

Surnames including *Mac* and *Nic* should be written as one word, but with a capital letter on the second element:

- ◆ *MacAilein, MacCoinnich/MacChoinnich, MacDhòmhnaill, NicLeòid, NicThòmais*

Exceptions are surnames which include the definite article:

- ◆ *Mac a' Ghobhainn, Mac an Aba, Nic a' Phearsain*

## F Place names

The spelling of place names consisting of two or more elements should reflect the distinctive elements:

- ◆ *Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain, Dùn Èideann, Inbhir Nis, Obar Dheathain*

Where an element has become obscure, a hyphen should be inserted:

- ◆ *Earra-Ghàidheal*

The final element in names derived from Norse *-ey* 'island' should be spelt *-aigh* or *-eigh*:

- ◆ *Barraigh, Beàrnaraigh, Èirisgeigh, Pabaigh, Sgalpaigh, Tarasaigh*

## G Titles

### Women

It is recommended that ‘Miss’, ‘Ms’ and ‘Mrs’ be rendered as *A’ Bh-Uas* (a contraction of *A’ Bhean-Uasal*). This would yield:

- ♦ *A’ Bh-Uas (Màiri) Chaimbeul, A’ Bh-Uas (Sine) Mhoireach, A’ Bh-Uas (Anna) NicDhòmhnaill*

The article would not be written with a capital letter except in an address, and after a preposition the name would appear as follows:

- ♦ *aig a’ Bh-Uas (Màiri) Chaimbeul, aig a’ Bh-Uas (Sine) Mhoireach, aig a’ Bh-Uas (Anna) NicDhòmhnaill*
- ♦ *dhan Bh-Uas Chaimbeul, dhan Bh-Uas Mhoireach, dhan Bh-Uas NicDhòmhnaill*

A dative might be marked both in the title and in the name, eg *aig a’ Mhnaoi-Uasail Chaimbeil/Mhoirich/NicDhòmhnaill*, but this would probably be unnecessarily formal.

However, a genitive should be marked, which would be *na M-Uas* (a contraction of *na Mnà-Uasail/Uaisle*):

- ♦ *nighean na M-Uas C(h)aimbeil, nighean na M-Uas M(h)oirich, nighean na M-Uas NicDhòmhnaill*

The unlenited form is strictly correct, but in practice lenited forms such as *nighean na M-Uas Chaimbeil* and *nighean na M-Uas Mhoirich* are more likely to be found.

The form when addressing someone would be:

- ♦ *A Bh-Uas Chaimbeul, A Bh-Uas Mhoireach, A Bh-Uas NicDhòmhnaill*

Where it is desired to make clear that a woman is married, the form *A’ Bh-ph* (a contraction of *A’ Bhean-phòsta*) is used in the same way as *A’ Bh-Uas* above. The genitive would be *na M-p* (a contraction of *na Mnà-pòsta*).

- ♦ *A’ Bh-ph Chaimbeul, A’ Bh-ph Mhoireach, A’ Bh-ph NicDhòmhnaill*
- ♦ *aig a’ Bh-ph Chaimbeul, aig a’ Bh-ph Mhoireach, aig a’ Bh-ph NicDhòmhnaill*
- ♦ *dhan Bh-ph Chaimbeul, dhan Bh-ph Mhoireach, dhan Bh-ph NicDhòmhnaill*
- ♦ *nighean na M-p C(h)aimbeil, nighean na M-p M(h)oirich, nighean na M-p NicDhòmhnaill*

The formulation below may also be used:

- ♦ *Màiri, Bean Chaimbeil* Mrs Mary Campbell
- ♦ *Sine, Bean Mhoirich* Mrs Jean Murray
- ♦ *Anna, Bean MhicDhòmhnaill* Mrs Anne MacDonald



## Men

It is recommended that ‘Mr’ be rendered as *Mgr* (a contraction of *Maighstir*). The genitive would be *Mhgr* (a contraction of *Mhaighstir*). This would yield the following:

- ♦ *Mgr Caimbeul, Mgr MacDhòmhnail, Mgr Moireach*
- ♦ *aig Mgr Caimbeul, aig Mgr Moireach, aig Mgr MacDhòmhnail*
- ♦ *do Mhgr Caimbeul, do Mhgr Moireach, do Mhgr MacDhòmhnail*
- ♦ *mac Mhgr MhicDhòmhnail, mac Mhgr Chaimbeil, mac Mhgr Mhoirich*

The form used when addressing someone would be:

- ♦ *A Mhgr Chaimbeil, A Mhgr Mhoirich, A Mhgr MhicDhòmhnail*

### Other forms of address

Another format is exemplified in *Màiri Chaimbeul, Uas* (a contraction of *Uasal*); *Sìne Mhoireach, Uas*; *Anna NicDhòmhnail, Uas*; *Seumas Caimbeul, Uas*; *Alasdair Moireach, Uas*; *Cailean MacDhòmhnail, Uas*. When any of the names are inflected in the normal way, the *Uas* is unaffected.

## H Acronyms

Gaelic acronyms, including some which are translations, should be written as follows, eg:

- ♦ *BP (Ball Pàrlamaid), BPA (Ball Pàrlamaid na h-Alba), BPE (Ball Pàrlamaid na h-Eòrpa), CnaG (Comunn na Gàidhlig), CNES (Comhairle nan Eilean Siar), CNSA (Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Àraich), OGE (Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean), SMO (Sabhal Mòr Òstaig)*

However, non-Gaelic acronyms are often left in their original form even though the full title may be used in Gaelic, eg:

- ♦ *BBC, NATO, SNH, SQA, UN, VAT*

Acronyms are subject to normal inflection patterns, eg:

- ♦ *aig a' BhBC, leis a' BhPA, oifis ChnaG*

## I Abbreviations

When abbreviations appear in Gaelic form, they are written as follows:

- ♦ *àir. (no.), An t-Oll. (Prof), An t-Urr (Rev), cg (kg), dd (pp), Dr (Doctor; medical and academic), km (km), me (eg), Mgr (Fr), msaa (etc), tdd (pages)*

## 12 Word list

The following word list gives examples of how words should be spelt in accordance with principles and recommendations set out in the document. The list cannot take full account of all the variants which occur in speech. People pronounce certain words in different ways and this diversity is acknowledged, but it was not practicable to include all forms in this list.

### Key

*adj* = adjective; *gen* = genitive; *n* = noun; *pl* = plural; *v* = verb; *vn* = verbal noun;  
*f* = feminine; *m* = masculine

Brackets: a letter or letters in brackets may be omitted

Comma: an alternative depending on context, eg emphasis

Oblique (/): an alternative form or forms. Where the alternatives appear twice in reverse order they are equally acceptable. Where the alternatives appear once, the first form is the recommended one.

### A

à *from, out of*

abair

a-bhàn

a bharrachd *in addition; either*

a bheil

a bhith *to be* (not ‘a bhi’)

a’ bhòn-dè

a’ bhòn-raoir

a’ bhòn-uiridh

a-bhos

acair(e)

acfhainn

a-chaoidh

a-cheana

a’ chiad *the first*

a-chianaibh

a chionn ’s/a chionn

a chum

a chur *to put* (not ‘a chuir’)

a’ cluich(e)

a’ cluinntinn

a’ cur *putting*

a’ dannsa(dh)

a’ dèanamh

a dh’aindeoin

a dh’aon(a) ghnotha(i)ch

adhar *sky*

adharc

adhart

adhbhar

adhbrann

a dh’iarraidh

a dh’ionnsaigh

adhacadh

adhradh

a dh’Uibhist

agam (a’m for short)

agh *heifer*

àgh *joy, bliss*

A’ Ghearmailt

a-ghnàth

ag ràdh/a’ ràdh

agus

a h-uile h-oidhche

àibheiseach

aifreann

aig a’ BhBC

aigne

ailbhean

àilgheasach

aillse

aindeonach *reluctant*

ain-diadhaidh

aineolach

ainmeil

ainmig

ainneamh

air a shon fhèin

air a son fhein

air choreigin

Àird Àsaig

àird *headland; point of compass*

àird(e) *height*

àireamh (àir. for short) *number*

airgead

airidh *worthy*

àirigh *sheiling*

àirleas/eàrlas

air-loidhne

air muin

àirneis

air neo

air seachran

airson (son for short)

airtneal

airtnealach

aiseag *n*

aiseal *axle*

aisig *v*

aiste *out of her/it*





àite-còmhnaidh  
 àite-falaich  
 àite-fuirich  
 àiteigin  
 aithghearr  
 aithisg  
 àlainn  
 Alba  
 a-mach  
 a-màireach  
 amar-snà(i)mh  
 am badeigin  
 am bi?  
 ... am bi ... (*dependent form*)  
 am-bliadhna *this year*  
 am broinn  
 à measg *from among*  
 am-feast *ever*  
 amha(i)ch  
 a-mhàin  
 àmhainn  
 amharas  
 a mheasg *in among*  
 àmhghair  
 am measg *among*  
 am Pàrtaidh Làbarach  
 am Pàrtaidh Libearalach  
   Deamocratach  
 am Pàrtaidh Nàiseanta  
 am Pàrtaidh Tòraidheach  
 a-muigh  
 an-abaich *unripe*  
 anabaich *premature; unready*  
 anabarrach  
 anacothrom  
 an-àird(e) *upwards*  
 an àird an ear  
 an àiteigin  
 a-nall  
 ana-miann  
 an-asgaidh  
 an ath bhliadhna  
   *the following year*

an ath-bhliadhna *next year*  
 an ath oidhche  
   *the following night*  
 an ath-oidhch *next night*  
 an ath sheachdain  
   *the following week*  
 an ath-sheachdain *next week*  
 an ceartuir  
 an co-bhoinn ri  
   *in association with*  
 an-còmhnaidh  
 an-dè  
 an dèidh/às dèidh  
 an-diugh  
 an do rinn?/na rinn?  
 an-dràsta  
 An Eadailt  
 an-earar  
 an eisimeil *dependent on*  
 anfha(i)nn  
 a-nìos  
 a-nis(e)  
 an làthair  
 anns a' bhaile/sa bhaile  
 anns an taigh/san taigh  
 an robh?  
 ... an robh ... (*dependent form*)  
 an rud sa  
 an rud seo  
 an rud sin  
 an rud ud  
 an seo  
 anshocair *unease; illness*  
 an sin  
 an siud  
 antaidh  
 an tugte  
 an tuirt, an tubhairt  
 an uair sin  
 a-nuas  
 an-uiridh  
 a-null  
 aocoltach

aodomhainn  
 aoidion *leak*  
 aoidionach *leaking*  
 aoigh *guest*  
 aoigheachd *hospitality*  
 aoigheil *genial*  
 aon-deug  
 aosta  
 aotrom  
 ar-a-mach  
 a-raoir  
 àrd-easbaig  
 àrd-ìre  
 àrd-ollamh  
 àrd-sgoil  
 àrd-sheanadh  
 àrd-ùrlar  
 a rèir  
 a-rèist  
 a-riamh  
 a-rithist/a-rìs  
 ars (before vowel)  
 arsa (before consonant)  
 a' ruighinn/a' ruigsinn  
 às *from, out of*  
 às bith  
 às dèidh/an dèidh  
 as fheàrr  
 às mo chadal  
 a-staigh  
 astar  
 a-steach  
 as t-earrach  
 as t-fhoghar  
 as t-samhradh  
 athair gen athar  
 a thaobh *regarding*  
 atharrais  
 ath-bheothachadh  
 ath-innse

**B**

bachall

bàidh *tenderness*

badhbh

Badhlach

baibheil *marvellous*

baidhc

baidhsagal

baidhsagalair

bàidse *badge*baidse *batch*bàigh *bays*

baile

bailiùn

baintighearna

bàirdse

balach

bàl *ball (dance)*ball/bàlla *ball*balla *wall*

ball-acfhainn

ball-basgaid

ball-bhòilidh

ball-coise

ball-dòbhrain

ball-maise

Ball Pàrlamaid (BP)

ball-seirce

bana-bhàrd

bana-bhuidseach

banacharaid

banacheard

bana-ghaisgeach

banaltram

ban-dia

ban-diùc

ban-iarla

b' ann

ban-ogha

banrigh

ban-rùnaire

bantrach

barail *opinion*baraill(e) *barrel*

barantas

barraid *terrace*

Barraigh

barrall *shoelace*barrfhad *top layer of peat*basgaid *basket*

bàta-bathair

bàt'-aiseig

batal *battle*

bàta-siùil

bàta-teasairginn

bàtha(i)ch

bathar

bàthte

bàt'-iasgaich

b' e

beag-chuid

beag-feum

beag-seagh

beag-tùr

beairt

beairteach

beairteas

beairtich *v equip*

bean-phòsta

bean-taighe

beàrn

Beàrnaraigh

bèicearachd

Beinn na Fadhla/  
Beinn a' Bhadhla

beòshlaint

beothail

beul

beulaibh

beul-aithris

b' fheàrr

bhan(a)

bhàsa *vase*

bhathar/bhathas/bhatar

bheat *vetinary surgeon*

Bhictòria

bhidio *video*

bhiodh, bhitheadh

bhìoras *virus*bhìosa *visa*bhìoto *veto*

bhite/bhithist(e)

bhithist(e)/bhite

bho *from*bhodca *vodka*

bhòidse

bholt(a) *volt*bholtaid *voltage*

bhòt

biathadh

bidh, bithidh

bilean *lips*billean *billion*

Bìoball

bith-beò *a living, livelihood*

bith-bhuan

bith-eòlas

biùro

biurocrasaidh

biurocratach

blaigeard

blasta *tasty*bleadraig *v blether; bother*bleoghain *v*

bò

bobhstair *bolster, mattress*boc *male goat; leap*bochd *poor; ill*

bodach

bodha *reef*

bodachail

bòdhradh

bòidhchead

boireannta *feminine*bogha *bow; bulge*bogha-frois(e) *rainbow*



bogsa  
 bogsa-ciùil  
 bogsadh  
 bogsaig  
 bogsair  
 bogsa-litrichean  
 boireann  
 bonaid  
 bòst  
 bòstadh  
 braidhm  
 bràiste  
 bràmair  
 brèagha  
 Breatannach  
 breug  
 brìoghmhor  
 briosgaid  
 bris(t)  
 bris(t)eadh  
 britheamh  
 broidse *brooch*  
 brosgal  
 brù-dhearg  
 bruich  
 buaghallan  
 bucaid  
 buidheann-obrach  
 buidsidh *budgerigar*  
 buinteanas/buntanas  
 bungalo  
 bun-os-cionn  
 bun-sgoil  
 buntàta  
 bus

## C

càball  
 cafaidh  
 caibideil  
 caidreabh  
 caileag

càilear  
 cailleach  
 caiptean  
 càirdineal  
 càirich *v mend vn càradh*  
 càit a bheil?  
 càit(e)  
 caithte *worn out, used up*  
 Caitligeach  
 caladh  
 calaraidh *calorie*  
 calltainn  
 cam  
 camara *pl camarathan*  
 cànan  
 Canèidianach  
 cangarù  
 caogad  
 caora *pl caoraich*  
 carabhaidh  
 caraich *v move vn carachadh*  
 carbad  
 cargu  
 carson  
 cartùn  
 cas-cheum  
 cas-chrom  
 catalog  
 cathadh *snowstorm*  
 ceàird *craft, trade*  
 ceala-deug/cola-deug  
 ceann-bliadhna *birthday*  
 ceann-latha *deadline*  
 Ceann Loch Chille Chiarain  
 ceann-suidhe  
 cearcall  
 ceàrd *travelling person*  
 ceàrn/ceàrnaidh  
 ceàrnag  
 ceàrnagach  
 ceart-cheàrnach  
 ceart-cheàrnag

ceathrad  
 ceileir *warble*  
 ceimig  
 ceimigeachd  
 ceimigear  
 Ceinia *Kenya*  
 ceirsle *ball of wool*  
 Cèitean (An)  
 ceòlmhor  
 ceud *a hundred*  
 ceudameatair (cm for short)  
 cha bhi  
 cha do ràinig/cha d' ràinig  
 chan eil  
 chan fhaca  
 chan fhuilear  
 cha tàinig  
 cha tuirt, cha tubhairt  
 cha tug  
 chì  
 chìte/chithist(e)  
 chluinnt(e)/chluinnist(e)  
 chuip *v whipped*  
 chun  
 chunnacas  
 chunnaic/chunna  
 ciad *first*  
 ciamar  
 cia mheud  
 cidhe *pier, quay*  
 cidsin  
 cile *kilo*  
 cileagram (cg for short)  
 cilemeatair (km for short)  
 cinnteach  
 cìobair  
 ciopair *kipper*  
 ciudha *queue*  
 ciutha *hair bun*  
 clach-mheallain  
*pl clachan-meallain*  
 clag

|                                    |                                    |                                      |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| claigeann                          | coilleag <i>cockle; sand-dune</i>  | conntraighe                          |
| clann-nighean                      | coimeas <i>comparison</i>          | consal <i>consul</i>                 |
| clàr-ama                           | coimhleanta <i>compos-mentis</i>   | co-ogha                              |
| clàr-gnothaich                     | coimisean                          | co-òrdanaich                         |
| clàr-innse                         | coimpiutair                        | copar                                |
| cleachdte                          | coingeis                           | còrnair                              |
| clìc                               | coinnlear                          | corpailear                           |
| clìceach                           | co-ionann                          | corporra                             |
| cliobach                           | co-ionannachd                      | cosg                                 |
| cliop <i>haircut</i>               | còir-breith                        | cosgais                              |
| clisgeadh                          | còir-bhòtaidh                      | costa <i>coast</i>                   |
| clò                                | Coiria <i>Korea</i>                | cothrom                              |
| cloc <i>clock</i>                  | coiridh <i>curry</i>               | cracte                               |
| cnàimh <i>bone</i>                 | coitheanal                         | crannchur                            |
| cnàimhneach <i>skeleton</i>        | co-là-breith                       | crannchur-gill <i>raffle</i>         |
| cnàmh <i>digest</i>                | co-labhairt                        | craiceann                            |
| cnap                               | cola-deug/ceala-deug               | crèadh                               |
| cnap-starra(dh)                    | colaiste                           | creideamh                            |
| <i>pl</i> cnapan-starra(idh)       | colann                             | criogaid <i>cricket</i>              |
| cnatan                             | colòiniach <i>colonial</i>         | crioplach                            |
| cneasta                            | coloinidh                          | Crìosd(a)                            |
| cnoc                               | coltach                            | Crìosdaidh                           |
| cnuimh                             | coltas                             | Crìosdail                            |
| co-aimsireil                       | coluadar                           | criostal <i>crystal</i>              |
| co-aontaich                        | comadaidh <i>comedy</i>            | cròg                                 |
| cò às a tha thu?                   | comaig <i>comic</i>                | crosta                               |
| co-bhanntachd                      | comann                             | crostachd                            |
| cochall                            | comas <i>ability</i>               | cruinne(cè) (an)                     |
| co-chomann                         | comataidh <i>committee</i>         | <i>world, universe</i>               |
| co-chòrdadh                        | combaist                           | Cruthaighear (An)/Cruthadair         |
| co-dhalta                          | comhaois <i>person of same age</i> | (An) <i>the Creator, God</i>         |
| co-dhiù                            | comharra                           | Cuaigear <i>Quaker</i>               |
| cofaidh                            | còmhdhail                          | cuango <i>quango</i>                 |
| cofhurtachd                        | còmhla                             | cuaraidh                             |
| cofhurtaich                        | còmhlan                            | cuartaich/cuairtich                  |
| cofhurtail                         | còmhnard                           | cùbaid/cùbainn                       |
| coibhneas                          | còmhradh                           | cucair <i>cooker</i>                 |
| coibhneil                          | còmhrag                            | cudrom/cuideam                       |
| coidse                             | còmhstri                           | cudromach                            |
| còig                               | còmh-thràth <i>twilight</i>        | cuibheall/cuibhle <i>n</i>           |
| coilean <i>fulfil</i>              | com-pàirt                          | cuibhil <i>v wheel vn</i> cuibhleadh |
| coileanta <i>complete, perfect</i> | com-pàirtich                       | cuibhle/cuibheall <i>n</i>           |



cuideachail  
 cuideigin  
 cuidhteas  
 cuingealachadh  
 cuinn(l)ean  
 cuip *n, v whip*  
 cuir *vn cur*  
 cùis-lagha  
 cùis-uabhais  
 cuithe *cattle fold; pit*  
 cuithe-sneachda *snowdrift*  
 cùlaibh  
 culaidh-ghràin  
 culaidh-mhagaidh  
 culaidh-thruais  
 cultar  
 cultarach  
 cum *shape*  
 cùm *keep*  
 cumadh  
 cumail  
 cumanta  
 cunntas  
 cunntair *counter (shop);  
 bank teller*  
 cuòram *quorum*  
 cuota *quota*  
 curraicealam  
 cuspair  
 cuspann

**D**  
 da *to him/it*  
 dà *two*  
 dachaigh  
 dad  
 dadaidh  
 dàibhear  
 dàibhig  
 daineamaig *n*  
 daineamaigeach *adj*  
 daineamait  
 daineamo

daingeann  
 daingneachadh  
 daingnich  
 daithead *diet*  
 dam *dam*  
 Dàmhair (An)  
 danns(a) *n*  
 daoimean  
 daor  
 dara/dàrna  
 dàrna/dara  
 dathte  
 deach/deachaidh  
 deadhan *dean*  
 deàlrach  
 deamhais  
 deamocrasaidh  
 deamocratach  
 dèanta/dèante  
 dèante/dèanta  
 dearbhte  
 deàrrsach  
 deasbad  
 deasg  
 dèidheil  
 deilignit *gelignite*  
 deireadh-seachdain  
 deit *date*  
 deotar *jotter*  
 deothail  
 deug  
 deugaire  
 dha *to him/it*  
 dhà *two*  
 dhachaigh  
 dhaibh(san)  
 dha-rìribh/da-rìribh  
 dhàsan  
 dh'fhalbh  
 dhi *to/for her/it*  
 dhibh(se) *of/off you pl*  
 dhinn(e) *of/off us*  
 dhìom(sa)

dhìot(sa)  
 dhith(se) *of/off her/it*  
 dhìse *to/for her/it*  
 dh'ith  
 dhiubh(san) *of/off them*  
 dh'òl  
 dhòmhsa  
 dhuibhse  
 dhuinn(e) *to/for us*  
 dhut(sa)  
 dian *intense*  
 Diardaoin  
 diathad  
 dìcheall  
 Diciadain  
 dìdean  
 Didòmhnaich  
 didseatach *digital*  
 digear  
 Dihaoine  
 dilleachdan  
 Diluain  
 Dimàirt  
 dìneasair  
 dinichean *jeans*  
 dinn *cram, stuff*  
 dinnear  
 dìochuimhnich  
 diofar  
 dìoghail/dìol *avenge; repay*  
 dìoghaltas  
 diombuan  
 dìomhair  
 dìon *defend*  
 dioplòmasach  
 dioplòmasaidh  
 dìoro *giro*  
 diosgo  
 Disathairne  
 dithis  
 diùraidh *jury*  
 dleastanas  
 doca *dock, hollow*

docair  
 doile/doileag/doilidh *doll*  
 doilgheas  
 dolair *dollar*  
 domhainn *deep*  
 domhan *world*  
 dòrainneach  
 doras  
 dosgainn  
 dotair (Dr for short)  
 do ur  
 drabasta  
 dràibhear  
 dram/drama *dram*  
 drama/dram *dram*  
 dràma *drama*  
 draoidh  
 drèana  
 dreasa  
 dreuchd  
 drioftair  
 drithleann *sparkle*  
 dr(i)ùchd  
 droga  
 drùdh  
 drudhag/drùdhag  
 drùdhag/drudhag  
 drùidhteach  
 dubh-fhacal *riddle, enigma*  
 dubh-ghorm  
 Dùbhlachd (An)  
 ducs *dux*  
 duineil  
 Dùn Èideann  
 dùthchasach

## E

*e he/it*  
 eacarsaich  
 eaconamach  
 eaconamachd  
 eaconamaidh

eaconamair  
 Eaconamas Dachaigh  
 eacstasaidh *ecstasy* (the drug)  
 eadar-àm  
 eadar-amail  
 Eadar-liòn  
 eadar-theangachadh  
 èadhar *air*  
 eadhon  
 èadhraig *v air*  
 eagal  
 eala  
 ealain (not ‘ealan’) *art*  
 ealla (as in ‘gabh ealla ri’)  
 ealtainn  
 eanraich  
 earball  
 èarlas/àirleas  
 Earra-Ghàidheal  
 eas-aonta *disagreement*  
 easaontas *transgression*  
 easbaig  
 easbhaidh  
 easbhaidheach  
 èasgaidh  
 easgann  
 èiginneach/èigeannach  
 èigh  
 èigheach(d)  
 èiginn  
 eileagtronaigeach  
 eileamaid  
 eilean  
 eilthireach  
 einnsean  
 einnseanair  
 einnseanaireachd  
 Èireannach  
 èirich *v rise vn* èirigh  
 èiridh *will rise*  
 Èirisgeigh  
 eisimeil

eisimeileach  
 eisimpleir  
 èist  
 èisteachd  
 Èitseal  
 esan  
 eucoir  
 eucorach  
 eud  
 eugmhais

## F

fa chomhair  
 fa chùis  
 facs *fax*  
 factaraidh  
 fàd  
 fa-dheòidh *finally*  
 faic  
 faiceall/faicill  
 faiceallach/faicilleach  
 faicist(e)/faicte  
 faicte/faicist(e)  
 faidhle *n file*  
 faidhl(ig) *v*  
 faigh  
 faighnich  
 faileas  
 faillich/fairtlich  
 fàillig/fàilnich *fail*  
 failmean *knee-cap*  
 fàinne  
 fàire  
 fàisgte  
 fallain  
 fallas  
 famhair/fuamhaire  
 fa-near  
 faobhar  
 faothachadh/faochadh  
 faochadh/faothachadh



faoileag  
 Faoilleach (Am)  
 far-ainm  
 faram  
 faramach  
 farchluais  
 farsaing  
 fa sgaoil  
 fastaidh  
 fastaidhear  
 fathann  
 feabhas  
 feadhainn  
 feallsanachd  
 fear  
 fearail  
 fear-ceàird  
 feareigin  
 fear-labhairt  
 fear-lagha  
 fear na cathrach  
 feart *virtue; heed*  
 feasgar Dimàirt  
 feasgar na Sàbaid  
 fèath  
 fèileadh *kilt*  
 fèist *feast, banquet*  
 feuch *try*  
 feur *grass*  
 feurach  
 feusag  
 feusgan  
 fhathast  
 fhuair  
 fhuaradh/fhuaras *was found*  
 fhuaras/fhuaradh *was found*  
 fiacail  
 fiach *worth*  
 fiar *squint*  
 fideiseach *fidgety*  
 fidheall  
 fighte

fillte  
 film  
 fìon  
 fìor *true*  
 fìreanachadh *justifying*  
 fireann  
 fireannach  
 fìr-eun *eagle*  
 fìrinn *truth*  
 fìrinneach *truthful*  
 fìtheach  
 fodha *under him/it*  
 fòdhpa  
 foghain *suffice*  
 foghlam  
 fòghnan *thistle*  
 fòidhpe  
 foighidinn  
 foighidneach  
 foillseachadh  
 foirfeach *church elder*  
 foirm *form*  
 follaiseach  
 fon chuthach  
 fosgladh *opening*  
 fraighig/praihig *fry*  
 Fraingis *French language*  
 Frangach *French person*  
 freastal  
 freumh  
 frids *fridge*  
 fuaigheil *v sew vn fuaigheal*  
 fuaigheal *n sewing*  
 fuaim  
 fuamhaire/famhair  
 fuasgladh *loosening, solving*  
 fuathasach *very, terribly*  
 fùdar/pùdar  
 fuidheall *remainder*  
 fuiling *v suffer vn fulang*  
 fulang(as) *n suffering*  
 furasta

furm *stool*

## G

Gàidheal  
 Gàidhealach  
 Gàidhealtachd  
 Gàidhlig  
 gailleann  
 gaileis *braces*  
 gaineamh  
 gainmheach  
 gàirnealaireachd  
 Gall  
 Gallta  
 gamhlas  
 gànraich  
 gaoisid  
 gaoth  
 gar *v warm oneself vn garadh*  
 gàrlach *nyaff*  
 gàrradh  
 gasta  
 gèadh  
 geal  
 geall  
 gearain *v complain vn gearan*  
 gearan *complaint*  
 gearastan  
 geàrd  
 Gearran (An)  
 gearran *gelding*  
 gearr-chunntas  
 geimhleag  
 geoimeatraidh *geometry*  
 ge-tà/ged-thà  
 geur  
 geurchaiseach  
 gheat *yacht*  
 ghriùlach (a')/ghriùrach (a')  
 ghriùrach (a')/ghriùlach (a')  
 Giblean (An)

gidheadh  
 Gilleasbaig  
 giorna-giùirne *helter-skelter*  
 giuthas  
 glacte  
 glaine *adj cleaner*  
 glainne *glass*  
 gleus  
 gleusta  
 gloidhc  
 gnìomhachas  
 gnù *surlly*  
 goil *boil*  
 goilf  
 goilfear  
 Goill  
 graf  
 gràin  
 gràineil  
 gràinich  
 gràinne *a single grain*  
 gràmar  
 Gramasdal  
 gramataigeach  
 gràn *grain*  
 grànda  
 greann  
 grèata *grate (fireplace)*  
 grèim  
 greusaiche  
 gu leòr  
 gun fhiosta  
 gun do rinn/gun rinn  
 gun robh

## H

haidhp *hype*  
 haidridean *hydrogen*  
 hama  
 hangar  
 heileacoptar  
 Hiort

hocaidh *hockey*  
 hòro-gheallaidh  
 hù-bhitheil *stramash*

## I

iac *yak*  
 Iapan  
 iarann  
 iar-cheumnaiche  
 iar-cheann-suidhe  
 iarraig  
 iar-ogha  
 iarrrtas  
 iathadh  
 idrisgeach *fidgety*  
 Ìle  
 imeachd  
 imlich  
 ìmpire  
 ìmpireachd  
 Inbhir Aora  
 Inbhir Nis  
 ìne *finger nail*  
 inneal-ciùil  
 inneal-fighe  
 inneal-measgachaidh  
 Innse Gall  
 inntinn  
 ìocshlaint  
 iòga *yoga*  
 iogart *yogurt*  
 ioma(dh)  
 ioma-dhathach  
 iomadh duine  
 iomadh-fhillte  
 ioma-ghaoth  
 iomchaidh  
 iom-fhillte  
 Ìomhar  
 iomnaidh  
 iomrall  
 ionad-fàilte

ionad-fiosrachaidh  
 ionad-slàinte  
 ionad-spòrs(a)  
 ionann  
 iongantach  
 iongantas  
 iongnadh  
 ionmhainn  
 ionnsaich  
 ionnsaichte  
 ionnsaigh  
 ionnsramaid  
 ionnsramaideach  
 Iorc *York*  
 iorghail  
 ìosal/ìseal  
 Israelach/Iosaraileach  
 iosgaid  
 iriosal  
 irioslachd  
 isbean  
 Iseabail  
 isle  
 is mathaid  
 is toigh le/is toil le  
 iubailidh *jubilee*  
 Iuchar (An t-)  
 Iùgoslàibhia  
 Iupatar

## L

Lacasdal  
 lachdann  
 lagchuisseach  
 laimrig  
 laiste  
 Latha/Là Luain  
 làmh-an-uachda(i)r  
 làmhchair  
 lampa  
 làrach-lìn  
 làraidh





làrna-mhàireach  
 lastaig  
 latha/là  
 Latha/Là na Sàbaid  
 latheigin  
 leabag/leòbag  
 leabaidh  
 leabhar-latha/leabhar-là  
 leabharlann  
 leaghte  
 leagte  
 leann  
 leasbach *lesbian*  
 leathann  
 leig mu sgaoil  
 lèine  
 leis-san  
 leiteachas *bias*  
 leòbag/leòbag  
 leònte  
 leòman *moth*  
 leòmhan *lion*  
 leòr  
 l(e)òsan *window pane*  
 lethbhreac  
 leth-bhreith  
 lethchar  
 lethcheann  
 leth-cheud  
 lethchiallach  
 leth-chuairt  
 letheach  
 lethoireach *isolated*  
 leth-uair  
 lì *surface film*  
 lide(adh)  
 lilidh  
 liodraig  
 lìomhte  
 liosta  
 lobhte  
 locair

Loch Baghasdail  
 logaidh  
 loibh(t) *rotten*  
 loidhne  
 loidseadh  
 loidsear  
 loidsig *logic*  
 loidsigeach *logical*  
 loiliopop  
 loisgte  
 lom  
 luathaireach *high-spirited,*  
*mischievous*  
 luaths  
 lùbach  
 lùbte  
 luchd  
 luchd-ciùil  
 luchd-ealain  
 luchd-obrach  
 luchdte  
 luchd-turais  
 Lùnastal (An)  
 Lunnainn  
 lùths

**M**

Mac a' Ghobhainn  
 MacAilein  
 MacAmhlaigh  
 Mac an Aba  
 Mac an t-Saoir  
 Mac-a-phi  
 MacCoinnich/MacChoinnich  
 MacIlleMhaoil  
 mac-meanmainn/mac-meanmna  
 mac-meanmna/mac-meanmainn  
 mac-samhail  
 mac-talla  
 madadh-allaidh  
 madainn  
 maicreasgop *microscope*

maids *v match vn maidseadh*  
 maids(e) *match, game*  
 maighdeann  
 maighstir  
 maighstir-sgoile  
 màileid  
 mairtfheòil  
 maith/math *forgive*  
 maitheanas/mathanas  
*forgiveness*  
 maitheas/mathas *goodness*  
 manaidsear  
 maoil *forehead*  
 mar-aon  
 mar-bhith *fault, blame*  
 mar eisimpleir (me for short)  
 margaid  
 màrsail  
 mar sin air adhart  
 (msaa for short)  
 Màrt (Am)  
 mar-thà/mu thràth  
 ma-thà/ma-tà  
 matamataig  
 matamataigeach  
 math/maith *forgive*  
 mathanas/maitheanas  
*forgiveness*  
 mathas/maitheas *goodness*  
 m' athair  
 math dh'fhaodte  
 math 's gu bheil e  
 meacanaig  
 meacanaigeach  
 meadhan  
 meadh-bhlàth  
 mean/mion *small*  
 mèaran/mèanan *yawn*  
 mèaranaich/mèanaich  
*yawning*  
 mèarsadh  
 meas

meata  
meatafor  
meidigeach  
meileabhaid *velvet*  
mèinneadair  
mèinnir  
mèinnireach  
mèirle  
meòrachadh  
meòrachail  
meòrachan  
meòraich  
meud  
meudaich  
meur  
meuran *thimble*  
meur-chlàr  
mial  
mia(tha)laich  
mial-chù  
mias *basin*  
miast(r)adh *havoc*  
mì-chàilear  
mì-chiatach  
mì-chliù  
mì-chofhurtail  
mì-fhallain  
mi fhèin/mi fhìn  
mi fhìn/mi fhèin  
mìlegram (mg for short)  
mìleliotair (ml for short)  
mìlemeatair (mm for short)  
mill *spoil; showers*  
millean  
milleanair *millionaire*  
mì-mhodh  
mì-mhodhail  
minig  
ministear  
mion/mean *small*  
mion-chànan  
mions *mince*

mìorbhail  
mìorbhaileach  
mì-phroifeiseanta  
mìos *month*  
mì-rùn  
miseanaraidh  
mocheirigh  
modail *model*  
modal *module*  
mòdam  
moileciuil  
Moire *the Virgin Mary*  
mo leabhar-sa  
monmhar  
mòr  
mòrchuis  
mòrchuisseach  
mòr-dhail  
morgaids(e)  
mòr-roinn *continent*  
mòr-shluagh  
mòr-thìr *mainland*  
mosgioto *mosquito*  
mu choinneamh/mu choinneimh  
mu chuairt  
mu dheidhinn  
muicfheòil  
muileann/muilinn  
muilinn/muileann  
muilicheann/muinichill  
muiltfheòil  
muilicheann/muinichill  
muinighin  
muinntir  
muncaidh  
mur(a) *unless*  
murt  
murtaidh *sultry*  
murtair  
Muslamach  
mu thràth/mar-thà

**N**  
nàbaidh  
na b' òige  
nach bi  
nàdar  
nàdarrach  
Na Hearadh  
naidheachd  
nàidhlean  
naochad  
naoi/naodh  
naoi air fhichead/naodh air  
fhichead  
naoi-deug/naodh-deug  
naoidheamh/naodhamh  
naoinear/naodhnar  
neach-ciùil  
neach-ealain  
neacheigin  
neach-gairm  
neach-labhairt  
neach-sgrùdaidh  
neach-teagaisg  
nèamh  
nèapaigin, nèapraig(ear)  
neas *weasel*  
neasgaid *a boil*  
nèibhidh  
neo-ar-thaing  
neochoireach  
neo-eisimeileach  
neo-fhoirmeil  
neòghlan  
neoichiontach  
neoichiontachd  
neo-lochdach  
neoni  
nìghneag  
nithear *will be done*  
niùclasach  
nobhail  
nuair



## O

obair-dachaigh  
 obair-ghrèis  
 obair-làimhe  
 obair-latha  
 Òban (An t-)  
 Obar Dheathain  
 obraichean  
 ochdad  
 ochd-deug  
 Ògmhios (An t-)  
 ogsaidean *oxygen*  
 Oidhche Ardaoin  
 Oidhche Challainn  
 Oidhche Chiadain  
 Oidhche Dhòmhnaich  
 Oidhche Haoine  
 Oidhche Luain  
 Oidhche Mhàirt  
 Oidhche na Sàbaid  
 Oidhche Shamhna  
 Oidhche Shathairne  
 oidhirp  
 oifigear  
 oifigeach airm  
 oifigear leasachaidh  
 oifigeil  
 òigear  
 oilisgin  
 oillteil  
 oilthigh  
 òinseach  
 oirbh(se)  
 òirdheirc  
 òirleach  
 oisean  
 Ollamh (An t-)  
 (An t-Oll *for short*)  
 onair  
 onarach  
 opairèisean *operation*  
 opara *opera*

òraidiche  
 orains  
 orainsear  
 òran càraid  
 òran luaidh  
 òrdaich  
 òrdaighean  
 òrdugh/òrdan  
 òrdugh cùirte  
 os cionn  
 os ìosal *secretly*  
 os làimh  
 os-nàdarra(ch)  
 òson *ozone*  
 ostail  
 Ostair (An)  
 òstair *hotelier*  
 othaisg *pl othaisgean/òisgean*

## P

Pabaigh  
 paidh *pie*  
 paidhir  
 paidse *patch*  
 pàigh *pay*  
 pàipear-naidheachd  
 paireafain *paraffin*  
 pairilis *paralysis, palsy*  
 paisgte  
 pàiste  
 paistiuraich *pasteurise*  
 pannal *panel*  
 paraimeatair *parameter*  
 paraisiut  
 paròil  
 parsail  
 partaidh/pàrtaidh  
 pàrtaidh/partaidh  
 pasgan  
 pathadh  
 peansail  
 pears-eaglais

peile  
 peinnsean  
 peirceall  
 piàno  
 pinc  
 pìob-mhòr  
 pioramaid  
 piotsa *pizza*  
 pitheid  
 plana cànan  
 plana leasachaidh  
 plastaig  
 plèan(a)  
 plèastair/plèastraig *v plaster*  
 plèastar/pleastar *n*  
 pleidhe *playtime, interval*  
 plòidh  
 poball  
 poblach *public*  
 poblachd *republic*  
 poidhleat *pilot*  
 poidsear  
 poidsig  
 poileas  
 poileasaidh  
 poilitigeach  
 poilitigs  
 poirdse *porch*  
 pòla/pòile *pole*  
 pongail  
 post(a)  
 pòsta  
 post-dealain (post-d *for short*)  
 practaigeach  
 pragmatach  
 praighig/fraighig  
 preusant  
 prìomh bhaile  
 Prìomh Mhinistear  
 prionnsapal  
 pròbhaist  
 proifeasair

proifeiseanta  
 proipeilear  
 pròiseact  
 proiseactair  
 pronn  
 pronnasg *sulphur*  
 Pròstanach  
 pròtacal  
 prothaid  
 prothaideach  
 prothaidich *v*  
 protractair  
 pùdar/fùdar *n*  
 purpaidh/purpar *purple*

## R

raidhc *rake* (person)  
 raighd *ride*  
 ràinig  
 ràith(e)  
 raon-cluiche  
 rathad-mòr *main road*  
 rèabhaireachd *rambling*  
 reasabaidh  
 rèidio  
 rèidiografaidh  
 rèidium  
 rèidius  
 rèisimeid  
 reoth *freeze*  
 reothadh  
 reòthta/reòthte  
 rèothte/rèothta  
 reubte  
 reudan *woodworm, etc*  
 riaghailt  
 ribh(se)  
 ribheid  
 rinc-deighe  
 rinn(e) *to us*  
 rìoghachd  
 rionnach

rionnag  
 ris(-san)  
 ri taobh  
 ro (not roi/roimh)  
 roghainn  
 roilear  
 roilig  
 roinn dealbhachaidh  
 ro-innleachd  
 roinn ionmhais  
 rola/roile *roll*  
 ro-ràdh  
 ròsta  
 rothaig *wind up*  
 rùbarab *rhubarb*  
 rubha  
 rudeigin  
 r(u)idhil *v*  
 r(u)idhle *n*  
 rùilear  
 rùisg *v peel*  
 Rùm  
 ruma *rum*  
 rùm-cadail  
 rùm-suidhe  
 rùm-teagaisg  
 rùrach/rùileach  
 rùsg *n peel; fleece*

## S

sabhal *pl saibhlean*  
 sabhs *sauce*  
 sàibhear *culvert*  
 saidhbhir *rich*  
 saidhbhreas *riches*  
 saidhleafòn  
 sail *pl sail(th)ean beam*  
 sàil *heel*  
 saill *v salt vn sailleadh*  
 saimeant  
 sàirdseant  
 sàl *brine*

salchar  
 samhail  
 Samhain (An t-)  
 samhla  
 sa, san *in the*  
 's a, 's an *and his/her/the/their*  
 's ann  
 saorsainneachd *joinery*  
 saorsainneil  
 Sasainn/Sasann  
 Sasannach  
 's dòcha  
 's e  
 seabra *zebra*  
 seachain  
 seachdad  
 seachdain *pl seachdainean*  
 seadh *aye, yes*  
 seagh *sense*  
 seaghail  
 seagsaidh *sexy*  
 seal *a while*  
 sealastair/seileastair  
 seall  
 Sealtainn  
 seanail *channel*  
 seanailear  
 seanchaidh  
 seanchas/seanachas  
 seanfhacal  
 seansa/teans(a)  
 seansailear *chancellor*  
 seantans  
 seaplain *chaplain*  
 searaidh *sherry*  
 searmon  
 searmonaich  
 seasgad  
 seatlaig  
 seic *cheque*  
 seiche *hide*  
 seilear



seileastair/sealastair  
 seirbheis  
 seirbheiseach  
 sèithear  
 sèithear-cuibhle  
 seit-phlèan  
 seo  
 seòclaid  
 seòmar-bidh  
 seòmar-ionnlaid  
 seòmar-leapa  
 seud *jewel*  
 seun *charm, spell*  
 seunta  
 seusan  
 's fheudar  
 Sgalpach  
 Sgalpaigh  
 Sgarpach  
 sgeidse *sketch*  
 sgeul  
 sgi *v ski vn* sgitheadh  
 sgiamh  
 sgian  
 sgileil  
 sgillinn  
 sgiort(a)  
 Sgitheanach  
 sgiths  
 sglèat  
 sgoilear  
 sgoinneil  
 sgreamh  
 sgreamhail  
 sgreataidh  
 sgreuch *scream*  
 sgrìob-cheangail  
 sgrìubha  
 sgrìubhaig  
 sgrìubhaire  
 sguilearaidh  
 's i

siabann  
 sian *storm*  
 siad *hero*  
 's iad  
 similear  
 sinc *sink; zinc*  
 sinn-seanair  
 sinn-seanmhair  
 sìochaint  
 Siog *Sikh*  
 siogàr *cigar*  
 siogarait *cigarette*  
 sìon *anything*  
 Sìona *China*  
 Sionach *Chinese*  
 sionnsar  
 siop *zip*  
 siopsach *gypsy*  
 sioraf *giraffe*  
 siorc *shark*  
 siorraidh/siorram  
 siorram/siorraidh  
 siostam  
 sitheann  
 siud  
 siuga  
 slac *slack, weak*  
 slaic *blow*  
 slaighd  
 slaightear  
 slaightearachd  
 sleamhainn  
 sleids  
 sliseag  
 sloc *pit*  
 smachd  
 smaoinich *vn* smaoineachadh  
 's math  
 ('s) math dh'fhaodte  
 'smaite/'s mathaid  
 's mathaid/'s maite  
 smeur *berry*

smiogaid  
 smior  
 smocadh  
 smocaig *v smoke*  
 snaidhm/snaoim  
 snaigheadair  
 snaigheadh  
 snàithlean  
 snaoim/snaidhm  
 snàthainn  
 snèap  
 snìomhte  
 so-dhèanta  
 soidhne  
 soidhnig  
 soifioستاigeach  
 soircas  
 sòisealta  
 soisgeul  
 soitheamh *tame*  
 solas *light*  
 sòlas *joy*  
 sòn *zone*  
 sònraichte  
 spaidisir *v*  
 Spainn(t)each  
 Spainn(t)is  
 spanair  
 speal  
 spìosrach  
 splais  
 spreadh *vn* spreadhadh  
 spreig  
 spreòt *incite*  
 sprochd  
 sprùilleach  
 srac *vn* sracadh  
 Sràid na h-Eaglais(e)  
 srainnsear  
 srath  
 sreap/streap  
 sreapadair/streapadair

sreapadaireachd/  
 streapadaireachd  
 sreothart  
 sreothartaich  
 srùb *spout*  
 srùbag  
 stàball  
 staidhre  
 stairsneach  
 staitistearachd *statistics*  
 staitistigeil  
 staoig *steak*  
 steall  
 steatasgop  
 steig *v stick*  
 steigeach  
 stiùidio  
 stiùireadair  
 stiùir *vn stiùireadh*  
 stoidhle  
 stòiridh  
 stòr  
 stràc  
 strèan  
 streap/sreap  
 streapadair/sreapadair  
 sreapadaireachd/  
 sreapadaireachd  
 strì  
 strìoch  
 structar  
 sù/sutha *zoo*  
 suaicheanta *noteworthy*  
 suaitheanta *awful*  
 subailte/sùbailte  
 sùbailte/subailte  
 subailteachd/sùbailteachd  
 sùbailteachd/subailteachd  
 subsadaidh  
 sùgh orainseir  
 suidse *switch*  
 sùigh

suiteas *sweet pl suiteis sweets*  
 suirghe  
 sùith *soot*  
 Sultain (An t-)

## T

tacsas *help*  
 taghta *fine*  
 taghte *chosen*  
 tagsaidh *taxi*  
 taidh  
 taidhear/taidhr  
 taidhl  
 taidhp  
 taidhr/taidhear  
 taigh  
 taigh-bìdh  
 taigh-cluiche  
 taigh-cùirte  
 taigh-òsta  
 taigh-seinnse  
 tàinig  
 tairig/tarrag *nail*  
 tàirnean/tairgean/  
 tarragan *nails*  
 tairsgeir/treidhsgeir  
 taisbeanadh  
 taisgte  
 tana  
 tancair  
 taobh-duilleig(e) (td for short)  
 Tarasaigh  
 tarcais  
 tarcaiseach  
 tastan  
 TBh  
 tè  
 teacsa  
 teampall  
 teanamaint  
 teanas  
 teans(a)/seansa *chance*

tèarainte  
 tèarainteachd  
 tèarmann  
 tèarn *vn tèarnadh*  
 teatha/tì  
 tè-eigin  
 teicneòlach  
 teicneòlas  
 teicnigeach  
 tèile (ie tè eile)  
 teleasgop  
 teleafòn  
 teip  
 teirm *term*  
 teis-meadhan  
 tè-lagha  
 telebhisean  
 teòiridh *theory*  
 teòiridheach *theoretical*  
 teòth  
 teòthachd *temperature*  
 thàinig  
 tha mi 'n dòchas  
 thatar/thatas/thathar  
 thathar/thathas/thatar  
 thathas/thathar/thatar  
 tha toil agam  
 thig  
 thoir fa-near  
 thugainn/tugainn/tiugainn  
 thuir, thubhairt  
 tì/teatha  
 till *vn tilleadh*  
 timcheall  
 tiogaid *ticket*  
 tiona *tin*  
 tionsail *tinsel*  
 tìoraidh *goodbye*  
 Tìridheach/Tìristeach  
 Tìristeach/Tìridheach  
 tìr-mòr  
 titheach



tiugainn/thugainn/tuggain  
 tobar *m gen* tobair  
     *f gen* tobrach  
 Tobar Mhoire  
 tobh(aig) *v tow*  
 todha *hoe*  
 tofaidh  
 togsaid/tocasaid  
 togte  
 toinisgeil  
 toirds *torch*  
 tomàto *pl* tomàtothan  
 tombaca  
 tò(i)n  
 tonsail  
 tost *silence*  
 tost(a) *toast*  
 tostach  
 trafaig  
 traidhfeal *trifle*  
 traidhsagal  
 traidiseanta  
 trainnse  
 tràlair  
 trasta *adv diagonal*  
 trealaich  
 treamhlaidh *bug, illness*  
 trèan(a)  
 trèan *vn* trèanadh  
 trèan(aig) *v*  
 treidhe  
 treidhsgeir/tairsgeir  
 tribiùnal  
 trilleachan  
 trìoblaich *triple*  
 triom *mood*  
 trithead  
 trìtheamh (an)  
 tsinthach (an)  
 tro (not 'troimh')  
 troigh *foot* (measurement)

troilidh *trolley*  
 troimh-a-chèile  
 tugainn/tiugainn/thugainn  
 truileis  
 truinnsear  
 trustar  
 tuairmse  
 tuarastal  
 tughadh  
 tuilleadh  
 tui(r)neap  
 tuireadh *lament*  
 tuirt, tubhairt  
 turadh *dry weather*  
 turas

## U

uabhar  
 uabhas  
 uabhasach  
 uamh  
 uaireigin  
 uàlras *walrus*  
 uamhraidh *very, terribly*  
 uanfheadail  
 ubhal  
 uèir-bhiorach  
 ugh  
 ùghdarras  
 uidheam-glanaidh  
 Ùig/Ùige  
 Ùige/Ùig  
 uile-gu-lèir  
 uilinn/uileann  
 uill *well*  
 uimhir  
 uiread  
 uireasbhaidh  
 uirle-thruis *chaos, stramash*  
 uirsgeul  
 Ulapul

Ùna  
 uncail  
 Urànas  
 ùrlar  
 ùrnaigh  
 urra  
 urrainn  
 Urramach (An t-)  
     (An t-Urr for short)  
 ùruisg  
 uspag

## X

x-ghath



## NOTES







ÙGHDARRAS  
THEISTEANAS  
NA H-ALBA



Hanover House  
24 Douglas Street  
Glasgow  
G2 7NQ

Ironmills Road  
Dalkeith  
Midlothian  
EH22 1LE

Customer Contact Centre  
Tel: 0845 279 1000  
Fax: 0141-242 2244  
e-mail: [customer@sqa.org.uk](mailto:customer@sqa.org.uk)  
website: [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)