

Welcome to lesson 10 of Progress in Irish by Máiréad Ní Ghráda.

Read the lesson on page 14 of your book and listen to the audio file (Lesson10.mp3) which is available at www.philo-celtic.com/PII/Progress.htm

Homework:

There are no specific exercises in the book associated with lesson 10.

For your assignment this week, review the verbs in lesson 7 and translate the following 10 sentences into Irish:

1. Seán waits.
2. Does Nóra sweep?
3. The child drinks.
4. The teacher writes.
5. The man cleans and the woman does not wait.
6. Does the pencil break?
7. The man does not drink.
8. The child does not run.
9. The woman and the girl do not stop.
10. Do the teacher and the boy stay?

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Grammar:

Forming the PRESENT tense of the verb:

In this week's lesson we are shown how to form the present tense of a verb by taking the *stem* and adding various endings.

Remember that the *stem* of the verb is the form used to give a command to one person.

It is the same as the 2nd person singular imperative mood.

Before we begin, let me take this opportunity to remind you of what we mean by a "broad" and a "slender" consonant.

A consonant is considered *broad* if its closest vowel is: "a", "o" or "u" and *slender* if its closest vowel is "i" or "e".

In the examples on page 14 of the book, we see the verbs "bris" and "cuir" which both have a *slender* final consonant, and "tóg" and "dún" which both have a *broad* final consonant.

There is a convention in Irish which dictates that the vowels on either side of a consonant should be of a similar type.

"Broad with broad and slender with slender".

In other words if we look at the word "cuireann" you will see that the letter "R" is immediately preceded by a slender vowel (i) and followed by a slender vowel (e).

If we consider the word "tógann" we will see that the letter "G" is immediately preceded by a broad "ó" and followed by a broad "a."

This ensures that the spelling of the verb complies with the general guideline of "broad with broad, slender with slender." The verbs "bris", "tóg", "cuir" and "dún" belong to the *FIRST conjugation* That is, that have *stems* of one syllable. To form the present tense of a FIRST conjugation verb, we add "-eann" to the stem of a slender verb or "-ann" to the stem of a broad verb.

Slender verbs (add "-eann"): bris cuir

Broad verbs (add "-ann"): tóg dún

You will notice on page 14 of the book that the personal pronouns for "I" and "we" are incorporated into the verb in the present tense. So we see, for example,

"cuirim" (I put) and "cuirimid" (we put):

This can be summarised as follows:

Slender verbs (e.g. "bris") - add "-im" for the FIRST person singular ("I") or "-imid" for the FIRST person plural ("we")

Broad verbs (e.g. "tóg") - add "-aim" for the FIRST person singular or "-aimid" for the FIRST person plural.

Reviewing the verbs used in lesson 7 we find the following three slender FIRST conjugation verbs. They can all have the endings "-eann", "-im" or "-imid" added as above to reflect the present tense:

rith - run rithim- I run ritheann tú (sé/í, sibh, siad)- you (s/he, you, they) run(s)
rithimid- we run

éist - listen éistim - I listen éisteanntú etc. - you etc listen éistimid - we listen

stróic - tear stróicim - I tear stróiceanntú etc. - you etc. tear stróicimid - we tear

The following FIRST conjugation verbs from lesson 7 have broad endings. The endings "-ann", "-aim" or "-aimid" can be added to all of these verbs as above to reflect the present tense: seas (stand) fan (stay, wait) ól (drink) stad (stop) féach (look) scríobh (write) glan (clean) scuab (sweep)

There are some exceptions to this method of forming the present tense of FIRST conjugation verbs.

In lesson 7, the verbs "Léigh" (read) and "Nigh" (wash) belong to the FIRST conjugation but their ending are slightly different and will be dealt with in lesson 12.

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Questions and negative statements in the PRESENT tense:

Present tense questions are formed by placing "An" in front of the verb. This "An" causes ECLIPSIS of the verb.

Remember that only the following seven consonants can be eclipsed: b > mb c > gc d > nd f > bhf g > ng p > bp t > dt For example: Tógann tú - You go An dtógann tú? - Do you go?

A present tense negative statement is formed by placing "Ní " in front of the verb. This "Ní " usually causes LENITION of the verb.

Remember that the following consonants are subject to lenition: b > bh c > ch d > dh f > fh g > gh m > mh p > ph s > sh t > th For example: Briseann tú - You break Ní bhriseann tú - You do not break