

## (13) An Tuiseal Ginideach - The Genitive Case

The **genitive** case is a **spelling change** that happens on nouns in the following situations. It's useful to be aware of this spelling change, at least for singular nouns, as it comes up a lot.

### 1) Phrases using **of**:

Eg. Teach	>	ar chúl an tí
Seachtain	>	laethanta <b>na</b> seachtaine
Bóthair	>	barr an bhóthair
Príomhoide	>	príomhoide <b>na</b> scoile

### 2) Phrases using **'s**:

Eg. Seán	>	peann Sheáin (pen <b>of</b> Seán)
Siobhán	>	teach Dhónaill (house <b>of</b> Dónall)

### 3) After **quantities**, which makes sense -

A lot **of** money, a bottle **of** milk. Here are some examples:

go leor	níos lú	an iomarca
dóthain	tuilleadh	punt
níos mó	roinnt	buidéal
mórán	a lán	beagáinín
cuid	oiread	pionta

Eg. Airgead	>	níos mó airgid
Am	>	go leor ama
Líomanáid	>	buidéal líomanáide
Punt	>	punt ime

4) After the verbal noun **ag...** (-ing):

Eg. Peil	>	<b>ag</b> imirt peile
Leabhar	>	<b>ag</b> léamh leabhair
Ceol	>	<b>ag</b> seinm ceoil
Sráid	>	<b>ag</b> scuabadh <b>na</b> sráide

5) Where **two nouns** come together as **one**:

Eg. Clár	+	teilifís	=	Clár teilifí <b>se</b>
Siopa	+	ceol	=	Siopa ceoil
Seomra	+	leaba	=	Seomra leapa
Mála	+	scoil	=	Mála scoil <b>e</b>

6) After the following phrases:

in aghaidh	timpeall	i gceann
ar feadh	trasna	fá choinne
ar fud	chun	cois
ar son	i measc	i ndiaidh
de réir	in aice	i gcoinne
le linn	de bharr	le haghaidh

Eg. In aghaidh **na** seachtaine  
Timpeall an domhain  
Cois farraige  
Le linn an tsamhraidh

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As you can see, the type of **spelling change** varies. But there is a pattern to it: All nouns are divided into **5 declensions** (groups). The nature of the spelling change varies, depending on which **declension** the noun is in. Let's have a look at each group:

**1<sup>st</sup> Declension:** All nouns in this group are **masculine**, and they end in a **broad** consonant.

- add a **h** where possible.
- make the last consonant **slender**, by adding an **i**.
- add a **t** in front of nouns beginning with **s**.

Eg. Cat	>	dath an chait
Earrach	>	lár an earraigh
Sagart	>	hata an tsagairt

**Ceacht 1:**

*Write out these phrases, following the pattern above -*

**Eg.** Blas + milseán = blas **an** mhilseáin

1) ainm + bád = ainm an bháid

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2) bun + leathanach = bun an leathanaigh

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3) os comhair + séipéal = os comhair an tséipéil

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4) ag múchadh + solas = ag múchadh an tsolais

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5) oifig + rialtas = oifig an rialtais

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6) brú + saol = brú an tsaoil

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7) hata + oifigeach = hata an oifigh

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8) easpa + airgead = easpa airgid

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9) áthas + domhan = áthas an domhain

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10) cuma + bás = cuma an bháis

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Declension:** All nouns in this group are **feminine** (except teach, sliabh, and im). This group includes many **countries** and **languages**.

It also features nouns that end in **lann**.

- change the article **an** to **na**.
- nouns should end in either **e** or **í**.

Eg. Fraincis	>	<b>ag</b> foghlaim Fraincis <b>e</b>
Báisteach	>	<b>ag</b> cur báistí
Pictiúrlann	>	ar chúl <b>na</b> pictiúrlainne

### **Ceacht 2:**

*Write out these phrases, following the pattern above -*

**Eg.** Ag imirt + leadóg = ag imirt leadóige

1) fuinneog + bialann = fuinneog na bialainne

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2) leathphunt + im = leathphunt ime

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3) daoine + Iodáil = daoine na hIodáile

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4) gairdín + teach = gairdín an tí

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5) ag labhairt + Spáinnis = ag labhairt Spáinnise

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6) doras + leabharlann = doras na leabharlainne

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7) daltaí + scoil = daltaí na scoile

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8) uachtarán + an Fhrainc = uachtarán na Fraince

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9) in aghaidh + gaoth = in aghaidh na gaoithe

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10) cósta + tír = cósta na tíre

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