

AONAD 28

CAITHEAMH AIMSIRE AGUS BUANNA | PASTIMES AND TALENTS

FINDING OUT WHAT SOMEONE DOES IN THEIR SPARE TIME

Cad é an caitheamh aimsire atá agat? What pastime have you?

SAYING WHAT PASTIMES YOU HAVE

Imrím ...	I play ...
leadóg	tennis
peil	football
cispheil	basketball
eitpheil	volleyball
Téim ag rith go minic.	I often go running.
Téim ag iascaireachtanois is arís.	I go fishing now and again.
Téim ag snámh sa samhradh.	I go swimming in the summer.
Téim ag sciáil sa gheimhreadh.	I go skiing in the winter.



Have a listen to some people saying what sports they play.

-An mbeidh tú gnóthach Dé Sathairn, a Aisling?

-Bhuel, imrím cispheil maidin Dé Sathairn, ach ní bheidh mé gnóthach tráthnóna Dé Sathairn.

-Cad é an caitheamh aimsire atá agat, a Frank?

-Imrím leadóg anois is arís.

-An maith leat peil, a Mhairéad?

-Ní maith, ach imrím eitpheil go minic.

SAYING WHAT YOU LIKE DOING

Is maith liom ...	I like ...
a dhul ag siúl sna sléibhte	to go hill-walking
éisteacht le ceol	listening to music
a bheith ag léamh	reading
a bheith ag scríobh	writing
a bheith ag péinteáil	painting
a bheith ag taistéal	travelling



1. You'll hear people being asked what they like doing in their spare time. See if you can answer before they do.

-Cad é an caitheamh aimsire atá agat?

Say, 'I like to go hill-walking, and I like writing.'

-An maith leat spórt, a Emer?

Say, 'Yes, I do. I play volleyball every Thursday and basketball every Saturday morning.'

-Cad é an caitheamh aimsire atá agat?

Say, 'I like travelling. I'm going to America next month.'

ASKING IF SOMEONE IS INTERESTED IN A PARTICULAR THING

An bhfuil suim agat i ... Are you interested in ...

or

An bhfuil suim agat sa ...

stair?

history?

tseandálaíocht?

archaeology?

litríocht?

literature?

Here are some possible answers:

Tá.

Yes, I am.

Níl.

No, I'm not.

Tá suim mhór agam ann.

I have a great interest in it.

Níl suim dá laghad agam ann.

I haven't the slightest interest in it.

Sílim go bhfuil sé ceart go leor.

I think it's all right.

Sílim go bhfuil sé an-leadránach.

I think it's very boring.

Faisnéis

When asking if someone is interested in something, you can use:

An bhfuil súim agat i ...

Are you interested in ...

An bhfuil suim agat i gceol?

or

An bhfuil suim agat sa ...

Are you interested in ...

(literally, Are you interested in the ...)

An bhfuil suim agat sa cheol?

Both forms are commonly used, and both are equally correct.



2. You'll hear some people being asked whether or not they're interested in something. See if you can answer before they do.

-An bhfuil suim agat sa litríocht?

Say, 'I haven't the slightest interest in it.'

-An bhfuil suim agat i seandálaíocht?

Say, 'I have a great interest in it.'

-An bhfuil suim ar bith agat i matamaitic?

Say, 'No. I think it's boring.'

-Bhuel, an bhfuil suim agat sa stair?

Say, 'I think it's all right.'

ASKING IF SOMEONE IS ABLE TO DO SOMETHING

An bhfuil snámh agat?

Can you swim?

An bhfuil ceol agat?

Are you musical?

An bhfuil tú ábalta carr a thiomáint?

Can you drive a car?

An bhfuil tú ábalta ríomhaire a úsáid?

Can you use a computer?

An bhfuil tú ábalta gléas ceoil a sheinm?

Can you play a musical instrument?

GIVING YOUR REPLY

In reply to all the above questions you can use:

Tá.

Yes.

or

Níl.

No.

Other useful phrases are:

Níl mé rómhaith.	I'm not very good.
Ta mé ag foghlaim.	I'm learning.
Ba mhaith liom foghlaim.	I'd like to learn.

SAYING HOW EASY OR DIFFICULT SOMETHING IS

Tá sé deacair.	It's difficult
Tá sé furasta go leor.	It's easy enough.
Ta sé an-fhurasta	It's very easy.
Tá sé iontach deacair.	It's very difficult.
Tá sé ródheacair.	It's too difficult.



Have a listen to people being asked whether or not they are able to do something. Look out for:

Ba cheart duit You should
and
ceacht lesson

-An bhfuil tú ábalta carr a thiomáint?
-Tá. An bhfuil tusa?
-Níl Ba mhaith liom foghlaim.
-Ba cheart duit foghlaim, cinnte. Tá sé furasta go leor.

-A Laoise, an bhfuil tusa ábalta carr a thiomáint?
-Níl suim dá laghad agam ann. Sílim go bhfuil sé iontach deacair.

-An bhfuil tú ábalta ríomhaire a úsáid?
-Níl mé rómhaith, ach tá mé ag foghlaim.
-Is maith sin. Tá sé an-fhurasta.

-A Chiaráin, tá sé a cúig a chlog. Tá ceacht pianó agat.
-Á, a Mhamaí, níl mé ag dul. Tá sé ródheacair.

ASKING HOW LONG SOMEONE HAS BEEN DOING SOMETHING

Cá fhad atá tú ag tiomáint leoraí?	How long have you been driving a lorry?
Cá fhad atá tú ag seinm na fidle?	How long have you been playing the fiddle?
Cá fhad atá tú ag péinteáil?	How long have you been painting?

SAYING HOW LONG YOU'VE BEEN DOING SOMETHING

le cúig bliana anuas	for the past five years
le deich mbliana nó níos mó	for ten years or more
le sé seachtainí nó mar sin	for the past six weeks or thereabouts
le coicís	for the past fortnight
le deich lá anuas	for the past ten days.



3. Try saying the following in Irish:

1. Can you swim?
2. I'm not very good.
3. It's easy enough.
4. It's very difficult.
5. How long have you been playing the fiddle?
6. For the past seven years.

ASKING HOW OFTEN SOMEONE DOES SOMETHING

Cad é chomh minic ...	How often ...
is a bhíonn ceacht agat?	do you have a lesson?
is a bhíonn tú ag cleachtadh?	do you practise?
is a bhíonn rang agat?	do you have a class?
is a bhíonn tú ag imirt?	do you play? (sport)
is a bhíonn tú ag seinm?	do you play? (music)

SAYING HOW OFTEN YOU DO SOMETHING

Bíonn rang agam uair sa tseachtain.	I have a class once a week.
Bím ag cleachtadh trí huaire sa tseachtain.	I practise three times a week.
Bím ag seinm cúpla uair sa mhí.	I play [music] a couple of times a month.
Bím ag imirt achan deireadh seachtaine.	I play [sport] every weekend.
Bíonn ceacht agam ceithre huaire sa tseachtain.	I have a lesson four times a week.

ASKING SOMEONE HOW THEY'RE GETTING ON

If someone is learning a new skill or if they're in the middle of some work or project, you might like to ask.

Cad é mar atá ag éirí leat?

or

Cad é mar atá ag éirí libh?

How are you getting on?

SAYING HOW YOU'RE GETTING ON

Tá ag éirí go maith liom.

I'm doing fine

Tá ag éirí go hiontach liom.

I'm doing really well.

Níl ag éirí go rómhaith liom.

I'm not doing very well.

Tá eagla orm nach bhfuil ag éirí go rómhaith liom.

I'm afraid I'm not doing very well.



4. Can you unjumble and punctuate the following phrases?

1. atá ag leat éirí cad é mar
2. ceacht huaire bíonn agam tseachtaí sa trí
3. maith liom éirí tá go ag



Have a listen to some people discussing what musical instruments they're learning and how they're getting on.

-Chuala mé go bhfuil tú ag foghlaim na fidle, a Choilm.

-Tá, le sé mhí anuas. Bíonn ceacht agam maidin Dé Sathairn.

-Cad é mar atá ag éirí leat?

-Níl ag éirí go rómhaith liom. Tá sé deacair go leor.

-Cad é chomh minic is a bhíonn tú ag cleachtadh?

-Thart fá thrí huaire sa tseachtaí.

-Ó, a Choilm, ba cheart duit a bheith ag cleachtadh achan lá.

-A Chaitríona, cá fhad atá tú ag seinm an ghiotáir?

-Le dhá bhliain anuas. Tá mé i ngrúpa ceoilanois.

-Cad é chomh minic is a bhíonn sibh ag seinm?

-Achan deireadh seachtaíne. Tá tusa ag foghlaim an phianó, nach bhfuil?

-Tá.

-Cad é mar atá ag éirí leat?

-Tá ag éirí go maith liom.



5. Fill in the blanks in this conversation between Mairéad and Pól with words from the box. (Each word can be used only once.)

-Cá _____ atá tú ag péinteáil, a Mhairéad?
 -Le cúig _____ anuas. Níl mé _____!
 -Tá mise ag dul chuig _____ péintéireachta.
 -An bhfuil? Cad é chomh _____ is a bhíonn rang agat?
 -_____ sa tseachtain. Tá sé _____ ach is breá liom é. Tá _____ mhór agam ann.
 -Is breá liomsa a _____ ag péinteáil forsta.

fhad
bliana
rómhaith
rang
minic
uair
deacair
suim
bheith



6. If you can say the following twelve sentences in Irish, you've studied this unit very well. **Ádh mór ort!**

1. What pastimes have you?
2. I play basketball.
3. I like writing.
4. Are you interested in history?
5. Are you musical?
6. Can you play a musical instrument?
7. How often do you practise?
8. It's too difficult.
9. How long have you been driving?
10. For the past ten years or thereabouts.
11. How are you getting on?
12. I'm afraid I'm not getting on very well.