

AONAD 20

AG CUR SÍOS AR DHAOINE | DESCRIBING PEOPLE

ASKING WHAT SOMEONE LOOKS LIKE

Cad é an chuma atá air?

What does he look like?

Cad é an chuma atá uirthi?

What does she look like?

SAYING WHAT A PERSON LOOKS LIKE

Tá sé

He's ...

Tá sí ...

She's ...

ard

tall

beag

small

ramhar

fat

tanaí

thin

dathúil

or

dóighiúil

handsome, good-looking

Is fear beag é.

He's a small man.

Is bean ard í.

She's a tall woman.



Listen to different people saying that they've recently seen a new member of staff and then describing the person. You'll hear:

úr

new

go fóill

yet

bainisteoir

manager

—Chonaic mé an bainisteoir úr inniu.

—Cad é an chuma atá uirthi?

—Tá sí ard agus tanaí.

—Chonaic mé an dochtúir úr inné.

—Ó, cad é an chuma atá air?

—Is fear mór ard é.

—Chonaic mé an bhanaltra úr ar maidin. Tá sí an-dóighiúil.

—An bhfaca tú an múinteoir úr go fóill?

—Ní fhaca. Cad é an chuma atá air?

—Tá sé ard agus dathúil.

SAYING THAT SOMEONE IS GETTING FAT OR THIN

Tá sé ag éirí ramhar.

He's getting fat.

Tá sí ag éirí tanaí.

She's getting thin.



1. Try saying the following in Irish now:

1. He's a tall man.

2. She's small and thin.

3. He's a good-looking man.

4. What does she look like?

5. He's getting thin.

ASKING WHAT SOMEONE'S CHARACTER IS LIKE

Cad é an cineál duine é?

What kind of person is he?

Cad é an cineál duine í?

What kind of person is she?

DESCRIBING SOMEONE'S CHARACTER

Is fear lách é.

He's a pleasant man.

Tá sé lách.

Is bean cairdiúil í.

She's a friendly woman.

Tá sí cairdiúil.

Ní duine rólách é.

He isn't a very pleasant person.

Níl sé rólách.

Ní duine róchairdiúil í

She isn't a very friendly person.



2. You'll hear people being asked what someone is like or looks like. Try to answer before they do.

1. She's very friendly.
2. She's very pleasant.
3. He's tall and thin.
4. He's not a very friendly person.
5. He's very handsome.

Faisnéis

Most adjectives come after the noun in Irish:

fear dathúil

lá deas

A feminine noun adds a **séimhiú** to an adjective that begins with a consonant (other than **l**, **n**, or **r**):

bean chairdiúil

bean bheag

DESCRIBING HAIR COLOUR

The words **gruaig** (hair) and **féasóg** (beard) are feminine and therefore add a **séimhiú** to adjectives beginning with a consonant (other than **l**, **n**, or **r**).

gruaig dhubh

black hair

gruaig fhionn

blond hair

gruaig dhonn

brown hair

gruaig bhán

white hair

gruaig liath

grey hair

gruaig rua

red hair

Tá gruaig dhubh orm.

I have black hair.

Tá gruaig fhionn air.

He has blond hair.

Tá gruaig dhonn uirthi.

She has brown hair.

Tá féasóg dhubh air.

He has a black beard.



3. You'll hear four people being asked what someone looks like. Again, try to answer before they do.

1. He's tall and has black hair.
2. She's thin and has red hair.
3. She's very good-looking and has grey hair.
4. He's small and has blond hair.

DESCRIBING HAIR LENGTH AND STYLE

Tá gruaig ghairid air.

He has short hair.

Tá gruaig fhada uirthi.

She has long hair.

Tá gruaig chatach air.

He has curly hair.

Tá gruaig dhíreach air.

He has straight hair.

Faisnéis

As in English, words describing length of hair or beard come before words that describe colour:

gruaig

fhada

dhonn

↑

↑

length

colour

Tá gruaig dhubh orm. I have black hair. (literally, There's black hair on me).

You need these words to talk about other people's hair:

ort

on you

orainn

on us

air

on him

oraibh

on you

uirthi

on her

orthu

on them

Tá gruaig fhada orthu.

Tá gruaig chatach rua uirthi.

4. Write the following in Irish:

1. She has short blond hair.

2. She has long black hair.

3. He has short red hair.

4. She has curly brown hair.

5. He has a long grey beard.

DESCRIBING EYES

You're already familiar with the colours in Irish. Have a look now at how they change in the plural.

gorm

súile gorma

blue eyes

donn

súile donna

brown eyes

glas

súile glasa

green eyes

liath

súile liatha

grey eyes

Tá súile glasa agam.

I have green eyes.

Tá súile donna aige.

He has brown eyes.

Tá súile gorma aici.

She has blue eyes.



5. You'll hear several people describing someone they know. Try to say the description before they do.

1. He has black hair and blue eyes.
2. She has white hair and grey eyes.
3. She has brown eyes.
4. He has long black hair.
5. He has brown hair and green eyes.

Did you notice that **orm** is used with **gruaig** and **féasóg**, and **agam** is used with **súile**?



6. Can you put the correct sentences below each illustration? Choose from the list below.

- Tá sí tanaí.
 Tá féasóg fhada air.
 Tá sé ramhar.
 Tá gruaig fhionn uirthi.
 Tá gruaig dhonn uirthi.
 Tá sí ramhar.
 Tá súile gorma aici.
 Tá gruaig chatach air.
 Tá súile donna aige.
 Tá súile glasa aici.



1. _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



2. _____



3. _____

7. Tú féin!

Can you now describe some of your own features?