

# AONAD 1

## AG BUALADH LE DAOINE | MEETING PEOPLE

### GREETING SOMEONE

The most common greeting is:

**Cad é mar atá tú?**

This greeting is sometimes preceded by **Haló**.

### GREETING MORE THAN ONE PERSON

**Cad é mar atá sibh?**

How are you?

### RESPONDING TO A GREETING

**Tá mé go maith.**

I'm fine.

or simply

**Go maith.**

People often add:

**... go raibh maith agat.**

... thank you.

**Agus tú féin?**

And yourself?



When responding to **Agus tú féin?** people generally avoid repeating **Tá mé go maith** and use instead **Tá mé go breá**. Listen to some of the recorded examples.

—**Cad é mar atá tú?**

—**Go maith, go raibh maith agat. Agus tú féin?**

—**Tá mé go breá.**

—**Cad é mar atá tú?**

—**Tá mé go maith. Agus tú féin?**

—**Go breá.**



1. Imagine that you meet a friend in the street. Listen to the recording and respond in the appropriate way.

—**Cad é mar atá tú?**

Say you're fine and ask how **she** is.

—**Go breá.**

This time you meet a friend called Alan. Greet him.

—**Á, go maith. Agus tú féin?**

Say you're fine.

**Dia duit** (literally 'God be with you') is also used as a greeting but is regarded as quite formal by native speakers and is rarely used in the Gaeltacht.

## Faisnéis

The words **mé** and **tú** are called **pronouns** and are used when you don't need to or want to repeat a noun. Here is a list of pronouns, accompanied by the present tense of the verb **bí** (be).

**Tá mé** (I am)

**Tá muid** (we are)

**Tá tú** (you are)

**Tá sibh** (you are)

**Tá sé / sí** (he / she is)

**Tá siad** (they are)

We'll be dealing with pronouns in more detail in Aonad 5.

## TALKING ABOUT THE WEATHER

People often comment on the weather after they've exchanged greetings.

**Tá lá breá ann.**

It's a fine day.

**Tá drochlá ann inniu.**

It's a bad day today.

**Tá sé fuar.**

It's cold.

**Tá sé te.**

It's hot / warm.

**Tá sé fliuch.**

It's wet.

**Tá, cinnte.**

It is indeed.

**Buíochas le Dia** (thank God) is used quite frequently in this context.

**Tá lá breá ann inniu, buíochas le Dia.**

It's a fine day today, thank God.



2. Listen to the short sequences on the recording and say what the weather is like in each case.

### 3. WISH YOU WERE HERE!

Write a comment on the weather in each of the following three pictures.





#### 4. YOUR BIG CHANCE!

You've just been given a part in a new soap opera, but the script has had coffee spilled on it. See if you can fill in the gaps.

**Pól:** Haló. Cad é mar atá tú?

**Áine:** Go maith, \_\_\_\_ maith agat. Agus tú féin?

**Pól:** Go \_\_\_\_\_. Tá \_\_\_\_\_ ann inniu.

**Áine:** Tá \_\_\_\_\_.



5. Imagine you bump into a friend on your way to work. Listen to the recording and participate in the conversation.

—**Cad é mar atá tú?**

Say you're fine and ask how **she** is.

—**Go breá. Tá lá breá ann inniu.**

Say, 'It is indeed, thank God.'

#### SAYING GOODBYE

**Slán.**

Goodbye

**Slán go fóill.**

Goodbye for now

You can respond to **Slán** with another **Slán**, or with **Slán go fóill**. If, however, the first person says **Slán go fóill**, the second person simply says **Slán**. You also hear the following:

**Chífidh mé tú.**

I'll see you.



6. Listen to the recording and try responding to the goodbyes.

1. —**Slán go fóill.**  
Say, 'Goodbye, Edna.'
2. —**Slán.**  
Say, 'Goodbye for now.'
3. —**Slán go fóill.**  
Say, 'Goodbye. I'll see you.'