

AONAD 10

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AN TEAGHLACH 1 | THE FAMILY 1

SAYING WHAT YOUR MARITAL STATUS IS

Tá mé pósta.	I'm married.
Níl mé pósta.	I'm not married.
Tá mé singil.	I'm single.
Tá mé scartha	I'm separated
... ó mo bhean (chéile).	... from my wife.
... ó m'fhear (céile).	... from my husband.
Is baintreach mé.	I'm a widow/widower.

ASKING SOMEONE WHAT THEIR MARITAL STATUS IS

An bhfuil tú pósta?	Are you married?
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Here are some possible answers:

Tá.	Yes.
Níl.	No.
Níl go fóill.	Not yet.
Tá mé geallta.	I'm engaged.



Listen to people using some of the phrases you've learnt so far.

—An bhfuil tú pósta?

—Tá, ach tá mé scartha ó mo bhean chéile. An bhfuil tusa pósta, a Shinéad?

—Níl go fóill.

—An bhfuil tú pósta?

—Is baintreach mé. An bhfuil tusa pósta?

—Tá mé geallta.

ASKING SOMEONE IF THEY HAVE CHILDREN

An bhfuil clann agat?

Have you children?

or

An bhfuil páistí agat?**An bhfuil clann agaibh?**

(plural)

SAYING THAT YOU HAVE OR HAVEN'T GOT CHILDREN

Tá clann agam/againn.

I/we have children.

mac

a son

iníon

a daughter

Níl páistí ar bith agam/againn.

I/we have no children.

Tá mé ag súil le páiste.

I'm expecting a child.

Tá mé ag súil le leanbh.

I'm expecting a baby.

Tá mé torrach.

I'm pregnant.

Remember, though, that **Tá** or **Níl** will suffice when answering a question like **An bhfuil clann agat?**

**—An bhfuil tú pósta, a Vera?****—Tá.****—An bhfuil clann agat?****—Níl go fóill. An bhfuil clann agat féin?****—An bhfuil páistí agaibh?****—Tá, mac agus iníon. Agus tá muid ag súil le páiste.**

The word **teaghlach** is used to refer to the family as a whole, including parents, whereas **clann** refers to the children of a family. **Páistí** refers to children in general and is also used interchangeably with **clann**.



1. You'll hear four people being asked about their marital status and also whether or not they have children. Try to answer before they do.

1. Síle is married with a son and a daughter.
2. Niamh is not married.
3. Micheál is separated from his wife. He has a son.
4. Alex is a widower. He has no children.

Boys and Girls

The following words are used to refer to boys and girls:

cailín	girl
cailíní	girls
or	
girseach	girl
girseachaí	girls
buachaill	boy
buachaillí	boys
or	
gasúr	boy
gasúraí	boys

ASKING SOMEONE HOW MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILY ARE

Cad é mar atá do chlann?

(When speaking to one person)

How are your children?

or

Cad é mar atá do chuid páistí?

This is how you return the question:

Cad é mar atá do chlannsa?

How are **your** children?

or

Cad é mar atá do chuid páistíse?

Faisnéis

The Irish equivalents of word like 'my' and 'your' that denote possession affect words in different ways:

mo (my)	mo <u>mh</u> ac	m'iníon
do (your)	do <u>mh</u> áthair	d'athair
a (his)	a <u>b</u> hean	a iníon
a (her)	a fear	a <u>h</u> athair
ár (our)	ár <u>b</u> páistí	ár <u>n</u> -athair
bhur (your)	bhur <u>g</u> clann	bhur <u>n</u> -iníon
a (their)	a <u>b</u> páistí	a <u>n</u> -athair

Mo and other words above that denote possession are never stressed in everyday speech. You add certain endings in order to add emphasis:

mo <u>mhacsa</u>	<i>my</i> son
do <u>mháthairse</u>	<i>your</i> mother
d'iníons <u>a</u>	<i>your</i> daughter

2. Can you write the following in Irish?

- How are your children? (Speaking to one person)
- How are your children? (Speaking to more than one person)
- How's her mother?
- How's his son?
- How's their daughter?
- How's her father?



3. Imagine you're married to Pat and you have a son called Brian. You meet a friend who's a widower and whom you haven't seen in several years. He also has one son. Listen to the recording and answer his questions.

Friend: —**Cá bhfuil tú i do chónaí anois?**

Say you live in Belfast, and ask him where **he** lives.

Friend: —**I Ros Treabhair. Cad é mar atá Pat agus do mhac Brian?**

Say they're fine, and ask how **his** son is.

Friend: —**Á, tá sé go breá. Cá bhfuil tú ag obair anois?**

Say you work in a factory in Carrickfergus (Carraig Fhearghais)

ASKING SOMEONE HOW MANY CHILDREN THEY HAVE

Cá mhéad páiste atá agat?

How many children have you?

Note that the singular form of the noun is used after **Cá mhéad?**

Cá mhéad cailín atá agat?

How many girls have you?

Counting People

duine amháin	one person
beirt	two people
triúr	three people
ceathrar	four people
cúigear	five people
seisear	six people
seachtar	seven people
ochtár	eight people
naonúr	nine people
deichniúr	ten people

The nouns following the personal numbers are usually in the **genitive plural** (although some of the nouns look exactly as they do in the nominative singular). Just learn the following examples for now:

seisear iníonacha
triúr mac
ceathrar buachaillí
cúigear cailíní

One last thing to remember: words beginning with a consonant take a **séimhiú** after **beirt**.

beirt mhac






This rule doesn't apply to the other personal numbers.



4. Can you say the following in Irish?

1. Three daughters
2. One son
3. Four boys
4. Two girls

5. Write the description in Irish beside each picture. (The first one has been done for you.)

 <p>2. Four girls</p> <hr/>	 <p>3. One daughter</p> <hr/>	
 <p>4. Four sons</p> <hr/>	 <p>5. Two daughters</p> <hr/>	 <p>6. Three daughters</p> <hr/>

6. Susan Ní Fhlaithearta has two sons and a daughter. She has recently moved to another area and is getting to know her new neighbour. Fill the blanks in their conversation.

Neighbour: Cá _____ páiste atá _____?

Susan: Beirt _____ agus iníon _____. An bhfuil tú féin _____?

Neighbour: Tá mé scartha ó m' _____ céile. Tá ceathrar páistí agam: mac amháin agus _____ iníonacha.

SAYING WHAT YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING

Tá ... acu ar an scoil.

... of them are at school.

Tá beirt acu ar an scoil.

Two of them are at school.

Tá duine amháin acu sa naíonra.

One of them is in playschool.

Tá Síle ar an bhunscoil.

Síle is at primary school.

Tá Aodh ar an mheánscoil.

Aodh is at secondary school.

Tá Nóra ar an ollscoil.

Nóra is at university.



7. You'll hear four different people talking about their children. Try to anticipate what they're going to say.

1. Jennifer has three children. One of them is at primary school and two of them are at secondary school.
2. Robert has four children. Two of them are at university and two of them are at secondary school.
3. Anne has one son; he's in playschool. She's expecting a baby.

8 TÚ Féin!

Say what your own marital status is. If you have any children, say how many and what they're doing.