

# The possessive adjective

## 1. Changes to the initial consonant or vowel of the accompanying noun

|                                |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st sing<br>= <b>mé</b>        | <b>m</b> + lenition with consonants<br>(except <i>fh</i> + vowel)<br><br><b>m'</b> + no change with vowels<br><b>m'</b> + lenition with <i>fh</i> + vowel | <i>mo chóta, mo pheann, mo fhreagra</i><br><br><i>m'aiste, m'úll</i><br><i>m'fhiac</i> |
| 2nd sing<br>= <b>tú</b>        | <b>d</b> + lenition with consonants<br>(except <i>fh</i> + vowel)<br><br><b>d'</b> + no change with vowels<br><b>d'</b> + lenition with <i>fh</i> + vowel | <i>do chóta, do pheann, do fhreagra</i><br><br><i>d'aiste, d'úll</i><br><i>d'fhiac</i> |
| 3rd sing masc<br>= <b>é</b>    | <b>a</b> + lenition with consonants<br><br><b>a</b> + no change with vowels                                                                               | <i>a chóta, a pheann, a fhiac</i><br><br><i>a aiste, a úll</i>                         |
| 3rd sing fem<br>= <b>í</b>     | <b>a</b> + no change with consonants<br><br><b>a</b> + <i>h</i> before vowels                                                                             | <i>a cóta, a peann, a fiac</i><br><br><i>a haiste, a húll</i>                          |
| 1st plur<br>= <b>muid/sinn</b> | <b>ár</b> + eclipsis                                                                                                                                      | <i>ár gcótaí, ár bpinn, ár bhfiac</i><br><br><i>ár n-aistí, ár n-úlla</i>              |
| 2nd plur<br>= <b>sibh</b>      | <b>bhur</b> + eclipsis                                                                                                                                    | <i>bhur gcótaí, bhur bpinn, bhur bhfiac</i><br><br><i>bhur n-aistí, bhur n-úlla</i>    |
| 3rd plur<br>= <b>iad</b>       | <b>a</b> + eclipsis                                                                                                                                       | <i>a gcótaí, a bpinn, a bhfiac</i><br><br><i>a n-aistí, a n-úlla</i>                   |

## 2. Compounds with prepositions

Prepositions which end on a vowel and possessive adjectives which begin on a vowel form a compound word. The changes outlined above to the initial consonant or vowel of the accompanying noun also apply after these compounds.

|             |                            |                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>de</b>   | de + a > <b>dá</b>         | <i>thit sé dá chapall/asal</i><br><i>thit sí dá capall/hasal</i><br><i>thit siad dá gcapaill/n-asail</i>                                     |
|             | de + ár > <b>dár</b>       | <i>thiteamar dár gcapaill/n-asail</i>                                                                                                        |
| <b>do</b>   | do + a > <b>dá</b>         | <i>thug sé cabhair dá chara/athair</i><br><i>thug sí cabhair dá cara/hathair</i><br><i>thug siad cabhair dá gcairde/n-athair</i>             |
|             | do + ár > <b>dár</b>       | <i>thugamar cabhair dár gcairde/n-athair</i>                                                                                                 |
| <b>faoi</b> | faoi + a > <b>faoina</b>   | <i>chuir sé faoina chasóg/ascaill é</i><br><i>chuir sí faoina casóg/hascaill é</i><br><i>chuir siad faoina gcasóga/n-ascaillí iad</i>        |
|             | faoi + ár > <b>faoinár</b> | <i>chuireamar faoinár gcasóga/n-ascaillí iad</i>                                                                                             |
| <b>i</b>    | i + a > <b>ina</b>         | <i>tá sé ina chodladh/aonar</i><br><i>tá sí ina codladh/haonar</i><br><i>tá siad ina gcodladh/n-aonar</i>                                    |
|             | i + ár > <b>inár</b>       | <i>táimid inár gcodladh/n-aonar</i>                                                                                                          |
| <b>le</b>   | le + a > <b>lena</b>       | <i>labhair sé lena chara/athair</i><br><i>labhair sí lena cara/hathair</i><br><i>labhair siad lena gcairde/n-athair</i>                      |
|             | le + ár > <b>lenár</b>     | <i>labhraíomar lenár gcairde/n-athair</i>                                                                                                    |
| <b>ó</b>    | ó + a > <b>óna</b>         | <i>fuair sé litir óna dhlíodóir/aintín</i><br><i>fuair sí litir óna dlíodóir/haintín</i><br><i>fuair siad litir óna ndlíodóir/n-aintín</i>   |
|             | ó + ár > <b>ónár</b>       | <i>fuaireamar litir ónár ndlíodóir/n-aintín</i>                                                                                              |
| <b>trí</b>  | trí + a > <b>trína</b>     | <i>chuir sé líne trína fhreagra/ainm</i><br><i>chuir sí líne trína freagra/hainm</i><br><i>chuir siad líne trína bhfreagraí/n-ainmneacha</i> |
|             | trí + ár > <b>trínár</b>   | <i>chuireamar líne trínár bhfreagraí/n-ainmneacha</i>                                                                                        |

### 3. With the verbal noun to indicate object of the verb

Note that the compound form *á* below includes the possessive adjective *a* and that the relevant changes outlined above to the initial consonant or vowel of the accompanying noun also apply after *á*.

|               |                                    |                                             |
|---------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1st sing      | <i>tá sé <b>do mo</b> ghortú</i>   | <i>bhí an madra <b>do m'</b>ionsaí</i>      |
| 2nd sing      | <i>tá sé <b>do do</b> ghortú</i>   | <i>bhí an madra <b>do d'</b>ionsaí</i>      |
| 3rd sing masc | <i>tá sé <b>á</b> ghortú</i>       | <i>bhí an madra <b>á</b> ionsaí</i>         |
| 3rd sing fem  | <i>tá sé <b>á</b> gortú</i>        | <i>bhí an madra <b>á</b> hionsaí</i>        |
| 1st plur      | <i>tá sé <b>dár</b> ngortú</i>     | <i>bhí an madra <b>dár</b> n-ionsaí</i>     |
| 2nd plur      | <i>tá sé <b>do bhur</b> ngortú</i> | <i>bhí an madra <b>do bhur</b> n-ionsaí</i> |
| 3rd plur      | <i>tá sé <b>á</b> ngortú</i>       | <i>bhí an madra <b>á</b> n-ionsaí</i>       |