

Emphatic suffix

In Irish, cases where one person is being emphasised in relation to another (i.e. *my bag is heavier than hers, they can go but we'll stay, it says more about you than about me*) are indicated by the use of an emphatic suffix, unlike languages such as English where the emphasis is indicated by vocally stressing the relevant word.

The emphatic suffixes in Irish are primarily added to prepositional pronouns (*liomsa, uirthise, orthusan*, etc), to nouns with the possessive adjective (*mo pheannsa, a chuidsean, bhur scoilse*, etc), and to verb forms where the personal pronoun is included (*ithimse, déanaigise, fanfaimidne*, etc). The emphatic suffix can similarly be added to the final word in any noun phrase, be they nouns (*mo ghuthán pócasa, a spéaclaí gréinese*), adjectives (*mo pheann deargsa, a gcathracha mórasan*), adverbs (*a leagan amachsan*), etc.

- Each emphatic suffix has two forms: a broad form which is added to a word ending on a broad consonant or vowel, and a slender form which applies to slender word endings.
- When an emphatic form beginning with *s* is added to a word ending in *-s*, a hyphen is inserted between the two *s*, i.e. *mo chos-sa, a iris-sean, thagaidís-sean*.
- Similarly, when an emphatic form beginning with *n* is added to a word ending in *-n*, a hyphen is inserted between the two *n*, i.e. *ár gclann-na, ár gcumainn-ne*.
- These rules apply to all words except some prepositional pronouns that have specific emphatic forms (see table 2 below). The emphatic forms of the personal pronouns (*mise, tusa*, etc) are outlined under Personal Pronouns above.

1. Emphatic Suffixes with Nouns, Verbs and Adjectives

Person	Emphatic suffix	Nouns	Verbs	Adjectives
1 sing	-sa (broad) -se (slender)	<i>mo chlannsa, mo thuras-sa mo ghairdínse, m'iris-se</i>	- <i>tagaimse</i>	<i>mo chóta mórsa mo chóta maithse</i>
2 sing	-sa (broad) -se (slender)	<i>do chlannsa, do thuras-sa do ghairdínse, d'iris-se</i>	<i>dhéanfása</i> -	<i>do chóta mórsa do chóta maithse</i>
3 sing (masc)	-san (broad) -sean (slender)	<i>a chlannsan, a thuras-san a ghairdínsean, a iris-sean</i>	-	<i>a chóta mórsan a chóta maithsean</i>
3 sing (fem)	-sa (broad) -se (slender)	<i>a clannsa, a turas-sa a gairdínse, a hiris-se</i>	- -	<i>a cóta mórsa a cóta maithse</i>
1 plur	-na (broad) -ne (slender)	<i>ár gclann-na, ár dturasna ár ngairdín-ne, ár n-irisne</i>	<i>bhiomarna théimisne</i>	<i>ár gcótaí mórana ár gcótaí maithene</i>
2 plur	-sa (broad) -se (slender)	<i>bhur gclannsa, bhur dturas-sa bhur ngairdínse, bhur n-iris-se</i>	- <i>fanaigise</i>	<i>bhur gcótaí mórasa bhur gcótaí maithese</i>
3 plur	-san (broad) -sean (slender)	<i>a gclannsan, a dturas-san a ngairdínsean, a n-iris-sean</i>	<i>bhíodarsan d'íosfaidís-sean</i>	<i>a gcótaí mórasan a gcótaí maithesean</i>

2. Emphatic Suffixes with Prepositional Pronouns

	1 sing	2 sing	3 sing masc	3 sing fem	1 plur	2 plur	3 plur
<i>ag</i>	agamsa	agatsa	aigesean	aicise	againne	agaibhse	acusan
<i>ar</i>	ormsa	ortsa	airsean	uirthise	orainne	oraibhse	orthusan
<i>as</i>	asamsa	asatsa	as-san	aistise	asainne	asaibhse	astusan
<i>chuig</i>	chugamsa	chugatsa	chuigesean	chuicise	chugainne	chugaibhse	chucusan
<i>de</i>	díomsa	díotsa	desean	dise	dínne	díbhse	diobhsan
<i>do</i>	domsa	duitse	dósan	dise	dúinne	daoibhse	dóibhsean
<i>faoi</i>	fúmsa	fútsa	faoisean	fúithise	fúinne	fúibhse	fúthusan
<i>i</i>	ionamsa	ionatsa	annsan	intise	ionainne	ionaibhse	iontusan
<i>idir</i>	-	-	-	-	eadrainne	eadraibhse	eatarthusan
<i>le</i>	liomsa	leatsa	leis-sean	léise	linne	libhse	leosan
<i>ó</i>	uaimse	uaitse	uaidhsean	uaithise	uainne	uaibhse	uathusan
<i>roimh</i>	romhamsa	romhatsa	roimhesean	roimpise	romhainne	romhaibhse	rompusan
<i>thar</i>	tharamsa	tharatsa	thairis-sean	thairstise	tharainne	tharaibhse	tharstusan
<i>trí</i>	tríomsa	tríotsa	trídsean	tríthise	trínne	tríbhse	tríothusan
<i>um</i>	umamsa	umatsa	uimesean	uimpise	umainne	umaibhse	umpusan