

An treo

Comhrá

Milise

An treo

Students of Irish are stymied by the many words to indicate direction in Irish, in particular by specific words indicating a reversal of direction. This booklet will look at the problem and provide some exercises to practice these words. In many cases, these words have no exact equivalent in English.

Up and Down Suas Síos

The words **suas** and **síos** indicate movement away from the position of the speaker towards a higher or a lower position.

Chuaigh sé suas an staighre
He went up the stairs

Chuaigh sé síos an staighre
He went down the stairs

In each of these cases, the speaker refers to motion away from where he is standing towards a different position.

When referring to a fixed position, without motion towards or away from that position, the words are **thuas** and **thíos**.

Tá Seán thuas an staighre
Sean is upstairs

Ta Seán thíos an staighre
Sean is downstairs

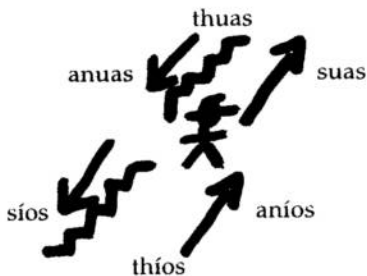
Note that the words **suas** and **síos** are also used with the verbs stand and sit to indicate a change of position **seas suas** [stand up] **suigh síos** [sit down]

Cuir isteach: suas thuas síos thíos

1. Suigh ____ ansin sa chathaoir bhog.
2. Seas ____ nuair atá an príomhoide sa seomra ranga.
3. D'fhag Daidí an bosca ____ san íoslach.
4. Tá na seomraí codlata (leapa) _____ an staighre ar an dara hurlár.
5. Tá an chistin ____ an staighre in aice leis an doras cúil.
6. Chonaic mé an capall ag rith _____ an bóthar agus an feirmeoir ina dhiaidh.

Cuir Gaeilge air seo:

1. Go down the street and get cigarettes at the shop.
2. Go up to the supermarket and get milk and bread.
3. Leave the toys down there in the basement.
4. Where are the suitcases? -- They're up there in the bedroom.
5. Leave the vacuum cleaner down there in the living room.
6. He put the table up there in the hallway.
7. Take the old TV set upstairs to the guest room.
8. Take the old couch down to the basement.



Inside Outside Istigh -Amuigh

A similar distinction exists between movement towards the inside or the outside and an enclosed space or an open space -- inside, outside.

Rith na páistí isteach sa chistin.
The kids ran into the kitchen.

Tá na páistí ag súgradh istigh.
The kids are playing indoors.

D'imigh Mícheál amach cúpla uair ó shin.
Michael went out a few hours ago.

Tá na páistí ag imirt peile amuigh.
The kids are playing soccer outside.



Cuir isteach: isteach istigh amach amuigh

1. Rith na páistí _____ sa chistin agus ansin, _____ sa ghardín.
2. Léim an cat _____ sa bhosca.
3. Cé atá _____ leis an leanbh? -- Tá Bríd _____ léi, is dóigh liom.
4. Cá bhfuil do rothar nua? -- D'fhág mé _____ é.
5. Tar _____ agus fan _____, a Thomáis.
6. Thit an leanbh _____ sa linn snámha.
7. Tá siad ag obair _____ sa monarcha.
8. Is féidir linn an suipéar a ithe _____ faoin spéir.

Cuir Gaeilge air seo:

1. He got into the car.
2. He got out of the car.
3. I saw her going into the shop but I didn't see her coming out.
4. Put the money in your pocket and don't take it out until you get home.
5. I don't like eating outdoors.
6. They're playing in the garden



North and South Ó thuaidh - ó dheas

To speak of motion towards the north, or a position in the north, the same word is used **ó thuaidh**. The same is true for the south **ó dheas**. To speak of a reverse of the direction from the north or from the south, the words are **aduaidh** (from the north) and **aneas** (from the south).

Cuir isteach: ó thuaidh aduaidh ó dheas aneas

(Assume you live in Ottawa)

1. Téim ____ go North Bay amárach.
2. Tagaim ____ ó North Bay arú amárach.
3. Tá mé ag dul ____ go Nua Eabhrac.
4. Tá mé ag teach ____ ó Nua Eabhrac.
5. Tá mo mhac ina chónaí ____ i North Bay.
6. Tá m'iníon ina cónaí ____ i Rochester.



East and West thiar-thoir

To speak of east and west, a full set of three separate words must be used: **siar** [to the west] **soir** [to the east] **thiar** [in the west] **thoir** [in the east] **aniar** [from the west] **anoir** [from the east].

Cuir isteach: thiar thoir siar soir aniar anoir

(Assume you live in Montreal)

1. Tá mo dheartháir ina chónaí _____ i dToronto agus mo dheirfiúr _____ i Halifax.
2. Rachaimid _____ go Alberta i mbliana. Anuraidh, Chuamar _____ ar saoire go Prince Edward Island.
3. Tá Mícheál agus a chlann ag teacht _____ ó New Brunswick agus Liam agus a chlann ag teacht _____ ó Manitoba.

Directions are often used in Irish to refer to the locations of buildings. These indications of direction are normally omitted in English:

Tá an séipéal thiar ag an gcroisaire.
The church is at the intersection.

Tá Tadhg ag dul soir go dtí an pub.
Tadhg is going to the pub.

Note: When you speak of the points of the compass, the words are:

an tuaisceart - the north
an deisceart - the south
an t-iarthar - the west
an t-oirthear - the east

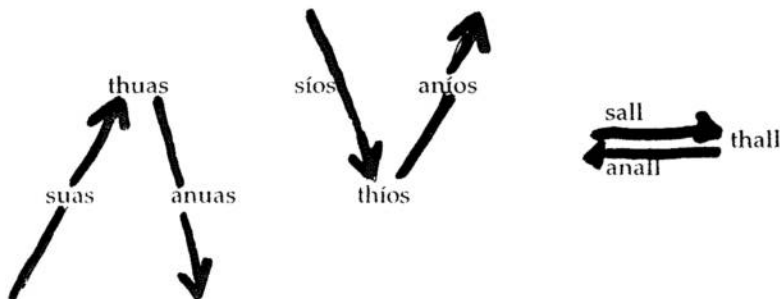
Here and there
Thall is abhus

Here is the complete list of words, then, for up and down, here and there. **suas** [towards above] **thuas** [above] **anuas** [down from above] **síos** [towards down there] **thíos** [down there] **aníós** [up from down there] **sall** [towards over there] **thall** [over there, in that place] **anall** [back from over there].

Cuir isteach:

sall	thall	anall
suas	thuas	anuas
síos	thíos	aníós

1. Fan _____ ansin, i Halifax. Tar _____ an bhliain seo chugainn. Téir _____ go teach Liam.
2. Tar _____ agus fan _____ anseo sa seomra suite. Ná téigh _____ go dtí an seomra leapa.
3. Tá na páistí ag súgradh _____ san íoslach. Dúirt mé leo tar _____ chun a suipéar. Tar éis a suipéir thig leo dul _____ arís.



Go- go dtí -chun

Direction is also expressed with the three words above. Go is the most general word. **Chun** and **go dtí** are used when the article **an** is present.

Téim go Nua Eabhrac go minic.

I go to New York often.

Chuaigh mé chun na Spáinne ar saoire.

I went to Spain on holidays.

Tá Mamó ag dul go dtí an siopa.

Granny is going to the store.

Go dtí is also used to refer to people:

Rith an páiste go dtí a mháthair.

The child ran to its mother.

Cuir isteach:

go
go dtí
chun

1. Fáilte _____ Ceanada.
2. Tá mé ag dul _____ an teach tábhairne.
3. Bhí Mícheál ag dul _____ an t-ollmhargadh.
4. An bhfuil Liam imithe _____ a athair?
5. Chuaigh mé suas _____ leithreas na bhfear.
6. Bhí Nóra ag dul _____ an banc
7. Chuamar _____ Aifreann na marbh.
8. Rachaidh mé _____ mo dheirfiúr amárach.

Go nó chun nó go dtí?

Chuaigh mé Páras

- ... Sasana
- ... na Fraince
- ... na Spáinne
- ... Londain
- ... Nua Eabhrac
- ... na Róimhe
- ... Baile Átha Cliath
- ... na Gaillimhe
- ... na Stáit Aontaithe Méiriceá
- ... hÉirinn
- ... na Gearmáine
- ... na hEorapa
- ... na Rúise
- ... Moscó

Cuir Gaeilge air seo:

1. I intend to stay overnight in Toronto and to return to Montreal in the morning.
2. Go up to the third floor, turn left. His name is written on the door, number twenty-five.
3. I have a meeting in Vancouver on Friday morning. I intend to stay the weekend in Vancouver and return to Winnipeg on Tuesday.
4. Where are you going next week? -- I'll be flying to Halifax.
5. Where's the women's washroom? -- Go up to the second floor and it's right in front of you.
6. Go upstairs, get the book and come back downstairs.
7. Stay upstairs and don't come down.
8. Come back from there this afternoon.
9. I'm going over to the pub this evening.
10. The east wind is usually dry but the west wind is wet.
11. Come up here! Go down there! Stay over there!
12. I saw him walking along the road.

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