USING SCOTS GAEIC IN HERITAGE INTERPRETATION

A’ CLEACHDADH NA GÀIDHLIG ANN AN EADAR-MHÌNEACHADH DUALCHAIS
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1. A PART OF THE LANDSCAPE

Gaelic helps to make modern Scotland. It is embedded in the landscape in the names of hills, streams and towns, and is at the heart of a vibrant contemporary culture. It has strong links with the country’s history, and offers a unique way of expressing our relationship with the world.

Gaelic can play an important role in interpretation – the work of encouraging visitors and local people to enjoy, engage with and understand heritage sites and collections. Because relatively few of them are able to read Gaelic confidently, its role in interpretation may be to build a ‘sense of place’ rather than being a medium through which visitors discover stories and facts – but establishing a strong sense of place is in many ways a more important goal for interpretation than what people learn.

Using Gaelic also raises its profile, an important function for a language that has long been in decline. Linguists describe languages that are used in public places, such as signs and advertisements, as forming a ‘linguistic landscape’. The presence of a language in that landscape is a sign of its vitality and role in society, and some argue that giving a language greater exposure can raise its status and affect language practice.

Making effective use of Gaelic in interpretation is not simply a matter of developing content in English and then translating it. Just like any other choice in interpretation, the situations where Gaelic can make a positive contribution, and the way it is used, need to be planned. The language needs to support a project’s aims, and to be used in a way that fits with both place and audience.

1. PÀIRT DHEN ÀRAINNEACHD

Tha a’ Ghàidhlig na páirt mòr do dh’Alba san là an-diugh. Tha i ri lorg air feadh ar n-àrainneachd, ann an ainmean bheanntan, aibhnichean is bhaitean, agus tha i aig cridhe cultair a tha beò agus beòthail. Tha i freumhaichte ann an eachdraidh na dùthcha, is i a’ toirt dhuinn dòigh àraidh air bruidhinn mun t-saoghal mun cuairt oirnn.

Tha àite cudromach aig a’ Ghàidhlig a thaobh eadar-mhìneachadh – a’ brosnachadh luchd-tadhail agus muinntir ann an àite a thighinn a thuigse is a ghabhail tlachd à cruinneachaidhean agus làraichean dualchais. Leis nach eil comas air Gàidhlig a leughadh ach aig beagan dhen luchd-tadhail, ‘s dòcha gu bheil i ga cleachdadh airson ‘mothachadh air àite’ a bhrosnachadh seach a bhith na cànain airson sgeulachdan is fiosrachadh a thoirt seachad – ach tha cruthachadh ‘mothachadh air àite’ na amas nas cudromaiche na na tha daoine ag ionnsachadh tro eadar-mhìneachadh.

Tha cleachdadh na Gàidhlig cuideachd a’ togail inbhe a’ chànan, rud a tha cudromach dha cân an a thair a bhith cho fada a’ crionadh. Tha eòlaichean a’ bhruidhinn air cleachdadh a’ chànan ann an làraichean poblach, air soidhnichean agus sasanach, mar tu bha a tha a’ cruthachadh ‘àrainneachd cànan’. Tha an t-aite a th’ aig cân an san àrainneachd seo a’ comharrachadh cho beòthail ‘s a tha e agus mar a tha e ga cleachdadh leis an t-sluagh, agus tha cuid dhen bheachd gu bheil àite nas fhollaisiche aig a’ chànan a’ toigal inbhe agus a’ toirt buaidh air cleachdadh a’ chànan.

Nuair a thathas ag amas air a’ Ghàidhlig a chleachadh le efeachdas, feamar a dhol seachad air dìreach cruthachadh stuthan sa Bheurla agus an uair sin gan eadar-theangachadh. Direach mar a tha Fior mu roghainneach eile ann an eadar-mhìneachadh, feumar planadh a dhèanamh air mar a thèid a’ Ghàidhlig a chleachadh agus mar as urrainn dhi cur ris an eadar-mhìneachadh. Feumar an cànan a chur ri amasan a’ pròiseict, agus gun
This advice note aims to help you make choices about using Gaelic in interpretation, and offers examples drawn from current good practice. It is based on research carried out in 2012 by the Centre for Interpretive Studies at the University of the Highlands and Islands, in conjunction with the national Gaelic research network, Soillse. The research reviewed literature on the use of more than one language in interpretation, and evaluated visitors’ responses to written interpretation in Gaelic at the Arnol Blackhouse, on the Isle of Lewis, and Stanley Mills, near Perth. The research also interviewed people off-site to assess their response to specially-prepared interpretation materials in English and Gaelic. Although the sample sizes were quite small, the research gives valuable insights into how people respond to Gaelic. If you would like to read the full research report, called Visitor Interpretation 2013, it is available from the Research section of Bord na Gàidhlig’s website at bit.ly/BnG-Research.

This note deals only with Gaelic, but some of the points discussed could apply equally well to Scots, Scotland’s other indigenous language. Both offer much to interpretation, and can help to enrich visitors’ experience and understanding. The key difference is that a fluent reader of English can often follow the meaning of Scots, especially if they are prepared to ‘hear’ the sound of the words as they read them.

Tèid a chleachadh ann an dòigh a fhreagras air an àite agus air an luchd-tadhail.

Tha an leabhraín seo ann airson cuideachadh a thoirt dhut is tu a’ ruigseinn cho-dhùnaidhean air cleachdadh na Gàidhlig ann an eadar-mhìneachadh, le eisimpleirean gan taraing bho dheagh chleachdadh. Tha a’ chomhairle stèidhte air rannsachadh a rinneadh ann an 2012 leis an Ionad airson Eòlas Eadar-mhìneachadh aig Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean, an cò-blood ris an t-ìonra rannsachaidh Ghàidhlig, Soillse. Rinn an rannsachadh seo lèirmheas air cleachdadh barrachd na aon chànan ann an eadar-mhìneachadh, le cuideachadh gà dhèanamh air beachdan luchd-tadhail air eadar-mhìneachadh sgriobhte aig Taigh-tughaidh Àrnoil, Leòdhas, agus Muilnean Stanley, faisg air Peairt. Chùm an rannsachadh agallamhan cuideachd le daoine far-làraich gus measadh nam beachdan ac aca air stuthan eadar-mhìneachaidh air an cur ri chièile ann an Gàidhlig is ann am Beurla. Ged a bha an aireamh dhaoise a chaithd a cheillsachadh meadhanach beag, thug an rannsachadh dhuinn seallaidhean luachmhor air freagairtean daoine a thaobh na Gàidhlig. Tha an aithisg shlàin, Eadar-mhìneachadh Tadhail 2013, ri thaicinn fo Rannsachadh na Gàidhlig a Rannsachadh aig làrach-lìn Bhòrd na Gàidhlig aig bit.ly/BnG-Rannsachadh.

Tha an t-iùl seo a’ dèiligeadh ris a’ Ghàidhlig a-mhàn, ach faoidh cud de na puingeann buntainn mar an cudna don Bheurla Ghalaita, càn aile a bhualneas do dh’Alba. Faoidh an dà chànan seo cur gu mòr ri eadar-mhìneachadh, ri tuigse agus ris na gheibh luchd-tadhail à làraichean dualchais. S’e an t-eadar-dhealachadh as motha, ge-tà, gu h-àraidh ma tha iad deònach ‘èisteachd’ ri fuaim nam faclan is iad gan leughadh.
1.1 The status of Gaelic in Scotland

The 2011 Scotland Census gives the most recent and complete national data on Gaelic language ability in the Scottish population. It shows that 87,056 people say they have some capability in the language (1.7% of the total population aged three or over). Of these, just over half (44,104) say they can read Gaelic, so for a significant proportion of those with some knowledge of Gaelic it is something they can speak and/or understand, but not read.

The local council areas of the Western Isles, Highland, and Argyll and Bute have the highest proportion of Gaelic users in their population, but 56% of people with some Gaelic knowledge live outwith these traditional strongholds of the language.

The census results are important in thinking about where Gaelic might be used in interpretation: they show, for example, that there are more Gaelic speakers than you might expect in the Central Belt. Most importantly, they show that there are many people who are not confident at reading the language, even though they might speak it reasonably well. It is worth remembering that the level of literacy in reading English among Gaelic users is similar to that in the rest of the population: if someone who is learning to read the language finds Gaelic text presented alongside an English version, and they find the Gaelic challenging, they are likely to take the easy option of reading the English.

The Scotland's Census website (bit.ly/scotcensus2011) has full details of the census results.

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, which came into force in 2006, aims to secure “the status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English

1.1 Inbhe na Gàidhlig ann an Alba

Tha an Cunntas Sluaigh ann an 2011 a’ toirt dhuinn an dàta as ùire agus as coileanta air comasan Gàidhlig am measg muinntir na h-Alba. Tha e a’ sealltainn gu tuirt 87,056 gu bheil comas air choreigin aca sa chànan (1.7% dhen t-sluagh gu lèir dhe tri bliadhna a dh’aois no nas sine). A-mach às na daoine seo, thuirt beagan nas motha na an dàrna leth dhiubh (44,104) gun robh comas leughaidh aca. Tha seo a’ sealltainn gu bheil sluagh mòr aig a bheil comas labhairt agus/no tuigse nach urrainn a’ Ghàidhlig a leughadh.

’S ann ann an sgìrean ùghdarras ionadail nan Eilean Siar, na Gàidhealtachd agus Earra-Ghàidheal is Bòid a tha a’ chuid as motha de luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig, ach tha 56% de dhaoine aig a bheil comasan sa Ghàidhlig a fuireach taobh a-muigh nan sgìrean seo aig a bheil an dualchas as treasa a thaobh na Gàidhlig.

language”. Bòrd na Gàidhlig ([www.gaidhlig.org.uk](http://www.gaidhlig.org.uk)), a statutory body, is responsible for implementing the Act. The Bòrd’s primary duties are to:

- increase the number of people who are able to use and understand Gaelic;
- encourage the use and understanding of Gaelic;
- to facilitate access, in Scotland and elsewhere, to the Gaelic language and Gaelic culture.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig is required to prepare and submit to Scottish Ministers a national Gaelic language plan. Bòrd na Gàidhlig can also request that public sector organisations prepare a Gaelic Language Plan.

Tha Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005, a thàinig a-steach ann an 2006, ag amas air “daingneachadh inbhe na Gàidhlig mar chànan oifigeil an Alba a tha a’ dleasadh spèis cho-ìonann ris a’ Bheurla”. Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig ([www.gaidhlig.org.uk](http://www.gaidhlig.org.uk)), na bhuidheann reachdail le dleastanas airson cur an gniomh na h-Achd. ’S iad priomh dhleastanasan a’ Bhùirid:

- àrdachadh na h-àireamh dhaoine aig a bheil comas a’ Ghàidhlig a thuigse agus a bhruidhinn;
- brosnachadh tuigse agus cleachdadh na Gàidhlig;
- cothroman a chruthachadh dha daoine, ann an Alba agus eile, airson faighinn chun na Gàidhlig agus gu cultar Gàidhealach.

Tha aig Bòrd na Gàidhlig ri plana cânain nàiseanta Gàidhlig ullachadh agus a chur a-steach gu Ministearan na h-Alba. Faodaidh am Bòrd cuideachd iarradh air buidhnean poblach Plana Gàidhlig ullachadh.
1.2 Heritage interpretation

Interpretation aims to engage people with places, like nature reserves, forests and historic buildings, and with collections, such as in museums and art galleries, when they visit them as part of their leisure time. Interpretation offers interesting stories and ideas through media such as exhibitions, trails or guided activities, all designed to help people explore and enjoy places and collections while they are actually visiting them.

First defined as an activity by the United States National Park Service in the 1950s, interpretation originally placed a lot of emphasis on encouraging people to learn about their heritage, with the intention that they would value it more and support its conservation. The goal of encouraging people to value their heritage is still important, but modern interpretation places more emphasis on the overall quality of visitors' experience than on conventional ‘learning’. This is largely due to a more sophisticated understanding of the role learning might play in people's leisure activity, and of how visitors engage with stories, ideas and information.

Effective interpretation projects need to be planned so they have clear aims, fit with the characteristics of their audience, and are appropriate for the site or collection. Choices about how to use Gaelic should be part of that process.

Good practice in interpretation is that it should:

• introduce a limited number of clear, interesting ideas;
• present those ideas in ways that are engaging and accessible for the intended audience;
• be concise.

1.2 Ag eadar-mhìneachadh ar dualchais

Tha eadar-mhìneachadh ag amas air ceangal dhaoine ri àitean, leithid tèarmainn nàdair, coilltean agus togalaichean eachdraidheil, agus le cruinneachaidhean, mar a gheibh an ti ag na h-taisbeanaidh agus an gailearaidhean ealain, nuair a thèid iad a thadhal orra. Tha eadar-mhìneachadh a’ tabhann sgeulachdan is bheachdan inntinneach tro mheadhanan leithid taisbeanaidhean, cuairtean no tachartasan treòrachaidh, uile ann airson cuideachadh dhaoine gus rannsachadh agus tachd fhaighinn à àitean agus cruinneachaidhean air a bheil iad a’ tadhail.

Chaidh a chomharrachadh mar rud sònraichte an toiseach le Seirbheis Phàircean Nàiseanta nan Stàitean Aonaichte sna 1950an, le eadar-mhìneachadh an uair sin a’ chothromaidh mun dualchas, le dùil gum biodh daoine na bu dhualtaiche barrachd luach a chur ann agus barrachd taice a chumail ri gleidheadh an dualchais seo. Tha e na amas cudromach fhathast gun cuir daoine luach san dualchas in air, ach tha eadar-mhìneachadh san là an diugh a’ cur barrachd cuidein air mar a tha e a’ còrdadh ri luchd-tadhail seach ‘ionnsachadh’ san t-seagh abhaisteach. Tha seo gu ire mhor ri linn tuigse nas fhèarr is nas toinnite air an àite a th’ aig ionnsachadh ann an cur-seachadan daoine, agus na tha daoine a’ faighinn a sgeulachadan, beachdann is fiosrachadh.

Feumar planadh a bhith an lùib phròiseactan eadar-mhìneachaidh etìeachdach gus am bi amasan soilleir aca, gum bi iad a’ freagairt air an luchd-tadhail, agus gum bi iad freagarrach airson na laraich no a’ chruiinneachaidh. Bu choir do roghainnean air cleachadh na Gàidhlig a bhith nam pàirt dhen phròiseas sin.

Tha deagh chleachadh ann an eadar-mhìneachadh a’ ciallachadh gu bheil e:
Text in exhibitions, on panels and in publications like guidebooks and apps must be well-written, supported by high quality visual material, and short. A typical maximum word limit for a single panel is 250 words. This has important implications for interpretation that presents two languages simultaneously, such as English and Gaelic. Research shows that if visitors are presented with what they perceive as a large amount of text, even if they know some of it is in a language they do not understand, they will read less of the text overall. If you present content in two languages, you cannot include as much material as you could if you use only one. This can actually be a good thing, because it forces you to take a more disciplined approach to the themes or ideas you want people to engage with, and it emphasises the need for text to be concise as well as lively.

You can find out more about interpretation and about welcoming visitors to heritage sites from the following sources:

- The Association for Heritage Interpretation www.ahi.org.uk
- Sam H. Ham Interpretation – Making a Difference on Purpose (2013)

Feumar an teacsa ann an taisbeanaidhean, air pannalan agus ann am foilseachaidhean leithid leabhrachan-ùil agus apaichean a bhith air a dheagh sgrìobhadh agus goirid; le dealbhan stuth grafaigeach fior mhath maille riutha. Anns an àbhaist cha bu chòir barrachd na 250 facal a bhith airt air an phannal. Tha seo a’ toirt buaidh air stuth eadar-mhìnneachadh air a sgrìobhadh ann an dà chànan; Beurla is Gàidhlig mar eisimpleir. Tha rannsachadh a’ sealltainn nuair a tha luchd-tadhail a’ fhaighinn na tha iad a’ faicinn mar an t-ubhais sgrìobhaidh, fiù ma tha fios acu gu bheil pàirt dheth ga sgrìobhadh ann an cànna an tàig iad, nach leugh iad a cheart uiread dhen teacsa. Ma thèid an stuth a sgrìobhadh ann an dà chànan, chan urrainn don uiread de sgrìobhadh a bhith ann nam biodh e sgrìobhte ann an aon chànan a-mhàin. Faodaidh seo a bhith na buannachd, oir tha e a’ toirt air daoine a bhith nas puingeile a thaobh nan cuspairean is beachdan a thèid a leughadh, agus mar a dh’fhéumar sgrìobhadh a bhith goirid cho math ri beòthail.

Gheibh sibh barrachd fiorsachaidh air eadar-mhìnneachadh agus air fàilte a chur air luchd-tadhail a’ tìghinn gu làraichean dualchais aig:

- The Association for Heritage Interpretation www.ahi.org.uk
- Sam H. Ham Interpretation – Making a Difference on Purpose (2013)
2. HOW TO USE GAELIC EFFECTIVELY

Because Gaelic can be a part of interpretation in many different situations, and there is wide variation in people's ability to speak or read it, there is no 'best' way to use the language. Instead, interpretation projects can take a creative approach to using and presenting Gaelic, matching what they do to each project's aims, audiences and subject.

There are, however, some guidelines to good practice that can help you decide on an effective approach. They are based on the research carried out by Soillse and the University of the Highlands and Islands, and on experience from projects by a number of heritage organisations.

2.1 Work within an agreed policy

It helps a lot if your organisation has an agreed policy about how it aims to use Gaelic in interpretation. Without an overall policy, individual projects can be pulled in different directions depending on the personal agendas and preferences of those involved, and it may be difficult to reach decisions that really satisfy the interpretation goals of the scheme.

A policy on using Gaelic in interpretation is not the same as a formal Gaelic Language Plan, although some plans do make commitments to policy on interpretation issues. Policy on using Gaelic in interpretation does not need to be complex. It can specify a flexible approach to the language, but should set out clear parameters for making decisions and offer broad guidelines for its use.
For planning purposes, Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) has defined three different levels at which Gaelic will be used in its interpretation: ‘Level 1’ (a flavour of Gaelic), ‘Level 2’ (moderate), or ‘Level 3’ (fully bilingual). Once identified, these levels guide content development for interpretive media. FCS would specify level 1, ‘a flavour of Gaelic’, in planning interpretation for sites, projects or audiences that have limited connection with Gaelic heritage or language. A ‘moderate’ level of Gaelic indicates a more substantial presence for the language, perhaps with particular aspects of the site’s heritage interpreted with text in Gaelic and English. Gaelic content can cover any aspect of the topic being interpreted: it doesn’t have to be related to Gaelic culture, speakers or history.

A Viking View

Follow in the footsteps of a Viking prince for great views over Loch Ness.

Battle and death awaited past visitors to the woods of Drumadrochit. A thousand years ago, the Viking prince Rurik was elected to the top of the fell here with his army, pursued by native Scots. He met his end at the hands of the Scots, but lives on in local place names.

The waterfed trails of Craigmore and Balnain are a short walk from here; just follow the waymarkers. Pick up a leaflet from the visitor information centre or visit our website to discover more about the history of these woods.

There are over 50 species of trees in Craigmore and Balnain. How many can you spot?

The site is 30 km south of Inverness. The A836 north of Drumnadrochit can be accessed from the A9.

These trails are managed and funded by Forestry Commission Scotland in partnership with Woodland Trust.
Historic Scotland evaluates the potential use of Gaelic at each site in its care. Their approach depends on assessing a number of factors, including:

- the concentration of Gaelic users in the local area;
- the bilingual policies of other public bodies in the area;
- the provision of Gaelic-Medium Education in local schools;
- the importance of the site to the history or heritage of the Gaels.

2.2 **Think about how your audiences might use Gaelic**

Matching interpretation to its audience is one of the most important aspects of interpretive planning. If you're going to provide content in Gaelic, it's vital to consider how people might take an interest in and use the language. This involves thinking about their ability in Gaelic, as well as what the presence of the language might do for them.

**Non Gaelic users**

Using Gaelic in interpretation can add to visitors' experience even if they have no knowledge of the language. Seeing or hearing Gaelic makes them aware of it as a living language with purpose and relevance: it becomes part of the 'linguistic landscape' discussed in section 1. If the interpretation can encourage them to engage with the meaning of a few words, or help them pronounce place-names, their experience will be further enriched.

**Luchd-cleachdaidh gun Ghàidhlig**

Faodaidh a’ Ghàidhlig a bhith na buannachd do dhaoine a tha a’ tadhail air an làraich, gidheadh a bheil Gàidhlig aca gus nach eil. Tha faicinn agus cluinntinn na Gàidhlig a’ taraing aire thuice mar chànan a tha beò agus aig a bheil adhbh Bhar a bhith ann agus buntanas dhaibh; tha i na pàirt dhen ‘àrainneachd chànanaich’ air an robhas a-mach ann an Earrann I. Mas urrainn don eadar-mhíneachadh brosachadh a thoirt dhaibh smaoinneasdh air ciall cuid de dh’thaclan, no feuchainn air cuid de dh’ainmean-àite a chantainn, cuiridh seo ris an turas tad hail aca.
Research from a number of studies in Scotland and Wales has shown that most non Gaelic or Welsh speakers are not alienated by seeing the languages. Instead, they say it enhances their awareness of the languages’ role, and their relevance to the site concerned.

**Gaelic users**

People who understand Gaelic can of course use it to engage with the stories and ideas it presents, but its presence can also have an important role for them in raising the language’s profile. Its status can be enhanced, as long as the Gaelic content is of high quality and presented in a way that reflects equality of respect with other languages. This may in turn encourage people to use Gaelic, and promote loyalty to it.

However, the way Gaelic users engage with the language is very dependent on their level of knowledge and skills, and the Scotland’s Census results show that nearly half of the people who speak Gaelic have difficulty in reading it. In research on visitors’ responses to written interpretation, only confident Gaelic readers fully engaged with Gaelic content. People who were less confident at reading the language, or who were learning it, often found the Gaelic content in the test materials too complex and did not feel it helped them learn about the topic being interpreted.

Some of the materials used in the research offered a summary in Gaelic of the main ideas and stories, rather than a fully bilingual presentation in which the same content is presented in both languages. Confident users of the language said they had a slight preference for fully bilingual content, but people learning Gaelic were more positive about the summaries.

Teachers of Gaelic and people who are learning it, whether formally or informally, may welcome interpretation in Gaelic as a resource.

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Tha toraidhean rannsachaidhean a rinneadh sa Chuimrigh agus ann an Alba air sealltainn nach eil stuthan sgrìobhte sa Ghàidhlig no sa Chuimris a’ cur dheth daoine aig nach eil na cànanan seo. Gu dearbh, ’s ann a tha iad ag ràdh gu bheil iad a’ cur ris an eòlas a th’a’ca air àthe nan cànanan agus mar a tha iad a’ buntainn ris na làraichean.

**Luchd-cleachdaidh na Gàidhlig**

Tha daoine a thugteas a’ Ghàidhlig le comas ga cleachdadh airson sgeulachdan agus beachdan aithris sa chànann, ach faodaidh i cuideachd a bhith cudromach a thaobh togail lomhaigh a’ chànan. Faodar cur ri inbhe na Gàidhlig, fhad ’s a tha an stuth Gàidhlig air a dheagh sgrìobhadh agus air a thoir seachad a rèir a’ phrionnspail de spéis cho-ionann ri cânanan eile. ’S dòcha gun tarraing seo daoine gu cleachdadh na Gàidhlig, is iad nas dìlse dhi.

Tha an dòigh ’s a bheil daoine a’ cleachdadh na Gàidhlig, ge-tà, a rèir an ire de dh’eòlas agus sgìlean, agus tha toraidhean a’ chunntais-shluigh ag innse dhuinn gu bheil suas ris an dàrra leth dhen fhheadhainn aig a bheil comas a bruiddhinn le trioblaid a thaobh a bhith ga leughadh. Tha toraidhean rannsachaidh air beachdan luchd-tadhail mu eadar-mhineachadh sgrìobhte a’ sealltainn gur iad luchd-leughaidh misneachail a-mhàin a tha ga leughadh ann an doimhneachadh. Thuirt na daoine aig nach robh an uiread de mhisneachd, no a bha ga h-ionnsachadh, gun robh an teacsa Ghàidhlig tric ro dhùilich a thugse agus nach robh i a’ cur rin ionnsachadh mu chuspair an eadar-mhineachadh.

Bha cuid de stuthan a chleachdadh san rannsachadh le geàrr-chunntasan Gàidhlig air brigh nan sgeulachdan, seach fior eadar-mhineachadh dà-chànanach air an sgrìobhadh dà-chànanach. Thuirt daoine aig an robh misneachd san dà chànan gun robh beagan de mhìann a bharrachd aca airson stuth a bha fior dhà-chànanach, ach b’fheàrr le luchd-ionnsachaidh na geàrr-chunntasan.
'S math dh'fhaoiđe gun cuireadh luchd-teagainbh agus luchd-ionnsachaidh, foirmneil no neo-foirneil, faíltae air eadar-mhíneachadh Gàidhlig mar ghioireas a bhiodh gu feum dhaibh nan ionnsachadh. Tha e a’ toirt dhaibh stuthan le bunntanas don t-saoghal mun cuairt orra a bhios nas bhothailte na na leughas iad ann an leabhar-teacsa. Feumarr fios a bhith aca, ge-tà gu bheil an stuth Gàidhlig ri fhaoiđainn: chan eil e gu feum sam bith na stuthan Gàidhlig a bhith am falach ann am preas no deasg.

Tha rannsachadh ann ann dùthchannan eile a’ sealltainn gu bheil daoine a’ cleachdadh eadar-mhíneachadh dà-chànanach airson measadh a dhèanamh air cho math ’s a tha iad a’ tuigse a’ chànanain a tha iad ag ionnsachadh, no am fear air nach eil iad cho eòlach. Bidh iad a’ dol eadar an dà chànnan, am fear air nach eil iad cho eòlach agus am fear as treasa aca, agus tha an t-eadar-mhíneachadh gà chleachdadh aca mar ghoireas ionnsachaidh.

Mar seo, tha luchd-ionnsachadh a’ cur feum air sgrìobhadh simplidh, goirid, agus tha iad nas dualtaiche leughadh na Gàidhlig ma tha e co-ionann, no le bunntanas làidir aige, ris a’ Bheurla. Tha iad nas dualtaiche a’ Ghàidhlig a leughadh ma tha i ga sgrìobhadh gun bhrìathrachas is ghràamar a tha ro thoinntse, ach feumarr a bhith cothromach an seo: faodaoidh e cais no bacadh a chur air luchd-leughaidh misneachail ma tha iad a’ faireadhainn gu bheil a’ Ghàidhlig ro shìmplidh.

Tha cuide de phróiseactan air susbaint eadar-dhealaichte a chur air adhart san dà chànan, mar as trice le susbaint a’ nochdadh ann an Gàidhlig a-mhàin am measc stuth eadar-mhíneachadh a tha dà-chànanach. ’S dòcha gun can cuid gur e deagh ruda iad a tha seo; gu bheil seo a’ tabhann ’rud a bharrachd’ dh’ aoidh aig a bheil Gàidhlig, agus bheir e dhut cothrom rudan a thaisbeanadh nam biodh idir aird a nochdadh gun rùm gun leòr ann airson an dà chànan. Ach tha droch bhuaidean na lubh cuideadh.
likely to be confused or frustrated to find material they would like
to understand but cannot. People who have no Gaelic may feel
short-changed, resentful or even suspicious when they realise
there is content they cannot read; in fact the technique undermines
fundamental principles of equality of access. Lastly, except in a very
few situations, the proportion of the audience who will use the
Gaelic-only content is very small indeed. The only research that
has been done on this approach actually found that it was less popular
than bilingual text among all groups: fluent Gaelic speakers, Gaelic
learners and non-Gaelic speakers.

What's right for you?
The approach you take must depend on your assessment of your
audiences, how they are likely to use the interpretation, and your
priorities for communication. At places where you may get a higher
proportion of visitors who use Gaelic fluently, such as in the Western
Isles or Skye, you might decide to take a fully bilingual approach, with
all content presented in both Gaelic and English. This approach also
recognises that Gaelic is the first language for many people in these
areas, and something visitors might hear in shops and pubs.

At places where the audience is more likely to include a higher
proportion of people learning Gaelic, or that receive a large number
of overseas visitors with other language needs, you might offer
selected stories or elements in Gaelic, or short texts that summarise
the main ideas and stories.

As with all interpretation planning, you need to think about your
site and its stories as well as your audience. At Glenfinnan, the
overwhelming majority of visitors have no knowledge of Gaelic at all.
But the National Trust for Scotland has developed a mostly bilingual
exhibition there about the Jacobite rising in 1745, because the story of
'S dòcha nach cur luchd-leughaidh fileanta fàilte air an oidhirp a
bharrachd a dh'Theumas iad a dhèanamh airson nam piosan ann an
Gàidhlig a-mhàn, gu h-àrainn ann an suidheachadhean leithid
taisbeanaidhean far a bheil gu leòr ann ri leughadh mar-thà. Faoaidh
e bacadh no cas a chur air luchd-ionnsachaidh, mura h-eil iad sùbhblach
sa chànan, a bhith a’ faighinn sgrìobhadh nach tuig iad mar bu mhiann
leotha. Faoaidh gu b’ dioaine aig nach eil Gàidhlig faireachdail gu
bheil iad a’ call rudeigin, agus gu cin e fearg, buaireas na amharas orra
nuair a thig e am follais gu bheil rudan ann nach bhaigh iad air leughadh;
ghu dearbh tha seo a’ cur an aghaidh phrìomhsepaalan bunaiteach steidhte
air co-ionannachd chothroman. Cuideachd, anns a’ chuid mhòr de
shuidheachaidhean, chan fhaigh ach ghè bheag de dhaoine air teacsa
a leughadh a tha a’ nochadh ann an Gàidhlig a-mhàn. Tha an aon
obair-rannsachaidh a rinneadh air seo air sealltainn gun do chòrd
teacsa dhà-chànanach na b’ fhèarr ri luchd-cleachdadh de gach seòrsa;
fileantaich, luchd-ionnsachaidh agus daoinne gun Ghàidhlig.

Dé an dòigh as fhèarr
Feumar an dòigh agad a bhith a réir measaigh air an luchd-cleachdadh
againn, mar a théid an t-eadar mhìneachadh a chleachdadh leotha, agus
na prìomhseachasan conailraidh agaibh. Aig làraichean far am fàighear
barrachd luchd-cleachdadh a tha fileanta sa Ghàidhlig, leithid sna
h-Eileanan an Iar no san Eilean Sgitheanach, s’ dòcha gum bi a h-uile càil
dà-chànanach, leis gach nì a’ nochadh san dà chànan. Tha an modh-
obrach seo cuideachd ag aithneachadh gur i a’ Ghàidhlig prìomh chànan
mòran daoine sna h-eileanan sin, agus gun cluinn luchd-tadhail i s’ dòcha
ann am bùthtain is taighean-seinnse.

Mar a tha fior mu phlanadh eadar mhìneachail sam bith, feumar
smoineachadh air an làraich agus na sgeulachdan co-cheangailte rithe
cho math ris an luchd-cleachdaidh. Aig Gleann Fhionnainn, tha a’ mhòr-
chuid de luchd-tadhail gun Ghàidhlig sam bith. Tha Urras Nàiseanta na

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the ‘45 is so closely linked to Gaelic heritage that a bilingual approach seems appropriate. Creative graphic design helps visitors to follow the language they want to use, as well as encouraging them to notice the other. You’ll find more about this project in the case studies section.

2.3 Use Gaelic to support your objectives

Decisions about how to use Gaelic and how to present it should be guided by what will help your project achieve its objectives. Using Gaelic is often a way to raise awareness of the language and its place in Scottish life. Think about how Gaelic can be linked to contemporary issues and stories: a good way to support the language is to use it to express a modern cultural perspective, not just as a link to historical subjects. If you want to encourage people to engage with Gaelic, find ways of using it that might help learners gain confidence or intrigue people who know little of the language.

Some topics are particularly well-suited to interpretation in Gaelic, or present obvious opportunities to encourage awareness of the language. Examples include place-names, or the history of Gaelic-speaking

In Glen Affric, texts by Rody Gorman use Gaelic poems with English renditions that emphasise different shades of meaning in the Gaelic words.

Ann an Gleann Afraig, tha an sgrìobhadh aig Rody Gorman a’ cleachdadh bàrdachd Gàidhlig le tiorndaidhean Beurla a tha a’ nochdadh nan dòfar seòrsa chiallan aig na facail Ghàidhlig.

Loch Beinn a’ Mheadhain
An lùth nan duilleagan-babhthe mun lochain, spèg-rì-bhit
It’s an eerie, emptyög air bhleg las fhein mun chladach, bag-an-lùth
among the drownedwater, leafines by the loch, aerial
toafold, the little green, and on a wee island glowing/ floating on its own
by the channel/lochside, a softbed/float and peaspodpler

Eile a Rody Gorman - Peòin a Rody Gorman

H-Alba air taisbeanadh gu ire mhòr dà-chànanach a chruthachadh an sin mu Êirigh nan Seumasach ann an 1745, oir tha sgeulachd na h-Êirigh na rud mòr ann an dualchas is eachdraidh nan Gàidheal is gu bheil e iomchaidh seo a dhèanamh. Tha for-dhealbh cruthachail grafaigeach a’ cuideachadh luchd-tadhail ann a bhith a’ leantainn a’ chànan a tha iad airson cleachdadh, ach a’ tarraing aire chun a’ chànan eile. Gheibhear barrachd fiosrachaidh air seo am measc nan cuisean-sampaill.

2.3 A’ cleachdadh na Gàidhlig a chum ur n-amasan

Bu chòir do roghainnean air cleachdadh is taisbeanadh na Gàidhlig a bhith a rèir amasan a’ phróiseict. Tha cleachdadh na Gàidhlig tric na dhòigh air aire dhaoine a tharraing chun na Gàidhlig agus an t-àite aice ann an Alba. Dèanaibh smaoineachadh air mar a ghabhas a’ Ghàidhlig a cheangal ri gnothaichean is cuspairean bhon là an-diugh: tha i na dòigh èifeachdach air taic a chur ris a’ chànan sealltainn mar a bhunais i do ghnothaichean an là, seach rudaibh bhon t-seann aìmsir a-mhàin. Ma tha sibh airson is gun tig daoine chun na Gàidhlig, feuch dòigh a bheir barrachd misneachd do luchdonnsachaichd no a bhrosnaicheadh ùidh ann an daoine aig nach eile mòran eòlais oirre.

Tha cuid de chuspairean air leth freagarrach airson eadar-mhìneachadh Gàidhlig, no tha cothroman follaiseach nan lùbh airson aire a tharraing chun a’ chànan. Am measc nan cuspairean seo, tha ainmean-àite, no eachdraidh choimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig. Guimhneach, ge-tà, nach bi a’ mhòr-chuid dhen luchd-cleachdaidh cho fileanta ’s a tha an fhèadhainn dhiam buin an eachdraidh seò.
communities. Remember, however, that most of your audience will not be as confident with the language as the people whose history you are telling.

If there are some situations where Gaelic seems a natural part of interpretation, there may be others where its use is less appropriate. For example, if you have a complex story to tell to an international audience, or you need to communicate vital behaviour guidelines to as many visitors as possible, adding the complexity of another language may make your message less effective.

2.4 **Use writers and translators who understand interpretation**

The most important thing in interpretation – the ingredient that will help your audience remember your place or collection – is not the language it’s written in. It’s the content: the quality of the ideas and stories you offer, the way they complement visitors’ experience, and the way you express them.

Often, text is written in English first and then translated into Gaelic. But there’s no reason why you shouldn’t have text written in Gaelic first, as long as you can find a good Gaelic writer who understands the special requirements of interpretation. In the case studies section you’ll find details of projects at Kinloch Hills and on the Culloden Battlefield Trail which both took this approach.

Good interpretive writing is a craft. Whether text is written in Gaelic for translation into English or the other way round, the writer must understand the principles of good practice in interpretation and be able to use language creatively and clearly.

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Ma tha suidheachaidhean ann sa bheil Gàidhlig na h-eileamaid nàdarrach dhen eadar-mhìneachadh, ’s dòcha gum bi suidheachaidhean eile ann anns nach eil i cho iomchaídh. Mar eisimpleir, ma tha sgeulachd thoinnte agad ri inns de dhaoine bho dhùthchannan cèine, no ma dh’fhéumas tu stiùireadh sònraichte a thoir seachad do mhòran luchd-tadhail, ’s dòcha gun dèan thu an teadhdaireachd agad nas toinnte is nas laige ma chuireas sibh cànan eile a-steach.

2.4 **Cleachd eadar-theangairean is sgriobhadairean aig a bheil tuigse air eadar-mhìneachadh**

Feumar cuimhneachadh nach e an cànan sa bheil an rud sgrìobhte an rud as cudromaiche mu eadar-mhìneachadh; chan e an rud a chumas an làrach no cuimhneachadh ann an cuimhne luchd-tadhail. ’S e an rud as cudromaiche ach susbaint an eadar-mhìneachaidh, na beachdan is sgeulachdan air an toirt seachad dhaibh, an dòigh sa bheil iad seò a’ cur ris an turas aca, agus an dòigh sa bheil iad sin air an inne.

Gu tric, thà an teacsa ga sgriobhadh ann am Beurla an toiseach le eadar-theangachadh Gàidhlig ga dhèanamh oirre an uair sin. Ach chan eil adhbharr ann gun a bhith a’ cruthachadh na teacsa ann an Gàidhlig an toiseach, fhad’ s a tha sgriobhadair Gàidhlig agad a thuigeas na feumalachdan sònraichte an lùib eadar-mhìneachaidh. Am measg nan eisimpleirean, gheibh sibh fiosrachadh ag pròiseactan aig Beannatan Cheann Loch a agus air Slighe Blàr Chùil Lodair, dà làrach a rinn an dearbh rud seò.

Tha sgriobhadh math eadar-mhìneachail na obair-chùitidh. Ge bith a bheil an teacsa ga sgriobhadh ann an Gàidhlig no am Beurla an toiseach, feumaidh an sgriobhadair tuigse a bhith aige/aice air prionnspalan dheagh chleachdaidhean ann an eadar-mhìneachadh agus comas a bhith aige/aice sgriobhadh gu soilleir agus gu h-innleachdach.
It's also essential that a translator really understands the meaning of the original text and is careful not to subconsciously introduce their own ideas or slant on the subject. The vocabulary involved needs care too. For example, the traditional (and official) Gaelic name for a red kite is *clamhan gobhlaich*, literally ‘forked kite’, because of the shape of its tail. It would be easy for an uninformed translator to render the name literally as *clamhan dearg*, ‘red kite’.

At present, there are few writers who use Gaelic as their first language who have much experience in writing interpretation, and few interpretation specialists who are fluent in Gaelic. Training for Gaelic writers in interpretation principles and practice can help, but most projects will need high quality translation to develop content in two languages.

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Feuch, mar eisimpleir, *The Language Instinct* le Steven Pinker (1994).
Standard best practice is that a translator should only work with their mother tongue as a target language – the language into which they are translating. Many linguists reckon that anyone who acquires a language after late childhood, no matter how much they study it, never achieves the same level of fluency as a native speaker.\(^1\)

If it is not possible to have translation, into English as well as into Gaelic, done by a native speaker, you should always get a native speaker to proofread and edit the work: they will be able to check that it ‘flows’ naturally. This is good practice for all translation in any case.

Translators should be briefed to translate the mood and tone of the original, not just its meaning. The aim of translation in a creative field such as interpretation is to produce text that reads as if it had been originally written in the target language. This means that idioms and metaphors may not be translated literally, but a skilled translator will find turns of phrase in the target language that have the same effect.

Remember that many Gaelic users do not read the language confidently. Writers and translators should be asked to make sure that Gaelic text uses easily accessible grammar and vocabulary. Whether it is a summary of key points or a fully bilingual presentation, Gaelic text should always relate clearly to an equivalent passage in English.

\(^1\) See, for example, *The Language Instinct* by Steven Pinker (1994).
Notes from the translator’s desk

Whether we think of translation as an art, science or craft, it’s clear that translation can be good or bad. It helps to produce good translation if the translator can answer the questions: ‘What is being translated?’ ‘Who is the translation for?’ and ‘Why is the text being translated?’ The first two questions are often reasonably straightforward: the third may be less so. Although the arguments for using Gaelic in public life, certainly in the heritage sector, have largely been won, it is nevertheless useful for the translator to be clear about why the text is being translated into Gaelic.

Different languages bring with them a different culture, heritage and way of looking at the world around us. Consider the different terms now used to describe the north-west mainland of Scotland, and how they affect the way we think about the area. The Gaelic term Gàidhealtachd speaks of the people, their identity and their language; the English ‘Highlands’ relates primarily to the geography and landscape.

It might be useful for the translator to approach the task as one of re-writing, but in a form that clearly conveys the original’s sense and tone. The average reader of Gaelic should have no need to refer to the English text, either for reasons of clarity or quality of writing, or because they fear there may be something in one language that doesn’t appear in the other.

As an example, here are alternative approaches to translating an extract from a National Trust for Scotland guide to Glencoe and Dalness:

*The most famous Scottish glen is also one of its most dramatic, with forbidding mountains, thundering waterfalls and sparkling lochs.*

Beachdan an eadar-theangair

Ge brith a bheil sinn a’ smaoineachadh air eadar-theangachadh mar cheàird, saidheans no ealain, tha e follaiceach gu leòr gum faod eadar-theangachadh a bhith math no dona. Tha e na chuideachadh chum eadar-theangachadh math mas urrainn don eadar-theangaire na ceitean a leanas a fhreagairt: ‘Dè na thathas ag eadar-theangachadh?’ ‘Cò dha a tha an t-eadar-theangachadh?’ agus ‘Carson a thathas ga eadar-theangachadh?’ Tha a’ chiaid dà cheist an ire mhath furasta a fhreagairt, ach ’s dócha nach eil an tritheamh fear buileach cho soirbh. Ged a thathas air a’ chòis a dhéanamh a thaobh nan argamaidean airson Gàidhlig a chleachdadh ann am beatha phoblach, gu h-àraidh ann an roinn an dualchais, tha e fhathast feumail don eadar-theangair a bhith soilleir carson a tha e/i ag eadar-theangachadh na teacsa gu Gàidhlig.

Tha diofar chànanan le cultaran, dualchas is sealladh air an t-saoghal eadar-dhealaichte nan lùib. Smaoinich air na diofar fhacal a th’againn airson iar-thuath na h-Alba agus mar a tha iad seo a’ toirt buaidh air mar a tha sinn a’ smaoineachadh mun sgire. Tha am facal Gàidhlig ‘Gàidhealtachd’ a-mach air na daoine, an cànann is an dùthchas; tha am facal Beurla Highlands, air an làimh eile, a’ toirt oirn smaoineachadh air cumadh na tire agus air an ârainneachd.

‘S dócha gum bi e feumach do dh’eadar-theangairean coimhead air an obair mar ath-sgriobhadh, ach ann an dòigh sa bheil seagh agus tòna na ciad theacsa ga thoir seachad. Cha bu chùir feum sam bith a bhith aig leughadhàir àbhaisteach Gàidhlig a dhol chun na teacsa Beurla, air adhbharran soilleireachadh no cailleachd an sgriobhaidh, air neo air sgàth is gu bheil eagal orra gu bheil aon rud a’ nochdadh ann an aon chànan nach eil a’ nochdadh san fhearr eile.
The most famous Scottish glen is also one of its most dramatic, with forbidding mountains, thundering waterfalls and sparkling lochs.

• Eadar-theangachadh litireil: Tha an gleann as ainmeile ann an Alba cuideachd fear dhen fheadhainn as dràmadachine, le beanntan toirmearnach, easan tàirneanach agus lochan déàrlach.

• Eadar-theangachadh eile: Tha an gleann as ainmeile ann an Alba cuideachd na ghleann a tha iongantach dha-rìribh; le beanntan brùideil, easan torrannach agus lochan déàrlach.

The descriptive language highlights some of the difficulties of overly literal translation. The English word ‘dramatic’ can be used to mean that something is striking and spectacular, but dràmadach in Gaelic tends to relate solely to the world of acting, theatre or television; iongantach (‘extraordinary’, ‘surprising’, ‘amazing’) has been used in its place. Likewise, ‘forbidding’ does not lend itself easily to translation and rather than toirmearnach (‘banned’) has been rendered as brùideil, literally ‘beasty’ but commonly used as ‘intimidating’. The word tàirneanach (literally ‘thunder’ or ‘thunderous’) could work as an adjective, but torrannach works far better.

Some pointers
• Literal translation is generally bad translation.
• Don’t be afraid to alter the structure of the phrase or change/insert punctuation.
• Where they differ, use more expressive Gaelic phrasing rather than imitating English forms, for example:
  at the wedding - air a’ bhanais (lit. ‘on the wedding’) rather than aig a’ bhanais
  the green valleys - na gleannan gorma (lit. ‘the blue valleys’) rather than na gleannan uaine
  she had brown eyes - bha süilean donna innte (lit. ‘she had brown eyes in her’) rather than bha süilean donna aice


Beagan mholaidhean
• Mar as trice ’s e droch eadar-theangachadh a th’ ann eadar-theangachadh litireil.
• Na biodh eagal ort structar no puingeachadh abairtean atharrachadh.
• Far a bheil iad eadar-dhelaichte, feuch is cleachd abairtean
gnàthach Gàidhlig seach a bhith a' dèanamh eadar-theangachadh littirleil air abairtean Beurla, mar eisimpleir:

\textit{at the wedding} - air a' bhanais (lit. ‘on the wedding’) seach a' bhanais

\textit{the green valleys} - na gleanntan gorma (lit. ‘the blue valleys’) seach na gleanntan uaine

\textit{she had brown eyes} - bha sùilean donna innte (lit. ‘she had brown eyes in her’) seach bha sùilean donna aice

\textit{playing the pipes} - a’ seinn na pioba (lit. ‘singing the pipe’) seach a’ cluich na pioba.

- Na biodh eagal ort facail a chleachdadh aig nach eil facail cho-ionann ann am Beurla, facail leithid:
  \textit{dùthchas} – a’ toirt seachad faireachdann de bhuntainn do dh'ài te, do sgire no do threubh, coltach ris an fhacal \textit{cynefin} sa Chuimris.

  \textit{(a-)chum} – a’ ciallachadh ag obrachadh a dh’ionnsaigh rudeigin no ‘gus a bhith’.

- Bi moiteil à abairtean air an deagh chruthachadh agus gnàthasan-cainnt.

- Feuch is seachain facail neo-chumanta, doilleir. Mar eisimpleir, cleachd ‘baile’ no ‘clachan’ airson àite sa bheil daoine a’ gabhail còmhnaidh, seach facail leithid ‘tuineachadh’.

- Ma dh’fhеumas tu facail neo-chumanta a chleachdadh, smaoinich air mineachadh goirid (no clàr-mineachaidh) a chur aig bonn na teacsa. Faodar cuideachd a’ Bheurla a chur ann an camagan.

- Feuch is lorg cothroman air abairtean a thogail às òrain no seannfacleal chumanta Ghàidhealach.

- Bi cho pongail ’s as urrainn dhut le do sgiobhadh. Cha bu chòir don eadar-theangachadh Ghaidhlig a bhith barrachd na 20% nas fhaide na an teacsa Bheurla.
playing the pipes - *seinn na pioba* (lit. ‘singing the pipe’) rather than *cluich na pioba*.

- Don’t be afraid to use words which have no direct one-word English equivalents, words such as:
  
  - *dùthchas* - conveying the sense of belonging to a place, an area or a people, equivalent to the Welsh *cynefin*.
  
  - *(a-)*chum – commonly meaning ‘towards the purpose of’ or ‘in order that’.

- Take pride in a good turn of phrase.

- Avoid obscure/uncommon terms where possible. For example, use *baile* (‘town/village’) or *clachan* (‘hamlet’) for ‘a settlement’, rather than terms such as *tuineachadh*.

- If you need to use unfamiliar terms, consider a short explanation (or glossary) at the foot of the text. You could also use English in brackets.

- Consider opportunities to quote from familiar songs and proverbs.

- Aim for economy of language. The translation should be, at most, 20% longer than the English version.

- Be wary of translating English names of organisations (especially in acronym form) unless the name is already widely used.

- If literal translation grates with the reader, so does poor grammar and spelling. Ensure the text is proof read.

- When the job is complete, re-read the text, imagining you are reading it for the first time without having seen the English version.

- If at all possible, run the translation by local Gaelic speakers – it helps give them a stake in the finished product and they can advise on the intelligibility and authenticity of the text for local Gaels.

Alasdair MacLeòid
2.5 Find creative solutions

If you are not creating a fully bilingual presentation, there are lots of ways in which you can use Gaelic. Picture captions are short, snappy pieces of text that many visitors will read even if they ignore the main text: they can offer ideal opportunities for content that appears in both Gaelic and English. Short poems can give new perspectives on your place and offer writers some creative freedom to play with language. If you’re involved in face-to-face interpretation, you could get your audience to sing a Gaelic song, learn a proverb, or some vocabulary associated with your story.

2.6 Use creative graphic design

The graphic design of materials that present content in Gaelic and English can have a big influence on how easy it is for people to find and follow the language they want to use. Design is also an important tool in giving equal prominence and hence ‘equal respect’ to the two languages: a key aim of the Gaelic Language Act.

In many situations, it is impossible to avoid one language appearing to come first: whichever language is placed to the left or the top of a page or a display panel has visual priority. You can, however, support equal respect for the two languages by following these guidelines:

• Give equal weight to both languages in terms of the typeface and size used, and ensure they have equal contrast with the background.

• Don’t use italics for one language and roman type for the other: this might imply that the text in roman type is more important.

• Consider using different font colours or backgrounds to differentiate the languages and allow readers to quickly identify the language they want to read.

2.5 Fuasglaidhean innleachdach

Mura h-eil taisbeanadh fior dhà-chanachach ga chruthachadh, tha dòighean gu leòr ann air a’ Ghàidhlig a chealachadh. Tha caipseanan, fo dheallbhain, nam pìosan beaga goirid a leughas mòran ged nach leugh iad priomh theacsa an taisbeanaidh: tha cothroman air leth nan lùib a thaobh sgorbhadh a’ nochadh san dá chuid Beurla agus Gàidhlig. Faodaidh duain bheaga seallaidhean ùra a thoirt seachad air an àite le cothrom ga thoirt do sgorbhadairsean a bhith cruthachail agus a chluich leis a’ chainnt aca. Ma tha thu an sàs ann an eadar-mhìneachadh ‘aghaidh-ri-aghaidh’, b’ urrain dhut iarraidh air an luchd-èisteachd òran Gàidhlig a sheinn, seanfhacal no beagan fhacal a bhuineas don eachdraidh ionnsachadh.

2.6 Innleachd ann am foir-dhealbh grafaigeach

Faodaidh an (dealbhadh) grafaigeach a nithear air na thèid a thaisbeanadh ann am Beurla is Gàidhlig buaidh mhòr a thoirt air cho furasta ‘s a tha e do dhaoine an cànan aca a lorg agus a leantainn. Tha deallbhachadh cuideachd na rud cudromach chum seasamh co-ionann agus, mar seo, spèis cho-ionann a thoirt don dà chànan: prionnsapal a tha aig cridhe Achd na Gàidhlig.

Ann am mòran shuidheachaidhean, cha gabh a dhèanaidh gun a bhith a’ cur aon chànan air thoisich air an fhearr eile: bidh priomhchas aig a’ chànan a nochdas aig mullach no air làimh chlì duilleig no pannail. ’S urrainn, ge-tà, spèis cho-ionann a thoirt don dà chànan le bhith a leantainn nam prionnsapal an thoirt a’ chànan a deallbhachadh a dh’ fhìor a’ chàm a bhith a’ chèil.
Avoid using black text for one language and colour for the other, which might imply that the black text is more authoritative.

Make sure that the font style and colours you choose comply with good accessibility practice. The Sensory Trust (www.sensorytrust.org.uk) has useful guidelines on using Clear and Large Print.

If words need to be split across two lines, make sure any line breaks respect the structure of Gaelic words. Most automatic hyphenation systems will not do this: its best to turn them off from the beginning and insert hyphens manually.

If you are presenting bilingual text, allow more space for the Gaelic than its English equivalent. English is a particularly compact language, and Gaelic translations typically use up to 20% more space.

Good design can also help to make text look manageable, rather than an off-putting mass of words – but it cannot substitute for a disciplined approach to writing in the first place!

Different media offer different opportunities and challenges for presenting two languages: you’ll find some examples of past projects in the case studies section.

### 2.7 Use standard spelling conventions

Gaelic has some regional variations in vocabulary, with local words that might not be recognised by Gaelic speakers from other parts of the country. You might choose to use locally specific words if they’re relevant to your topic, but remember that Gaelic learners, or Gaelic users from other areas, may find them difficult to understand.

• Na cleachdaibh clò cam airson aon chànan agus sgrìobhadh ròmanach airson an fhìr eile: ’s dòcha gun tog daoine às a-seo gur e an sgrìobhadh ròmanach am fear as cudromaiche.

• Feuchaibh dathan eduar-dhealaichte airson an sgrìobhaidh no a’ chùil-raoin gus sgaradh a dhèanamh eatarra, a’ toirt comas do leughdairean aithneach gu sgiobalta cò an cànan a tha iad airson leughadh.

• Cumaibh air falbh bh o bhith a’ cleachdadh sgrìobhaidh dubh airson aon chànan agus sgrìobhadh dachte ’son a’ chànan eile, ’s dòcha gun smaoinchd daoine gu bheil prìomhachas aig an fhear seo.

• Dèanaibh cinnteach gu bheil stoidhle agus dathan an sgrìobhaidh uile a rèir deagh chleachdadh ruigsinnach. Tha stiùireadh feumail aig an Sensory Trust (www.sensorytrust.org.uk) air cleachdadh sgrìobhadh mòr, soilleir.

• Ma dh’fheumas facail gam briseadh le tàthan thar dà loidhne, dèanaibh cinnteach gu bheil spèis ga toirt do structar nam facal. Cha thachair seo leis a’ chuid as motha de shiostaman tàthanachaidh: ’s fhèarr an cur dheth agus na tàthanach a chur a-steach sibh fhèin.

Ma tha teacsa dhà-chànanach ga cleachdadh, feuch gum fàg thu rùm a bharrachd airson na Gaidhlig. Tha a’ Ghàidhlig, mar as trice, feumach air 20% a bharrachd rùm na tha an aon rud ann am Beurla.

Faodaidh deagh dhealbhachadh coltas tarraingeach a thoirt air an teacsa seach meall mòr de dh’haclan a bhith ann – ach feumar co-dhù smachd an ire mhath teann a bhith agad air an sgrìobhadh sa chiad dol a-mach!

Tha meadhanan eduar-dhealaichte le cothroman agus dúbhblain eduar-dhealaichte airson nan cànanan: gheibhlear eisimpleirean air seo am measg nam ball-sampaill.
If you want to make Gaelic text accessible to as many people as possible, use the Gaelic Orthographic Conventions (GOC), published by the Scottish Qualifications Authority, to make sure spellings are consistent. Pay particular attention to accents, which indicate vowel length and are an integral part of the language. Modern convention is that all accents in Scottish Gaelic are grave (for example, è), although in the past acute accents (é) were also used, showing vowel tone in addition to length. This is different from Irish Gaelic, which only uses acute accents (é). It's important to get Gaelic content properly proof-checked by a Gaelic-speaking editor once it reaches the design stage. It's easy to forget this, or for it to get lost in last-minute pressures to meet deadlines.

2.8 Plan for the Practicabilities

You need to allow additional resources, particularly in terms of budget, for developing content in two languages. You will also need to allow for the time involved to translate text and have text and artwork checked and corrected. With good planning, these tasks may not add significantly to the overall time needed to complete the project, but it's important to get Gaelic content properly proof-checked by a Gaelic-speaking editor once it reaches the design stage. This is different from Irish Gaelic, which only uses acute accents (é). It's important to get Gaelic content properly proof-checked by a Gaelic-speaking editor once it reaches the design stage. It's easy to forget this, or for it to get lost in last-minute pressures to meet deadlines.

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h-eileamhaidean a bharrachd seo ann.
3. CASE STUDIES

These examples have been chosen to demonstrate a variety of approaches to presenting and using Gaelic. Each medium offers its own opportunities and challenges.

3.1 Personal interpretation

Perhaps the best way to use Gaelic in interpretation is to speak it to your visitors, face to face. That way the language really comes alive: people can hear the sound of the words, and you can tailor the level of vocabulary to suit your audience. Visitors who don’t know Gaelic at all are usually intrigued to get to know just a few words; those who do understand the language will be pleased to have a chance to use it.

Live Gaelic can also be part of imaginative education programmes. At Edinburgh Castle, Historic Scotland invited pupils from Gaelic-Medium school to develop a 40-minute tour of parts of the castle. The live tour was offered to Gaelic-Medium Education pupils from other schools, and to adults as part of Edinburgh Council’s Gaelic Learners’ Week. Film versions are available on DVD, one completely in Gaelic and another in English with Gaelic words.

3. BUILL-SHAMPAILL

Chaidh na h-eisimpleirean seo a thaghadh gus sealltainn na diofar dhòighneas air Gàidhlig a chleachdadh. Tha na diofar dhòighneas le cothroman agus dòbhlain eadar-dhealaichte nan cosis.

3.1 Eadar-mhìneachadh pearsanta

’S dòcha gur i an dòigh as fheàrr air a’ Ghàidhlig a chleachdadh ann an eadar-mhìneachadh ach gu bhith ga bruidhinn le luchd-tadhail — aghaidh ri aghaidh, mar gum biodh. Ann a bhith ga bruidhinn, cluinnidh daoine fuaim nam facal, agus gheibhear air am briathrachas a dhèanamh freagarrach don luchd-èiteachd. Tha seo, mar as trice, a’ togal ùidh ann an luchd-tadhail aig nach eil Gàidhlig agus iad ag ionnsachadh beagan fhaclan, agus bheir e tlachd do dhaoine aig a bheil a’ Ghàidhlig a cleachdadh.

Faodaidh Gàidhlig bheò cuideachd a bhith na páirt de phrògraman foghlaim innealachdach. Aig Caisteal Dhùn Èideann, thug Alba Aosmhor cuireadh do sgoilearan Gàidhlig aig bun-sgoil ann an Dùn Èideann turas 40 mionaid a chruthachadh anns a’ chaisteal. Chaidh an turas beò seo a thabhann do sgoilearan Gàidhlig bho sgoiltean eile, agus do dh’innbhich, mar phàirt de Sheachdain Ionnsachaidh Comhairle Dhùn Èideann. Tha DVDan rim faighinn dhen turas seo, DVD ann a Gàidhlig a-mhàin agus fear eile ann am Beurla le facail Ghàidhlig.

Tha am pròiseact seo steidhte air an sgeama ‘Junior Guides’ aig Alba Aosmhor, pròiseact sa bheil eòlaiche dràma a’ cuideachadh dhaoine òg ann a bhith ag ionnsachadh mu làraichean eachdraidheil san sgiere aca. Airson a’ pròiseict Ghàidhlig, chaidh eòlaiche Gàidhlig an sàs san sgioba, a’ cuideachadh na cloinne a thaobh ionnsachadh agus cleachdadh nam faclan sònraichte a dh’fheumadh iad airson an turais.
The project built on Historic Scotland’s ‘Junior Guides’ scheme, in which a drama specialist helps young people engage with historic sites in their area. For the Gaelic project, a Gaelic specialist joined the team, helping the children learn and use the specialist words they needed for the tour.

**Benefits**

- Speaking and listening to the language brings it alive, and gives people a more direct contact with it than seeing it in writing.
- The amount and level of Gaelic can be tailored to suit your audience.
- Live interpretation can include Gaelic song as well as everyday speech.

**Challenges**

- You need good partnership working between a Gaelic specialist, site specialists and those who will be presenting the interpretation.
- Projects can be resource intensive, demanding a lot of time and commitment from those involved.

**Buannachdan**

- Tha bruidhinn agus èisteachd ris a’ chànan ga thoirt beò agus a’ togail dàimh a tha nas treasa eadar luchd-tadhail agus an cànan nam biodh i air a faicinn sgrìobhte a-mhàin.
- Faodar an ìre de Ghàidhlig atharrachadh a rèir luchd-cleachdaidh.
- Faodaidh eadar-mhìneachadh beò seinn agus cainnt làitheil a ghabhail a-steach.

**Dùbhlain**

- Feumar com-pàirteachas làdir a bhith ann eadar eòlaiche Gàidhlig, daoine a tha eòlach air an laraich agus an fheadhainn a bhios a’ taisbeanadh an eadar-mhìneachaidh.
- Faodaidh próiseactan a bhith nas cosgaile a thaobh ùine is obrach airson na feadhainn a tha an sàs.

Photographs in this section show junior guides at Historic Scotland’s Arnol Blackhouse, Isle of Lewis (p.28) and Edinburgh Castle (p.29 & p.30).
3.2 **Eadar-mhìneachadh claistinneach**

Mura h-eil e comasach dhuibh a’ Ghàidhlig a labhairt le luchd-tadhail, ’s dòcha gun toir sibh dhaibh an cothrom èisteachd rithe ann an clàraidhean fuaime. Tha Coimisean na Coilleaichead Alba air puist-fhuaimi a stèidheachadh aig Beanntan Cheann Locha san Eilean Sgitheanach (d.32), far am faigh daoine ri clàraidhean fuaime a chluich ann an Gàidhlig no Beurla. Tha na clàraidhean seo a’ gabhail a-steach stuth a rinneadh le sgoilearan na sgìre.

Aig Ionad Tadhail Chùil Lodair (cì agus gu h-ìosal), tha ‘Stèiseanan Caractair’ ann a tha a’ toirt cothrom do luchd-tadhail èisteachd ri fianais air Bliadhna Theàrlaich air an toirt seachad ann an Gàidhlig, ann am Beurla agus ann am Beurla Ghallta. Chaidh na cuimhneasgan seo a stèidheachadh air fianais sgrìobhte bhon àm. Tha an t-Ionad Tadhail cuideachd le ‘DiscoveryPENs’ airson luchd-tadhail, sganairean lámh a chluicheas clàraidhean fuaime stèidhte air pannalan an taisbeanaidh. Tha cuid de pannalan le sgrìobhadh agus bardadh Ghàidhlig, agus tha seò a’ cluich air a’ chlàradh mus faighhear tionndadh Beurla dhên teaca. Mar as trice, tha na DiscoveryPENs air an cleachdadh le daoine aig a bheil uireasbhaidean fradhairc, ach tha iad cuideachd a’ freagairt air luchd-tadhail eile.

Am measg nan dòighene eile air clàraidhean fuaime a chleachdadh, faodor an cleachdadh maille ri taisbeanaidhean bh’dhio, le fo-thiotalan Beurla, agus tro òrain Ghàidhlig; òrain a tha tric a’ còrdadh ri daoine nach tuig an cân.”

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3.2 **Audio**

If you cannot use Gaelic as a spoken language in face-to-face contact with your visitors, you could offer them the chance to hear it in recordings. Forestry Commission Scotland has installed a sound post at Kinloch Hills on Skye (p.32), from which people can play a number of recordings in Gaelic or English. The content of the recordings includes contributions from local school children.

At the Culloden Visitor Centre (above & right), ‘Character Stations’ allow visitors to listen to eye witness accounts of the ’45 rebellion by a number of characters, spoken in English, Gaelic and Scots. The commentaries have been dramatised from contemporary written accounts. The Visitor Centre also offers ‘DiscoveryPENs’, hand-held scanners that will play an audio recording of the exhibition panels’ content. Some panels include Gaelic text and poetry, which is played on the recording before an English translation of the text. The
Buannachdan

• Mar a gheibhear le eadar-mhineachadh aghaidh-ri-aghaidh, tha na clàraidhean fuaim a’ toirt blasad de cheòl no cainnt seachad do luchd-tadhail tro dhàimh nas treasa na a bhith ga faicinn sgrìobhte a-mhàin.
• Tha clàraidhean a’ ciallachadh gu bheil an cànan daonnan ri cluinntinn, gun seo a bhith an urra ri luchd-robhach.

Dùbhlain

• Ma gheibh daoine an taghadh a bhith ag ëisteachd ris a’ Ghàidhlig no a bhith ga seachnadh, an tagadh a gheibhhear aig na puist-fhuaim agus na stèiseanan-caractair, cha ghabh a’ chuid as motha de dhaoine an cothrom ëisteachd rithe mura h-eil iad ga tuigse no mura h-eil mise neachd aca nan comasan sa chànan. Tha seo a’ ciallachadh a bhith gum bi iomhaigh gu math ìosal aice a bharrachd air suidse a bhith ann le ‘Gàidhlig’ sgrìobhhte oirre.
• Faodaidh duilgheadasan mar seo a bhith ann le òrain no òraidean Gàidhlig gan cleachdadh maille ri rudan eile mar soundscape: cha bhi i ann ach mar ‘phàirt dhen arainneachd’, seach aire ga tarraing thuice mar rud cudromach, brìgh. Feuch gun long sibh dòighean air a’ Ghàidhlig a chleachdadh a chloinn air a’ Gàidhlig no cailinn le fo-thiotalan Beurla, no a gabhail a-steach mar phàirt de thaisbeainn le eadar-theangachadh gu Beurla.
• Mar a tha fior mu thaisbeanaidhean fuaim sam bith, feumar na clàraidhean fa leth a bhithe goird. Mar as trice, bu chòir a bhith ag amas air 30-45 diogan.

Benefits

• As with face-to-face interpretation, recordings add the sound of the language to visitors’ experience and create a more direct contact than just seeing it in writing.
• Recordings make the language available at all times, and are not dependent on staff skills or availability.

Challenges

• If people are offered a choice about whether to hear Gaelic or not, as with the sound post and the character stations, most won’t choose it if they don’t understand it or feel unconfident about their ability in it. This can mean that the language actually has very little exposure beyond the button or switch marked ‘Gaelic’.
• Using Gaelic songs or Gaelic speech as a background or soundscape can have similar drawbacks: the language becomes just ‘part of the scenery’, rather than something to notice and pay attention to. Try to find techniques that will give the language real meaning, such as using Gaelic audio with subtitles, or integrating it into a presentation that includes English translations.
• As with all audio presentations, the individual clips need to be short. In most situations, 30-45 seconds is a good target.
3.3 Publications

Separate publications

Edinburgh Castle’s guide book is available in a number of different languages, published as separate editions of the book. One of these is in Gaelic.

Benefits

• This approach allows the same template to be used for graphic design in all editions, without the need to accommodate two languages within the layout, making the design task simpler.
• Speakers of the languages offered may feel that the site serves their needs well by offering material specially produced for them.

Challenges

• It is more expensive to print separate versions, and they need more elaborate stock control management.
• There are very few situations in which there will be enough demand for Gaelic-only publications to make them commercially viable.
• This approach reduces the visibility of Gaelic for non-users.
• Gaelic versions may need dedicated presentation space and/or signing to make potential users aware of their existence.

3.3 Foillseachaidhean

Foillseachaidhean fa leth

Tha leabhraichean-iùth Chaisteal Dhùn Èideann rim faighinn ann an diofar chànanan, air am foillseachadh fa leth. Tha aon dhiubh seo sgriobhte sa Ghàidhlig.

Buannachdan

• Tha an dòigh-obrach seo a’ leigeil leat an aon teamplaid de dhealbhachadh grafaigeach a bhith leis na diofar leabhraichean, gun dà chànan gan gabhail a-steach san aon leabhar, a’ ciallachadh gu bheil an obair-dhealbhachaidh tòrr nas fhasa.
• ’S docha gun saoil luchd-labhairt nan diofar chànanan gu bheil an làrach gu mòr a’ frithealadh nam feumannan àraidh aca le stuth sònraichte air an cruthachadh dhaibh.

Dùbhlain

• Tha foillseachadh diofar leabhraichean mar seo a’ cosg barrachd, agus bidh e nas duilghe, toinnse a làimheachadh a thaobh smachd earrais (‘stock control’).
• Chan eil ach chò bheag de shuidheachaidhean ann far a bheil iarrtas gu leòr ann airson foillseachaidhean air an sgriobhadh ann an Gàidhlig a-mhàn airson a bhith reusanta prothaideach gu coimeirsealta.
• Tha an dòigh seo a’ lùghdachadh lomhaigh na Gàidhlig airson nan daoine nach eil ga cleachadh.
• ’S dochta gum bi feum air soidhnichean no rùm sònraichte airson innse do dhaoine gu bheil a leithid a ghoireas ri fhaighinn.
Flip-over
The National Gaelic Language Plan (p.35) is designed with Gaelic and English printed back to back. One language runs from one cover towards the centre; when the document is flipped over, the other language runs from the other cover towards the centre. This is a commonly-used format in Wales, where public agencies are required to produce all materials in formats that combine Welsh and English in a single document.

Benefits
• Combining the advantages of separate publication with the convenience of a single document, this approach also allows the same design template to be used for both languages.

Challenges
• This approach works best for publications with a reasonable amount of content. Many interpretation publications will not be long enough to make it worthwhile.
• The two languages are separated into ‘watertight compartments’, reducing the possibility that people who have little knowledge of Gaelic will take an interest in it.
• There may be some design challenges in getting the two languages to meet in the middle: Gaelic text typically needs up to 20% more space than its English equivalent.

Buannachdan
• Thathas a’ faighinn nam buannachdan an lùib fhoillseachaidhean fa leth ann an aon fhoillseachadh goireasach. Leis an dòigh seo, tha an aon teamplaid dealbhachaidh ga cleachdadh airson an dà chànain.

Dùbhlain
• Tha an dòigh seo ag obrachadh gu h-éifeachdach far a bheil na fhoillseachaidhean le mòran teacsa annta. Bidh mòran fhoillseachaidhean eadar-mhineachaidh nach b’ fada gu leòr airson a bhith éifeachdach seo a dhèanamh.
• Tha an dà chànain air an cur ann an earrann air leth bhò chèile, a’ ciallachadh nach tèid coimhead ris a’ Ghàidhlig le daoine nach eil eolach air a’ chànain.
• ’S dòcha gum bi duilgheadasan ann an dà chànain coinneachadh ann am meadhain an fhoillseachadh: tha teacsa Ghàidhlig, mar as trice, suas ri 20% nas fhaide na teacsa Bheurla.
Walks
Cairistairn
Early Christian Cross and Punishment Fort (2 hours)
Crown-headed (Blach a’ Chaoraidh) (small & rich)
follow a path through woodland to the Early Christian cross at St. CFI. All that remains of what was once an important monastic site, dating from the 7th to 8th centuries.
Corna Mòr (30 minutes)
The path, named after St. Semanus (founder of the Coroghon) who helped build St. CFI, leads across a field that was once a convent, to Coroghon Castle. The castle was later occupied by the MacNeills, the last owners of Coroghon Castle, a small late medieval
southern branch of the Clanranald, with Coroghon
Township at Coroghon, 1789

From medieval times the islands were
Carved around 1,300 years ago.

Significant Early Christian stone
Crosses standing in the landscape,
carved around 1,300 years ago.

An ancient history

Canna and Sanday have an
Amazingly rich archaeological
heritage. Among the sites are
a 2,000-year-old underground chamber, part
of Canna’s rich archaeological heritage.

Canna House
Taigh Chanaigh

Eachdraidh Aniudh

The iron-capped Lewisian gneiss
shrouds the beach-head of Canna
at Samson to loch a’ Chreadlich. The
area is an important archaeological
site, with rare evidence of occupation
from the New Stone Age. The area
is recorded as a Special Area of
Conservation (SAC) and
is a Site of Special Scientific Interest
(SSSI).

Changing lives

In 1843 a total of 416 people lived on Canna
and Sandy White’s 40 years later this had fallen
to 127 people. Many emigrated to the New
World, either willingly or forcibly – as a result
of clearances instigated by the then owners
of Canna, Donald MacNeil and, later, his son.

You can see evidence of early
20th century life at the abandoned settlements
at Tarbert, Coroghon and Canna, and in the
wilderness areas of lochs where crops had
once been grown. Canna’s Gaelic heritage
is reflected in several important works. Alasdair
MacCollum A’Chaluim Ceannaire, a school
master of Canna, was arguably one of the greatest
Gaelic poets. In 1751 he published his first book of
 poems printed in Scotland.

Atharrachadh beatha

Ann an 1751 chlò-buail e a’ chuid leabhar do Mhurdhaidh Gobhaidh a dhùth bufhochadh an Alba. B’fhéidir an Ghàidhlig a chaidh fhoillseachadh an Alba.

Alasdair’s (1863 – 1947), an
searchadh mòr a bh’ a thuachèil a’ chothaig.

Ann an 1775

Ann an 1821

Ann an 1751

Ann an 1789

Aonghas Eachainn (1863 – 1947) was the last great tradition bearer

In 1789 Donald McNeill and, later, his son.

In 1821 a total of 436 people lived on Canna
and Sandy White’s 40 years later this had fallen
to 127 people. Many emigrated to the New
World, either willingly or forcibly – as a result
of clearances instigated by the then owners
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Ann an 1775

Ann an 1821

Ann an 1751

Ann an 1789
Parallel text

The main content in the National Trust for Scotland’s leaflet about Canna (p.36) presents Gaelic and English side by side, in separate columns. English is printed in black, Gaelic in dark brown. This makes it easy for readers to follow one language, although it would be better to avoid using black for one language as it might imply greater weight for that language.

Benefits

• This technique gives the languages nearly equal prominence, so all readers will be aware of both.

• Images can be used once, rather than having to repeat them as in layouts that separate the two languages.

• Readers who want to compare Gaelic and English to check their understanding can do so easily.

Challenges

• Publications need to be larger than with a single language to accommodate the same amount of content, or content has to be reduced.

• The differing lengths of text in Gaelic and English can make it difficult to ensure that corresponding paragraphs line up.

• Depending on the publication’s format, it may be necessary to adopt a different approach for elements such as picture captions.

Teacsa cho-shinté

Tha priomh shusbaint air bileag-fhiosrachaidh Urras Nàiseanta na h-Alba air Cannaigh (d.36) a’ cur Beurla agus Gàidhlig ri taobh a chèile, ann an colbhan fa leth. Tha a’ Bheurla ann an teacsa dhubh agus an sgriobhadh Gàidhlig ann an dubh-dhonn. Tha seo ga dhèanamh nas fhasa do leughadair aon chànain a leantainn, ged a bhiodh e na b’ fheàrr gun a bhith a’ cur aon teacsa ann an dubh, oir ’s dòcha gun saoil daoine gu bheil barrachd cudrom air a’ chànain sin.

Buannachdan

• Tha an dòigh seo a’ toirt inbhe cho-ionann don dà chànain, agus tha iad follaiseach do gach leughadair.

• Tha dealbhain gan cleachdadh aon turas, seach a bhith a’ nochdadh dà uair ann am foillseachaidhean far a bheil na cànanan a’ cumail fa leth bho chèile.

• ’S urrainn do leughadair a tha ag iarraidh coimeas a dhèanamh eadar a’ Ghàidhlig agus a’ Bheurla sin a dhèanamh, is iad a’ dearbhadh na tuigse Gàidhlig aca.

Dùbhlain

• Feumar foillseachaidhean a bhith nas motha na bhiodh foillseachaidhean le direach aon chànain gu sùm a bhith ann airson an dà chànan, air neo feumar gearradh air ais air an teacsa.

• Tha an diofar eadar meud theacsai chean Gàidhlig is theacsai chean Beurla a’ ciallachadh gu bheil e duilich dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil na h-aon pharagrafan daonnan ri taobh a chèile.

• A rèir fòrmat an fhoillseachaidh, ’s dòcha gum feumar dòigh-obrach ùr a long a thaobh nithean leithid caipseanan fo dhealbhian.
Parallel pages
In the main content of an A5-size guidebook about the north-west seaboard (bit.ly/NWSeabord) (p.39), Scottish Natural Heritage used left hand pages for English content and right hand pages for Gaelic. Both languages are printed in black, with sub-headings in blue for the English and green for the Gaelic.

Benefits
• This technique gives the languages nearly equal prominence, so all readers will be aware of both.
• Images can be used once, rather than having to repeat them as in layouts that separate the two languages.
• Readers who want to compare Gaelic and English to check their understanding can do so easily.
• The technique allows more freedom for graphic design than parallel columns.

Challenges
• Publications need to be larger than with a single language to accommodate the same amount of content, or content has to be reduced.
• The differing lengths of text in Gaelic and English can make it difficult to ensure that all columns end at the same place. Creative placement of images can help.
• Depending on the publication’s format, it may be necessary to adopt a different approach for elements such as picture captions.

Duilleagan co-shìnte
Ann am prìomh shubaint leabhar-iùil meud-A5 mu chost an iar-thuath (bit.ly/NWSeabord) (d.39), tha Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba a’ cur na teacsa Beurla air na duilleagan air an làimh chlí agus a’ Ghàidhlig air na duilleagan air an làimh dheis. Tha an dà chànan le teacsa dhubh, le fo-chinn ghorma airson Beurla agus uaine airson Gàidhlig.

Buannachdan
• Tha an dòigh seo a’ toirt ìomhaigh cho-ionann don dà chànan, leis gach leughadair mothachail don Ghàidhlig is don Bheurla.
• Faodar dealbhan a chleachdadh aon turas, seach a bhith gan nochdadh dà uair mar a dh’heumas ann am foillseachaidhean anns a bheil an dà chànan air leth bho chèile.
• Faodaith leughadairean a tha airson coimeas a dhèanamh eadar a’ Ghàidhlig is a’ Bheurla se a dhèanamh gun mòran stri.
• Tha an dòigh seo a’ fàgail bharrachd rùim airson foir-dhealbh grafaigeach na tha colbhain co-shìnte.

Dùbhlain
• Feumar foillseachaidhean a bhith nas fhaide na tha iad le aon chànan a-mhàin gus rùm gu leòr a bhith ann na teacsa a bharrachd, air neò feumar an teacsa a ghearradh air ais.
• Tha an t-eadar-dhealachadh eadar an sgriobhadh Gàidhlig agus an sgriobhadh Beurla (a thaobh faide) ga dhèanamh duilich na colbhan a chriochnadh aig an aon àite. Faodaidh e bhith na chuideachadh a bhith innsleachadh a thaobh far a bheil na dealbhan gan cur.
• A rèir fòrmat an fhoillseachaidh, ’s dòcha gum feumar doigh eadar-dhealaichte a chleachdadh airson eileamaidean leithid caipseanan fo dhealbh.
46 Red Point
Passing through woodland and crofting townships, the BR506 follows the coast to Red Point. A beach to the north can then be reached on foot through a magnificent dune system. On the south side beach, salmon netting used to take place during the summer. The public right of way from Red Point to Dribag takes just over three hours.

47 Bad na Spiegel
The start of a footpath through the indigenous Bad na Spiegel woodland planting scheme starts opposite a car park east of Loch Bad na Sgalaig. At the end of the planting, the path continues between the magnificent mountains of Baosbheinn and Beinn an Eain to Loch na h-Ochdhu. Additional circular way-marked routes take you off the main path and provide panoramic views from Meall Ghrías Lothard.

48 Beinn Eighe
This Reserve contains the best remaining areas of western Scotch pine woodland, which include birch, rowan, holly and other native trees. Higher slopes are clad by dwarf juniper, and the spectacular ridge of Beinn Eighe affords stunning views. Animal life includes golden eagle, crossbill, peregrines and a wide range of dragonflies. Quartzite rocks give the park a snow-covered appearance, even in summer. The Reserve has mountain, woodland and all-abilities trails, along with an award-winning visitor centre with information for all ages.

49 The Torridon Sandstone Cliffs
The Torridonian sandstone cliffs of Torridon are markedly different from the surrounding Lewisian Gneiss coastline. The tall cliffs with steeps, caves and arches are used by a variety of breeding seabirds. Whales, dolphins and porpoises are regularly seen from the light-house car park. There is a 3km/1.5 miles walk from near there to the Old Man of Stor, a 61m/200 troigh de dh’àirde.

50 Tràigh Chlach Toll
Si e Bàile croiseachadh a’ fheum an Clach Toll le tuighead air agus machair dòthain. Tha a sgatnna aran a bhith a’ longa eala na polinnaig. Bha uair a bhith islios ann bho thira ann air an aithn a bhith air an iadachd. Ma choiseach air an iadachd.

51 Wester Ross and West Sutherland
North West Seaboard
Places to visit for wildlife and landscapes in Wester Ross and West Sutherland

Clachad An Iar-Thuat
Ahteach le fiadh-bheatha is sealaidhean ann a’r an Ros a’r an Aras, Asaiste is Duthlich MhicAoidh

1.6 olmeatair/mile air ar a’chiddach a bhith, thig thu a Bhron Chlach Toll, dán o Linn an larraim. Tha fiosrachadh ann aobh a’ Rhuibh ar a bhith air Sìosbeasa nam Meir-Choltie a rì a’chòchan aig an triagadh.

18 Achadh Mhealbhaich
Tha an bhagh ann a’r an Achadh Mhealbhaich mar aon airson la ngeiridh agus la ngeiridh eile san rì an t-earadhbhais. Tha An Tailtean agus Sìosbeasa nam Meir-Choltie ann a’r an Ros a’r an Aras, Asaiste is Duthlich MhicAoidh

16 Sòdach an Stòir
Tha a cheannard an Stòir de dh’hreathainn Thòbhbheinn agus an t-earr eilean-leathach o Lewisian Gneiss a’chiddach trìchridh. Tha an rì a-namh a’ fòraim a’r vinim a fheumadh mòran de dh’bheathain a’r uisgeahaig air dhoo ar a bhith aig air a bheinn. Tha an t-earr eilean-leathach air a bhith a’r uisgeahaig air d’ormh a bhith a’r uisgeahaig air a bhith a’r uisgeahaig.

17 Clachettach Toll
Tha a’r An Iar-Thuath a’ chòCHAN LE FIONN CHEUM, THA CROISEACHADH NA TRAIGH-CHLACH Toll. THA A’ R AN ROSS A’ R AN ARAS, A’ R ASAISTE IS DUTHLICH MHICAOIDH...
Calanais Standing Stones
An ancient centre of power

The central circle at Calanais enables individuals to experience the circle from a central viewpoint. The power and potential of the site was understood by people long ago. The stones were probably moved with rollers, wooden frames and brute strength. It was a tremendous investment of time and effort.

Why was it built?

Beaker and bones
Inside the circle is a stone burial cairn.

1500–1000 BC (BC)

1980 is 1981. Aig an àm seo chaidh clach a bhreith air tuiteam a cur air ais na h-àite.


Chaidh càrn a thogail mun central monolith is erected.

2600 RC (BC)

A small burial chamber is placed in the stone ring. The stone rows are not arranged in any known pattern. Slightly rewarding.

2900–2600 RC (BC)

A ring of stones with a great central monolith is erected. The site was excavated in 1980 and may have been added.

'S dòcha gun deach na sreathan thogail am meadhan a’ chearcaill.

Carson a chaidh a thogail?

Chaidh cearcall de chlachan 2900–2600 RC (BC)

Na tursachan

Seann làrach de chumhachd

Tursachan Chalanais seann larach de chumhachd

Calanais Standing Stones
An ancient centre of power

The stones in this circle are an extraordinary testament to the skill and determination of the people who lived here over 4,000 years ago. The stones were probably moved with rollers, wooden frames and brute strength. It was a tremendous investment of time and effort.

Thathar dhan bheachd gun deach na bha a’ còmhnaidh an seo còrr is 4,000 bliadhna theisteanas air sgilean is dìoghras nan daoine a Tha cearcall-cloiche Chalanais na shàr seann làrach de chumhachd.

Na Tursachan

The Standing Stones

Bàn an t-adhbhar airson an deach na clachan seo a thogail. Bhithte a’ cur cuirp loisgte is obair-chrèadha a thòisich riasg a’ fàs air an t-seòmar is chaidh cnàmhan threabh iad an làrach.

1500–1000 RC (BC)

Farmers empty out the site. When removed in 1857 peat begins to form over the site. When removed in 1857 bha 1.5m déidh ann.

800 RC (BC)

The cremated bodies were deposited in the stone ring. The stone rows are not arranged in any known pattern. Slightly rewarding.

2600 RC (BC)

A ring of stones with a great central monolith is erected. The site was excavated in 1980 and may have been added.

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3.4 Displays

Parallel columns
At Calanais, on the Isle of Lewis, Historic Scotland’s interpretation panels present Gaelic and English in side-by-side columns (p.40). In the main body text Gaelic is in white, English in light brown, an approach that gives the languages equal salience without implying a hierarchy between them.

The exhibition about the Jacobite rising in 1745, developed at Glenfinnan by the National Trust for Scotland, uses parallel columns for body copy. Other elements in the display take a creative approach, with quotations from contemporary sources presented so that the language of the original is more prominent.

The languages are distinguished with different colours, typically gold and white, but one colour is not used consistently for one language throughout the display: a device that aims to encourage visitors to notice the presence of the language they are not reading.

Benefits
• The two languages have nearly equal prominence, so all readers will be aware of both. Creative use of type colours and backgrounds can avoid any implicit hierarchy between the languages.
• Readers who want to compare Gaelic and English to check their understanding can do so easily.

3.4 Taisbeanaidhean

Colbhan co-shìnte
Aig Calanais, air Eilean Leòdhais, tha pannalan eadar-mhìneachaidh Alba Aosmhor a’ cur Gàidhlig is Beurla ann an colbhan ri taobh a chèile (d.40). Ann am priomh theacsa a’ phannail, tha an teacsa Ghaeilge ann an geal, leis a’ Bheurla ann an sgrìobhadh liath-dhonn, dòigh a tha a’ toirt inbhe cho-ionann don dà chànan gun a bhith a’ cur aon thairis air an fhear eile.

Tha an taisbeanadh mu Èirigh nan Seumasach ann an 1745, a chuireadh aig Gleann Fhionnainn le Urras Nàiseanta na h-Alba, a’ cleachdadh cholbhan ri taobh a chèile sa phriorbh phàirt dhen teacsa. Tha pàirtean eile gan dèanamh le dòigh chruthachail, le pìosan teacsa air an tògail bhò sgrìobhadh an là an-diugh air an cur ann an dòigh a tha a’ fàgail na teacsa bhon tàinig iad le prìomhachas.

Tha na cànain gan aithneachadh bhò chèile le dathan eadar-dhhealaiche, òr is geal mar as trice, ach chan eil aon dath ga chleachdadh airson aon chànan tron taisbeanadh air fad, leis an dòigh seo ga cleachdadh airson is gum mothaich leughadairean an cànan nach eil iad a’ leughadh.

Buannachdan
• Tha an dà chànan le inbhe an ire mhath co-ionann, leis gach leughadhair mothaich don Ghàidhlig is don Bheurla. Le dathan gan cleachdadh gu h-ìnnleachdach, faodar seachnadh aon chànan a’ gabhail priomhachas thar an fhir eile.
• Faodaidh daoine a tha airson coimseas a dhèanamh eadar a’ Ghàidhlig agus a’ Bheurla sin a dhèanamh gun mòran stri feuch a bheil iad ga tuigse gu ceart.
Challenges

• Text will take up more space than with a single language. If visitors feel there is a lot of text in a display, even if they know consciously that they will read only one of the languages on offer, they will read less. You need to be disciplined in your choice of themes, storylines and facts, and write concisely.

• The differing lengths of text in Gaelic and English can make it difficult to ensure that all paragraphs line up with their partners in the other language. Creative placement of images can help.

Dùblain

• Tha an teacsa feumach air tòrr a bharrachd rùim, fìù ma tha fios aig leughadair nach leugh iad ach aon dhe na cânain, cha leugh iad a cheart uiread. Feumar a bhith teann nuair a thathas a’ taghadh chuspairean, sgeulachdan is fiosrachadh, agus feumar an sgrìobhadh fhèin a chumail goirid.

• Tha an diofar eadar teacsa Ghàidhlig is teacsa Bheurla, a thaobh faide, ga dhèanamh duilich aig amann na paragrafan a bhith ri taobh a chèile.

Bidh e na chuideachadh a bhith inneachdach le far an tèid dealbhan a chur.
Blocks of text

At Kyleakin on Skye, Forestry Commission Scotland’s panel about forest wildlife presents Gaelic and English in discrete blocks (above). Gaelic text is white on a dark blue background with English in black on an off-white background. Placing English below the Gaelic reduces any implicit priority in the black text colour.

Car park panels in Glenmore Forest Park welcome visitors and introduce the park. The main text is in English only, but each panel has an element in Gaelic and English that tells a story about an aspect of the park (right).

Short, poem-like texts inspired by the history of Culloden have been carved into benches around the Culloden Battlefield Trail (p.44), a nine kilometre route that covers a larger area than the core battlefield.

Nursing the forest

Did you notice the mixture of trees growing along the route to the wildlife hide? Native trees flourished here long ago but over the years were cut down. Pine forests were planted for the timber industry from the 1600s until the 1960s. Logging from the 1960s.

Who’s for dinner?

In the peaceful woods around you, it’s a race to get your next meal.

Nursing the forest

Did you notice the mixture of trees growing along the route to the wildlife hide? Native trees flourished here long ago but over the years were cut down. Pine forests were planted for the timber industry from the 1600s until the 1960s. Logging from the 1960s.

3.5 Cnapan teacsa

Aig Coaol Acainn san Eilean Sgitheanach, tha pannal aig Coimisean na Coilltearachd Alba air fiadh–bheatha na coille ann an cnapan teacsa ann an Gàidhlig is Beurla (clì). Tha an teacsa Gàidhlig geal air muin cùl dubh agus an teacsa Beurla sgrìobhte ann an dubh air cùl bàn. Le Beurla ga cur fon Gàidhlig tha seo a’ cur an aghaidh cudrom nas motha a bhith aig an sgrìobhadh dhubh (Beurla).

Thathas air duain bheaga stèidhte air eachdraidh Chùil Lodair a shmaidheadh ann am beingean timechell Slìgh Bhlàr Chùil Lodair (d.44), slìgh naoide chòiseanta timechell raon nas motha na làrach a’ bhùr dhèin, aig Urras Nàiseanta na h-Alba. Chaidh na duain a sgrìobhadh le neach aig an robh a’ Gàidhlig bhò thuis agus a rinn an fheadhainn Beurla cuideachd. Fhuarais beachdan gu math fàbharach air ais mu na beingean is na duain tro sgrùdadh measaidh, bhon dà chuid luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig agus daoinne gun Gàidhlig.
site managed by the National Trust for Scotland. The texts were written by a native Gaelic speaker who also developed the English versions. Public reaction to the benches and the texts in an evaluation study, from Gaelic speakers and non-speakers, has been very positive.

Benefits
- Both languages are given equal exposure.
- Designers have more freedom to position the text, and to integrate it with other design elements.
- Different lengths of text between English and Gaelic can be easily accommodated.
- Blocks of text can be a useful design solution where the Gaelic and English texts are not fully bilingual equivalents of each other.

Challenges
- The same amount of content will take up more space than if it were presented in a single language. This can be a major disincentive to reading, so you need to be particularly careful to follow good interpretive practice. Present just a few, well-chosen themes, storylines and facts, and write concisely.

Buannachdan
- Tha an dà chànan a cheart cho follaiseach.
- Tha barrachd saorsa aig luchd-dealbhachaidh a thaobh far an téid an teacsa, gus a fìlleadh a-steach maille ri eileamaidean eile.
- Furasta dèiligeadh ris an eadar-dhealachadh eadar na teacsaichean Beurla is Gàidhlig.
- Faodaidh cnapan teacsa a bhith gu math feumail nuair nach eil na teacsaichean Gàidhlig is Beurla nan eadar-theangachaidhean dhien aon rud.

Dùblhain
- Tha an dà chànan feumach air barrachd rùim nam feumadh e airson an stuth a sgriobhadh ann an aon chànan a-mhain. Faodaidh seo daoine a chir bho a leughadh, agus feumair a bhith fàinceallach gun cùm thu ri prìonnsapalan air deagh sgriobhadh eadar-mhìneachail. Cuiribh air adhart direach beagan chusparean, sgeulachd dan is fìosrachaidh, agus cumaibh smadh air faide na teacsa.
3.6 **Back-to-back**

Stanley Mills, near Perth, offers visitors ‘paddles’ that they can pick up and use as they explore the display. English is presented on one side, with a full translation in Gaelic on the other.

**Benefits**

- The same design template can be used for both languages, giving them equal treatment.
- Design is simpler than with options such as parallel columns or blocks of text.
- There is less risk that visitors will feel there is a lot of text on display.

**Challenges**

- Visitors will leave the paddles with either English or Gaelic showing, making the other language less ‘visible’.
- This technique is only really suitable for indoor or closely-monitored sites.

3.6 **Cùl-ri-cùl**

Aig Muilnéan Stanley, faig air Peairt, tha luchd-tadhail a’ faighinn **paddles** as uirainn dhaibh toirt leotha agus cheachtachd timcheall an taisbeanaidh. Tha Beurla air an dàrna taobh agus eadar-theangachadh slàn Gàidhlig air an taobh eile.

**Buannachdan**

- Tha an teamplaid dhealbhachaidh ga cleachdadh airson an dá chànain, a' toirt spéis cho-ionann dhaibh.
- Tha deallbhachaidh nas fhasa leis an dòigh seo nam biodh e le colbhan ri taobh a chèile no le snapan teacsa.
- Tha nas lugha de chunnart ann gum faraich luchd-tadhail gu bheil cus teacsa ann ri leughadh.

**Dùbhlain**

- Fàgaidh luchd-tadhail na **paddles** sa chànan eile a' ciallachadh nach eil an cànan eile cho fasaimheach dhaibh.
- Chan eil an dòigh ach a’ freagairt air ionadan-tadhail taobh a-staigh thogalaichean no lárachean fo smadh teann a-mhàn.
Separate media

Interpretation at Corrieshalloch Gorge National Nature Reserve is presented on two separate panels (below), one in English and the other in Gaelic, with the same maps and illustrations on each.

Benefits

• This approach gives equal status to the two languages, although the placement of the panels will still involve one being placed to the left and therefore ‘first’.
• The two languages can share a common design template.

Challenges

• Installing two panels may make the site look cluttered and untidy.
• Production and installation costs are double what would be needed for a single panel.
• The approach reduces the practical visibility of Gaelic for non-users, who are unlikely to study another ‘copy’ of the panel.

Meadhanan fa leth

Tha an t-eadar-mhineachadh aig Tèarmann Nàdair a’ Choire Shalaich ga theirt seachad air dà phannal fa leth (gu h-iosal), aon aca ann am Beurla agus fear eile ann an Gàidhlig, leis na h-aon mhapaichean is dealbh anorra.

Buannachdan

• Tha an dòigh seo a’ toirt inbhe cho-ionann don dà chànan, ged a dh’fheumas an dàrna pannal a bhith air an taobh chlì, is am fear eile air an làimh dheis agus a’ tighinn ‘às a dhèidh’.
• Faodaidh na cânanan an aon teamplaid a leantainn a thaobh dealbhachaidh.

Dùbhlain

• Faodaidh gum fàg dà phannal an làrach rudeigin mi-sgiobalta a’ coimhead.
• Tha an obair a thaobh cruthachaidh agus cuir an sàs an dà uiread ‘s a bhiodh i le aon phannal.
• Tha an dòigh seo a’ deìsamh lùghdachadh air faicsniceadh phractaigeach na Gàidhlig do dhaoine nach eil ga cleachdadh agus a bhiodh eu-coltach coimhead ris a’ phannal ann an cànan eile.
3.7 **Websites**

Presenting bilingual or multilingual content online brings technical as well as design challenges. Many fully bilingual websites, such as those managed by public sector agencies in Wales or Canada, offer users an option for the language they want to use. The option is usually available throughout the website, so that at any point users can switch from one language to another. This approach keeps the graphic presentation of the two languages completely separate, so issues about how to manage parallel columns or discrete blocks do not apply. It must be built into the website’s technical development and programming from the outset: it is difficult to add on once the site is established.

The ‘switch languages’ approach might seem a neat solution, but it has disadvantages. It could reduce the profile of the minority language, and is unlikely to encourage learners and less-confident readers to engage with it. Importantly, it also doubles the effective size of the website and the task and cost of managing double the content.

Incorporating a second language within a single web page introduces other challenges: the mix of languages (particularly in headings and URLs) can have a negative effect on search engine ranking, making it more difficult for users to find the page. It is also very difficult to present two languages in parallel without compromising usability and accessibility, especially on small devices such as smartphones and tablets. However, as with other media, some Gaelic incorporated within an English presentation may be helpful to both Gaelic users and non-users.

Content in other languages can be made available to download as PDF files, but this makes it less visible and divorces it from the user’s direct experience of the website. A more integrated alternative for pages that

3.7 **Làraich-lin**

Tha stuthan dà-chànanach no ioma-chànanach air-loidhne le dúbhlain theicnigeach is dhealbhachaidh nan lùib. Tha mòran làraich-lìn a thà dà-chànanach air fad, leithid an fheadhainn aig buidhnean poblach sa Chuimirigh no ann an Canada, a’ tabhann roghainn do luchd-cleachdadh a thaobh dè an cànann a tha iad airson cleachadh. Tha an roghainn seo ann air feadh na làraich-lìn, mar as trice, le cothrom aig luchd-cleachdadh dol bho aon chànan chun an fhìr eile. Tha am modh seo a’ cumail nan cànanan fa leth, agus cha leigear a leas smaoineachadh air làimhseachadh cholbhan ri taobh a chèile no cnapan teacsa fa leth. Feumar a bhith a’ ghabhail a-steach leasachadh agus prògramadh na làraich-lìn bhon fhior fhiosreachadh, oir tha e duilich a chur rithe aon uair is gu bheil an làraich-lìn beò.

‘S dòcha gu bheil an dòigh ‘cànan eile’ seo tarraingeach a’ coimhead, ach tha dúbhlain na cois. ‘S dòcha gun déan i lùghdachadh air inbhe a’ mhion-chànan, agus cha tharraing i mòran luchd-ionnsachaidh, no luchd-leughaidh gun mhòran misneachadh, thuice. Tha e cudromach cuideachd a bhith mothachadh gu bheil i, gu ire mhòr, a’ dúbhachadh meud na làraich-lìn is na h-obrach is chosgaisean an lùib làimhseachadh dà uiread de stuth.

Leis an dàrna cànan ga ghabhail a-steach dha na h-aon duilleagan air an làraich-lìn a’ toirt dhùbhlan eile a-steach: tha am measgachadh chànanan (gu h-àraidh ann an cinn-sgriobhaidh agus UR兰) le buaidh neo-ghoirseach a’ chois a taobh rangachadh bhò einseanann-rhannachaidh, a’ ciallachadh gum bi e na dulghie do dhaoine Iorg fhàighinn air na duilleagan agad. Tha e cuideachd gu math duilich an dà chànan a chur ri taobh a chèile gun bhuaidh a thòirt air toinnteachd no ruigsinnachd, gu h-àraidh air innealan beaga mar chàalan-didseachadh no fìonaichean-làimhe. ‘S dòcha gum biodh e feumail, ge-tà, mar a tha e le meadhanaidh eile, beagan Làidhlig a ghabhail a-steach mar eileamaid de thaisbeanadh
do have Gaelic content may be to simply add a link to a Gaelic-only equivalent page: again, this offers little visibility of the language to non-users.

Overall, there are too many unresolved issues involved in online publication to give extensive guidelines for good practice in Gaelic at present. If you need to present online content in more than one language to meet the aims of your interpretation and the needs of your audience, our recommendations are:

• Give priority to making key messages and high profile content available in both languages.

• Take a consistent approach to ensure navigability and good user experience.

• Make changes to content in Gaelic and English simultaneously. You will need to build adequate time for translation into the content management process.

• It is very important that Gaelic is factored in to planning process changes to items such as content management systems. Some systems do not allow the use of characters with grave accents.

• Public authorities usually give priority to translating their most commonly-used web pages, with more static content: they tend to incur fewer changes and are easier to maintain.

• Some public authorities use a mirror image site setup, such as the University of the Highlands and Islands at www.uhi.ac.uk/en and www.uhi.ac.uk/gd, although every page is not fully bilingual. Others choose to have a completely different layout for their Gaelic and English pages, for example gaelic.snh.gov.uk and www.snh.gov.uk.

Beurla, is e na chuideachadh do luchd-cleachdaidh na Gàidhlig agus do dhaoine eile.

Faodar stuth ann an cànanan eile a bhith ri fhaighinn airson luchdadh a-nuas mar fhaidhlichean PDF, ach chonan eil seo cho faicsinneach agus a’ toirt air falbh bho shusbaint bheò na làraich-lìn. ’S math dh’fhaodte gum biodh e na dòigh na b’ fhìllte, aonaichte ceangal a bhith ann do na duilleagan Gàidhlig, ach a-rithist, chan eil mòran iomhaigh sam bith aig a’ chànan do dhaoine nach eil gu bhith gan cleachdadh.

A’ coimhead thar na cùise, tha cus chuspairean gun fheagairt ann a thaobh foilleachadh air-loidhne airson stiùireadh fada, mionaideach a thoirt seachad air deagh chleachdadh na Gàidhlig aig an àm seo. Ma dh’fheumas tu stuth a chur air loidhne ann am barrachd na aon chànan chum amasan eadar-mhíneachaidh agus feumannan luchd-cleachdadh, tha sinn a’ moladh:

• Priomhachas a thoirt do na prìomh theachdaireachdan agus do phriomh shusbaint na làraich-lìn a bhith rim faighinn san dà chànan.

• An aon dòigh a ghabhail chum gum bi e furasta faighinn timcheall na làraich-lìn agus gum faigh luchd-cleachdadh tlachd aiste.

• Atharrachadh a dhèanamh air a’ Ghàidhlig is a’ Bheurla aig an aon àm. Feumar ùine gu leòr a thoirt dhuibh fhèin airson eadar-theangachadh agus airson làirmheachadh susbaint na làraich-lìn.

• Tha e air leth cudromach gun tèid a’ Ghàidhlig a ghabhail a-steach mar phàirt dhen phróiseas phlanaidh nuair a thathas a’ coimhead ri siostaman rianachd susbaint. Tha cuid de shiostaman nach gabh ri caractaran aig a bheil sràcan.
• Mar as trice, tha buidhnean poblach a’ toirt priomhachas do dh’eadar-theangachadh nan duilleagan as motha air an cleachdadh, le susbaint nach eil ag atharrachadh cho tric, oir chan eil iad feumach air úrachadh cho tric agus tha iad nas fhasa a chumail suas.


The Uig trail web site (www.uigtrail.com) combines Gaelic and English on the home page.

Tha an làrach-lìn Turas Ùig (www.uigtrail.com) a’ cleachdadh Gàidhlig is Beurla còmhla air an duilleig dhachaigh.