

## Affirmative Clausology

### Indirect (Type C) Affirmative Relative Clauses

We have learned:

1. how to handle *any* type of clause in the negative, by virtue of the fact that all of them use *nach* or *nár*, and those particles always produce the same effects on the verbs that follow them.
2. how to construct our different types of clauses, again in the negative, by paying attention to whether they involve indirect speech, genitive relations, object of the verb, and all that jazz.
3. how to produce *affirmative* clauses of the *indirect speech* (Type A) variety. This is because, God bless them, *go* and *gur* behave exactly like our good friends *nach* and *nár*.

In a sense, our current "score" is:

	Negative	Affirmative
<b>A: Indirect Speech</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>B: Direct relative</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>C: Indirect relative</b>	<b>X</b>	

### Next Up: Indirect Relative (C) Affirmative Clauses

Now, we are about to polish off the lower right box, affirmative indirect relative clauses (C). Most books teach the direct (B) forms first, and then when you get to the indirect (C) forms, they seem more complicated, mainly because indirect relative clauses have different forms in the past, whereas verbs in direct relative clauses behave the same no matter what the tense.

BUT, because we have been focused on the most consistent forms, the ones following negative particles, we will actually find it quite easy to transfer that learning to indirect (C) relative clauses.

### The Official Rules of the Game

Here's the grammar of affirmative indirect relative clauses:

- ◆ For all tenses *except the past*, we use the particle *a* followed by eclipsis.
- ◆ This *a* is also followed by the *dependent* form of the verb (*a bhfuil*).
- ◆ For the *past* tense, we use the particle *ar*, followed by the (lenited) past tense of the verb.
- ◆ For irregular verbs that have dependent forms, *a + eclipsis* will be used: *a ndearna*, etc.

### Look familiar?

We could summarize this by saying that the verbs in past affirmative indirect clauses will look exactly like they would after *nár/gur*, and in all the other tenses they will look just like after *nach/go*. So:

Seo é an fear nach mbuaileann a iníon a deartháir.

Seo é an fear a mbuaileann a iníon a deartháir.

Cá bhfuil an bord nár chuir tú an bia air?

Cá bhfuil an bord ar chuir tú an bia air?

## Additional Usage Notes

We might as well wrap up a few things about these types of clauses, now that we can do them in both the affirmative and the negative. We generally need the indirect (C) type of clause when the "that" notion expressed by the particle (even if it isn't explicitly translated):

- ◆ refers to the object of a preposition: the table on which, the box in which. Generally, the clause will end with a prepositional pronoun that repeats the object: *the box that the toy was in it*.
- ◆ possession/genitive relation: the person whose mother/dog/foot, etc. does something
- ◆ Cad/Céard questions that include a preposition: *Céard leis ar bhuail sé an liathróid?* What did he hit the ball with?
- ◆ Several question words/phrases are generally followed by indirect relatives, including:
 

Cá/Cén áit	Cén fáth	Cén chaoi	Cén dóigh
Cén t-am, Cén lá, etc. (but <i>not</i> Cén uair)			

These words will also be followed by the indirect relative in other types of sentences as in *Sin í/é an chaoi/an fáth/an áit ar bhuail mé é*.

## PRACTICE

---

Translate the negative sentences below (all C: Indirect Relative), then put them in the affirmative.

1. This is the television the man did not watch.
2. Where is the table the cat does not sit on?
3. That is the box I will not see a rat in.
4. What is the radio program that they did not listen to?
5. That is the police officer whose son did not steal money.
6. Go to the room we do not usually meet in.
7. I don't like the garden that I don't pick potatoes from.
8. Show me the house whose window is not broken.
9. That is the boy that I will not throw a rock at.
10. Bridget is the woman who is never afraid.
11. I spoke to the man whose wife will not kiss a pig.
12. I see the girl whose mother would not buy my book.
13. What is the reason she does not eat bread?
14. Which day did they not buy a new car?