

Basic Clause Structure, pronoun postposing, adverb placement
Elicited Fall 07, by Andrew Carnie

- 1) Phòg Muirgheal Pòl
kissed.past Muriel Paul
Muriel kissed Paul.
note: VSO order
- 2) Phòg Pòl Muirgheal
kissed.past Paul Muriel
Paul kissed Muriel
note: VSO order
- 3) Phòg Muirgheal e
kissed.past Muriel 3sm
Muriel kissed him.
note: VSO order
note: masculine pronominal object
- 4) Phòg i Pòl
kissed.past 3sf Paul
She kissed Paul.
note: VSO order
note: feminine pronominal subject
- 5) Phòg Pòl i
kissed.past Paul 3sf
Paul kissed her
note: feminine pronominal object
- 6) Phòg e Muirgheal
kissed.past 3sm Muriel
He kissed Muriel
note: masculine pronominal subject
- 7) Phòg e i
kissed.past 3sm 3sf
He kissed her
- 7a) Phòg esan i
kissed.past 3sm.empf 3sf
HE kissed her
- 7b) Phòg e ise
kissed.past 3sm 3sf.empf
he kissed HERE

- 8) Phòg i e
kissed.past 3sf 3sm
She kissed him
- 9) Dh'fhàg Muirgheal
past'leave Muriel
Muriel left
Note: intransitive
Note: unergative
- 10) Ràinig Muirgeal
Arrive.past Muriel
Muriel arrived
Note: intransitive
Note: unergative
- 11) Dh'ith Muirgheal iasg
past'eat Muriel fish
Muriel ate a fish.
Note simple transitive
Note: no indefinite pronoun
- 11a) Cha do dh'ith Muirgheal iasg
Neg past past'eat Muriel fish
Muriel didn't eat fish
Note: Negation
- 11b) An do dh'ith Muirgheal iasg
Q past past'eat Muriel fish
Did Muriel eat fish?
Note Yes/No question
Note: Past tense particle
- 11c) do dh'ith Muirgheal iasg?
past past'eat Muriel fish?
Did Muriel eat fish?
Note Yes/No question; in fast speech the question particle An is frequently omitted.
- 11d) Nach do dh'ith Muirgheal iasg
neg.Q past past'eat Muriel fish
Did Muriel not eat fish?
Note : negative yes/no question

- 12) Chollapse Muirgheal
Collapse.past Muriel
Muriel collapsed.
Note: Chollapse is a clear borrowing. Dictionaries suggest thuit which means “fell”.
- 13) Chollapse am bord
collapse.past the.masc table
The table collapsed.
Note: am is the form of the masculine definite article used before labials
- 14) Thuit Muirgheal sios
Fell Muriel down
Muriel fell down.
- 15) Bhreab Muirgheal am ball
kick.past Muriel the ball
Muriel kicked the ball.
Note: Breab is the formal Gaelic for “kick”, our native speaker reports that most speakers would use the borrowing cic (past: chic /çiçk/)
- 15a) Chic Muirgheal am ball
kick.past Muriel the ball
“Muriel kicked the ball”
Note: Breab is the formal Gaelic for “kick”, our native speaker reports that most speakers would use the borrowing cic (past: chic /çiçk/)
- 15b) Chic Muirgheal anns an adhar
kick.past Muriel in the air
“Muriel kicked in the air”
- 15c) Chic Muirgheal ‘san adhar
kick.past Muriel in.the air
“Muriel kicked in the air”
note ‘san is a reduced form of anns an
- 16a) Chic Muirgheal ‘s Pòl am ball
Kick.past Muriel and Paul the ball
Muriel and Paul kicked the ball
Note: ‘s is a reduced form of agus
- 16a) Chic Muirgheal agus Pòl am ball
Kick.past Muriel and Paul the ball
Muriel and Paul kicked the ball

- 16a) Chic Muirgheal is Pòl am ball
 Kick.past Muriel and Paul the ball
 Muriel and Paul kicked the ball
 Note: is is a reduced form of agus
- 17) Chic iad am ball
 kick.past them the ball
 They kicked the ball
- 18) Chic esan agus Muirgheal am ball
 kick.past he.empf and Muriel the ball
 He and Muriel kicked the ball
 Note: Muriel preferred either a -se emphatic or a fhinn/fhein emphatic in coordination. This may be a pragmatic effect: i.e. coordination with a pronoun doesn't happen except in contrastive contexts.
- 19) Chic Muirgheal agus mi fhinn am ball
 kick.past Muriel and I self the ball
 Muriel and I kicked the ball
 Note: Muriel preferred either a -se emphatic or a fhinn/fhein emphatic in coordination. This may be a pragmatic effect: i.e. coordination with a pronoun doesn't happen except in contrastive contexts.
- 20) chic sinn am ball
 kick.past we the ball
 We kicked the ball
- 20a) chiceamaid am ball
 Kick.cond.1pl the ball
 We would kick the ball
 Note: incorporated pronoun
 Note: formal register (cf. Chiceadh sinn am ball)
- 20b) Chiceadh sinn am ball
 Kick.cond we the ball
 We would kick the ball
 Note: no incorporated pronoun
 Note: informal register (cf. chiceamaid am ball)
- 20c) Chicinn am ball
 Kick.cond.1s the ball
 I would kick the ball
 Note: incorporated pronoun
 Note: not limited by register
 Note: compare to the ungrammatical form *Chiceadh mi am ball

- 20d) * Chiceadh mi am ball
 * Kick I the ball
 I would kick the ball
 Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
 Note: cf. the grammatical Chicinn am ball
- 21) Chic Muirgheal agus sinne am ball
 kick.past Muriel and 1pl.emp the ball
 “Muriel and us kicked the ball”
 Note Emphasis on us is required by conjunction”
- 21a#1) Chiceadh Muirgheal agus mi fhinn am ball
 Kick.cond Muriel and 1s self the ball
 “Muriel and me would kick the ball”
 Note: First conjunct agreement
- 22a#2) Chicinn fhinn agus Muirgheal am ball
 Kick.1s.conj self and Muriel the ball
 I.emph and Muriel kicked the ball
 Note First conjunct agreement
- 22a#3) * Chiceadh mi fhinn agus Muirgheal am ball
 Note: First conjunct conjunct agreement
 Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
- 22) Chic Muirgheal am ball gu Pòl
 kick.past Muriel the ball to Paul
 Muriel kicked the ball to Paul.
 Note: No double object construction only a prepositional dative
- 23) Chic Muirgheal am ball gu Pòl
 kick.past Muriel the ball to Paul
 Muriel kicked Pall the ball
 Note: No double object construction only a prepositional dative
- 24) Thug Muirgheal am ball do Phòl
 Give.past Muriel the ball to Paul
 Muriel gave the ball to Paul
 Note: No double object construction only a prepositional dative
- 25) Thug Muirgheal am ball do Phòl
 Give.past Muriel the ball to Paul
 Muriel gave the ball to Paul
 Note: No double object construction only a prepositional dative

- 26) Chuir Muirgheal am ball air a' bhòrd.
Put.past Muriel the ball on the table
"Muriel put the ball on the table"
- 27a) *Chuir Muirgheal air a' bhòrd am ball
Put.past Muriel on the table the ball
"Muriel put the ball on the table"
- 27) Chuir Muirgheal e air a' bhòrd.
Put.past Muriel 3sm on the table
"Muriel put it on the table"
- 27a) Chuir Muirgheal air a' bhòrd e.
Put.past Muriel on the table 3sm
"Muriel put it on the table"
Note: Pronoun Post-Posing
- 28) Thug Muirgheal e do Phòl.
Give.pst Muriel 3sm to Paul
"Muriel give it to Paul"
- 28a) Thug Muirgheal do Phòl e
Gave.pst Muriel to Paul 3sm
"Muriel gave it to Paul"
Note: Pronoun Post-Posing
- 29) Chuir Muirgheal air a' bhòrd e
Put Muriel on the table 3sm
"Muriel put it on the table"
Note: Pronoun Post-posing
Note: Preferred over Chuir Muirgheal e air a bhòrd."
- 30) ?Chuir Muirgheal e air a' bhòrd
Put Muriel 3sm on the table
"Muriel put it on the table"
Note: dispreferred to Chuir Muirgheal air a bhòrd e."
Note: Seems to be dispreferred due to vowel vowel sequence caused by the e air sequence.
- 30) Phòg Muirgheal Pòl Dihaoine
Kiss.past Muriel Paul Friday
"Muriel Kissed Paul on Friday"

- 31) Phòg Muirgheal e Dihaoine
 Kiss.past Muriel him Friday
 “Muriel Kissed Paul on Friday”
 Note: preferred over Phòg Muirgheal Dihaoin’e
- 31) Phòg Muirgheal Dihaoin’ e
 Kiss.past Muriel Friday him
 “Muriel Kissed Paul on Friday”
 Note: not as good as Phòg Muirgheal e Dihaoine
 Note: Only ok if the final e of Dihaoine is deleted
 Note: Native speaker consultant observes that there is a rhythmic constraint on pronoun placement.
- 32) Thug Muirgheal am ball do Phòl Dihaoine
 Kiss.past Muriel the ball to Paul Friday
 “Muriel Kissed Paul on Friday”
 Note: not as good as Phòg Muirgheal e Dihaoine
 Note: Only ok if the final e of Dihaoine is deleted
 Note: Native speaker consultant observes that there is a rhythmic constraint on pronoun placement.
- 33) Chuir Muirgheal am ball air a’ bhòrd Dihaoine
 Put Muriel the ball on the table Friday
 “Muriel put the ball on the table on Friday”
- 34) Chuir Muirgheal e air a’ bhòrd Dihaoine
 Put Muriel 3sm on the table Friday
 “Muriel put it on the table on Friday”
 Note: Ok, but dispreferred over Chuir Muriel air a’ bhòrd e Dihaoine
- 34a) Chuir Muirgheal air a’ bhòrd e Dihaoine
 Put Muriel on the table 3sm Friday
 “Muriel put it on the table on Friday”
 Note Preferred order
 Note: pronoun post posing
- 34b) Chuir Muirgheal air a’ bhòrd Dihaoin’ e
 Put Muriel on the table Friday 3sm
 “Muriel put it on the table on Friday”
 Note: Ok, but dispreferred over Chuir Muirgheal air a’ bhòrd e Dihaoine
 Note: pronoun post-posing
- 35a) Thug Muirgheal e do Phòl Dihaoine
 Give.pst Muriel 3sm to Paul Friday
 “Muriel gave it to Paul on Friday”
 Note: preferred order

- 35b) ?Thug Muirgheal do Phòl e Dihaoine
 Give.pst Muriel to Paul 3sm Friday
 “Muriel gave it to Paul on Friday”
 Note: pronoun post-posing
- 35c) ?Thug Muirgheal do Phòl Dihaoin’ e
 Give.pst Muriel to Paul Friday 3sm
 “Muriel gave it to Paul on Friday”
 Note: ok, but dispreferred to Thug Muirgheal e do Phòl Dihaoine
 Note native speaker reports gets better with stress on Dihaoin’
- 35d)** Thug Muirgheal dha Dihaoin’ e
 Give.pst Muriel to 3sm Friday 3sm
 “Muriel gave it to him on Friday”
 Note: pronoun postposing. This order is preferred, especially with emphasis on Friday.
- 36a) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl e Dihaoine
 Kick.past Muriel to Paul 3sm Friday
 “Muriel Kicked it to Paul on Friday”
 Note: pronoun postposing
 Note: preferred order
- 36b) (?)Chic Muirgheal e gu Pòl Dihaoine
 Kick.past Muriel 3sm to Paul Friday
 “Muriel Kicked it to Paul on Friday”
 Note: dispreferred to Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl e Dihaoine
- 36c) ?Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl Dihaoin’ e
 Kick.past Muriel to Paul Friday 3sm
 “Muriel Kicked it to Paul on Friday”
 Note: pronoun postposing
 Note: dispreferred to Chic Muriel gu Pòl e Dihaoine
 Note: gets better with stress on Friday
- 36d) (?)Chic Muriel gu Pòl ’ad Dihaoine
 Kick.past Muriel to Paul 3pl Friday
 “Muriel Kicked it to Paul on Friday”
 Note: pronoun postposing
 Note: dispreferred to Chic Muriel iad gu Pòl Dihaoine
 Note: note reduced form of iad
- 36e) Chic Muirgheal iad gu Pòl Dihaoine
 Kick.past Muriel 3pl to Paul Friday
 “Muriel Kicked it to Paul on Friday”
 Note: preferred order

- 36f) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl Dihaoin' 'ad
 Kick.past Muriel to Paul Friday 3pl
 "Muriel Kicked it to Paul on Friday"
 Note: reduced form of iad
 Note: pronoun postposing
 Note: dispreferred to Chic Muirgheal iad gu Pòl Dihaoine
 Note: gets better with stress on Friday
- 37) Thug Muirgheal am ball dha Dihaoine
 Give.past Muriel the ball to.3sm Friday
 "Muriel gave the ball to him on Friday"
- 37a) *Thug Muirgheal am ball Dihaoine dha
 Give.past Muriel the ball Friday to.3sm
 "Muriel gave the ball to him on Friday"
 Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
 Note: pronoun postposing
- 38) Chuir Muirgheal am ball air Dihaoine
 put .past Muriel the ball on.3sm Friday
 "Muriel put the ball on it on Friday"
- 38a) *Chuir Muirgheal am ball Dihaoine air
 put,past Muriel the ball Friday on.3sm
 "Muriel put the ball on it on Friday"
 Note: air cannot shift
 Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
 Note: pronoun postposing
- 39) Chic Muirgheal am ball thuige Dihaoine
 Kick.past Muriel the ball to.3sm Friday
 "Muriel kicked the ball to him on Friday"
- 39a) *Chic Muirgheal am ball Dihaoine thuige
 Kick.past Muriel the ball Friday to.3sm
 "Muriel kicked the ball to him on Friday"
 Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
 Note: pronoun postposing
- 40) Thug Muirgheal dha e Dihaoine
 Give.past Muriel to3sm 3sm Friday
 "Muriel gave it to him on Friday"

- 40a) *Thug Muirgheal e dha Dihaoine
 Give.past Muriel 3sn to3sm Friday
 “Muriel gave it to him on Friday”
 Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
 Note: compare Thug Muirgheal dha e Dihaoine; pronoun post-posing seems to be obligatory in this situation.
- 40b) Thug Muirgheal dha Dihaoin’ e
 Give.past Muriel to3sm Friday 3sm
 “Muriel gave it to him on Friday”
 Note: Pronoun post posing
 Note: ok, but not preferred order (preferred is Thug Muirgheal dha e Dihaoine).
- 41) Chuir Muirgheal e air Dihaoine
 put.past Muriel 3sm on3sm Friday
 “Muriel put it on it on Friday”
 “Muriel put it on on Friday”
 Note: ambiguous because air is ambiguous between the 3sm version of the pronoun and the bare preposition. So not a good test case.
- 41a) Chuir Muirgheal e oirre Dihaoine
 put.past Muriel 3sm on3sf Friday
 “Muriel put it on it on Friday”
 Note: oire is bisyllabic (cf. other Ps which are monosyllabic)
- 41b) Chuir Muirgheal oirr’ e Dihaoine
 put.past Muriel on3sf 3sm Friday
 “Muriel put it on it on Friday”
- 41b) Chuir Muirgheal oirre Dihaoin’ e
 put.past Muriel on3sf Friday 3sm
 “Muriel put it on it on Friday”
- 41a) Chuir Muirgheal e oirre Dihaoine
 put.past Muriel 3sm on3sf Friday
 “Muriel put it on it on Friday”
 Note: oire is bisyllabic (cf. other Ps which are monosyllabic)
- 41b) Chuir Muirgheal oirr’ e Dihaoine
 put.past Muriel on3sf 3sm Friday
 “Muriel put it on it on Friday”
- 41c) Chuir Muirgheal oirre Dihaoin’ e
 put.past Muriel on3sf Friday 3sm
 “Muriel put it on it on Friday”

42) Chic Muirgheal thuig' e Dihaoine
 Kick.past Muriel to.3sm 3sm Friday
 "Muriel kicked it to him on Friday"

Note: Pronoun postposing

Note: preferred order

42a) *Chic Muirgheal e thuig' Dihaoine
 Kick.past Muriel 3sm to.3sm Friday
 "Muriel kicked it to him on Friday"

Note: Pronoun postposing

Note: UNGRAMMATICAL

42b) (?)Chic Muirgheal thuige Dihaoin' e
 Kick.past Muriel to.3sm Friday 3sm
 "Muriel kicked it to him on Friday"

Note: Pronoun postposing

Note: ok but not preferred order

43) Bha e air fhágáil 'na laighe air
 Be.past 3sm perf leave.vn in.3sm.poss lie.vn on

an talamh

the ground

"It was left lying on the ground"

Note: subject pronoun cannot shift.

43a) Dh' fhàgar e 'na laighe air an làr
 past'give'impers 3sm in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground
 "It was left lying on the ground.

Note: acceptable, but pronoun post posing is preferred

43b) Dh' fhàgar 'na laighe air an làr e
 past'give'impers in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground 3sm
 "It was left lying on the ground.

Note: pronoun post-posing

Note: preferred order

43c) *Dh' fhàgar 'na laighe e air an làr
 past'give'impers in.3sm.poss lie.vn 3sm on the ground
 "It was left lying on the ground.

Note: pronoun post-posing

Note: UNGRAMMATICAL

43d) *Dh' fhàg Iain 'na laighe e air an làr
 past'give Iain in.3sm.poss lie.vn 3sm on the ground
 "Iain left it lying on the ground.

Note: pronoun post-posing
Note: UNGRAMMATICAL

43e) Dh'fhàg Iain e 'na laighe air an làr
past'give Iain 3sm in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground
"Iain left it lying on the ground.

Note: acceptable, but pronoun post-posing is preferred

43e) Dh'fhàg Iain 'na laighe air an làr e
past'give Iain in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground 3sm
"Iain left it lying on the ground.

Note: pronoun post-posing
Note: preferred order

44) Dh'fhàg Iain e 'na laighe air an talamh
past'give Iain 3sm in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground

air cùlaibh an t-sabhal
on backthe barn

"Iain left it lying on the ground behind the barn.

Note: preferred position

44a) Dh'fhàg Iain 'na laighe air an talamh
past'give Iain in.3sm.poss lie.vn 3sm on the ground

e air cùlaibh an t-sabhal
on back the barn

"Iain left it lying on the ground behind the barn.

Note: Pronoun post-posing

Note: not preferred position but ok

44b) Dh'fhàg Iain 'na laighe air an talamh air
past'give Iain in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground on

cùlaibh an t-sabhal e
back the barn 3sm

"Iain left it lying on the ground behind the barn.

Note: Pronoun post-posing

Note: not preferred position but ok

45) Dh'fhàg Iain e 'na laighe air an talamh
past'give Iain 3sm in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground

air cùlaibh an t-sabhal araoir
on back the barn last.night

"Iain left it lying on the ground behind the barn last night.

Note: preferred position
 45a) Dh'fhàg Iain 'na laighe air an talamh
 past'give Iain in.3sm.poss lie.vn 3sm on the ground

e air cùlaibh an t-sabhal araoir
 on back the barn last.night

“Iain left it lying on the ground behind the barn last night.

Note: Pronoun post-posing

Note: not preferred position but ok

45b) ?Dh'fhàg Iain 'na laighe air an talamh
 past'give Iain in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground

air cùlaibh an t-sabhal e araoir
 on back the barn 3sm last.night

“Iain left it lying on the ground behind the barn last night.

Note: Pronoun post-posing

Note: Marginal grammaticality, due to the e a sequence of vowels

45c) ?Dh'fhàg Iain 'na laighe air an talamh
 past'give Iain in.3sm.poss lie.vn on the ground

air cùlaibh an t-sabhal araoir e
 on back the barn last.night 3sm

“Iain left it lying on the ground behind the barn last night.

Note: Pronoun post-posing

Note: Marginal grammaticality, Native speaker: “pronoun feels far away”

46) Chuala mi e air a ràdh
 Hear.past 1s 3sm on 3sm.poss say.vn

“I heard it said”

Note: ok, but not preferred

46) Chuala mi air a ràdh e
 Hear.past 1s on 3sm.poss say.vn 3sm

“I heard it said”

Note: Pronoun Post-posing

Note: Note preferred order

47) Chuala mi air a ràdh e gum
 hear.past 1s on 3s.poss 3sm that

b' fhathaist dha a' bhidh annsin
 cop.past'used-to to.3sm prt be there

“I heard it said that he used to be there”

Note: preferred order

- 47b) Chuala mi e air a ràdh gum
hear.past 1s 3sm on 3s.poss that
b' fhathaist dha a' bhidh annsin
cop.past' used-to to.3sm prog be there
"I heard it said that he used to be there"
Note: pronoun post posing is preferred.
- 47c) *Chuala mi air a ràdh gum b' fhathaist
hear.past 1s on 3s.poss that cop.past' used-to
dha a' bhidh annsin e
to.3sm prt be there
"I heard it said that he used to be there"
Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 47d) Dh'fhagar 'na ruith e Dihaoine
past'left in.3sm.poss run.vn 3sm Friday
"It was left running on Friday"
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 47e) Dh'fhagar 'na ruith Dihaoin' e
past'left in.3sm.poss run.vn Friday 3sm
"It was left running on Friday"
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 48) Chunnaic mi e a' dannsadh
see.past 1s 3sm prog dance
I saw him dancing
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 48a) Chunnaic mi a' danns' e
see.past 1s prog dance 3sm
I saw him dancing
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 49) Chuala mi iad a' bruidhinn [mu dheidhinn]
heard 1s 3pl prog' speak about.3s
"I heard them speaking about it"
- 49a) *Chuala mi a' bruidhinn iad [mu dheidhinn]
heard 1s prog' speak 3pl about.3s
"I heard them speaking about it"
Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
Note: pronoun post-posing

- 49b) *Chuala mi a' bruidhinn [mu dheidhinn] iad
 heard 1s prog' speak about.3s 3pl
 "I heard them speaking about it
 Note: UNGRAMMATICAL
 Note: pronoun post-posing
- 50) Dh'inns i do Sheumais e
 past'say 3sf to James 3sm
 "She said it to James."
 Note: pronoun post-posing
 Note: preferred form
- 50a) Dh'inns i do Sheumais 'ad
 past'say 3sf to James 3ok
 "She said them to James."
 Note: pronoun post-posing
 Note: reduced form of iad
 Note: preferred form
- 51) Dh'inns i iad do Sheumais
 past'say 3sf 3pl to James
 "She said them to James."
 Note: full form of iad
 Note: dispreferred to Dh'inns i do Sheumais 'ad
- 51a) Dh'inns i e do Sheumais
 past'say 3sf 3sm to James
 "She said it to James."
 Note: dispreferred to Dh'inns i do Sheumais e
- 51') Bha e aice [an dè]
 Be.past it at.3sf [yesterday]
 "She had it yesterday
 Note: neither e nor aice can pronoun-postpose
- 52a) Leugh e an leobhar gu cúramach
 Read.past 3sm the book adv careful
 "He read the book carefully"
- 52b) Leugh e an leobhar gu tric
 Read.past 3sm the book adv frequent
 "He read the book frequently"
- 53) Leugh e e gu cùramach
 Read.past 3sm 3sm adv careful
 "He read it carefully"

Note: e e is pronounced as a long vowel (no glottal stop)
Note: this is ok, but pronoun post-posing is preferred

- 53a) Leugh e gu cùramach e
Read.past 3sm adv careful 3sm
“He read it carefully”
Note: Pronoun postposing
- 53b) Leugh Seumas e gu cùramach
read.past James 3sm adv careful
“James read it carefully”
Note: preferred order
- 53c) Leugh Seumas gu cùramach e
read.past James 3sm adv careful
“James read it carefully”
Note: pronoun post-posing
Note: dispreferred to Leugh Seumas e gu cùramach
- 53d) Leugh Bob e gu cùramach
read.past bob 3sm adv careful
“Bob read it carefully”
Note: preferred order
- 53e) Leugh Bob gu cùramach e
read.past Bob 3sm adv careful
“Bob read it carefully”
Note: pronoun post-posing
Note: dispreferred to Leugh Seumas e gu cùramach
- 53f) Leugh e e gu tric
Read.past 3sm 3sm adv frequent
“He read it frequently”
Note: e e is pronounced as a long vowel (no glottal stop)
Note: this is ok, but pronoun post-posing is preferred
- 53g) Leugh e gu tric e
Read.past 3sm adv frequent 3sm
“He read it frequently”
Note: Pronoun postposing
Note: preferred order
- 53h) Leugh Seumas e gu tric
read.past James 3sm adv careful
“James read it carefully”
Note: preferred order

Note: SSWWWS

53i) Leugh Seumas gu tric e
read.past James 3sm adv frequent
“James read it frequently”
Note: pronoun post-posing
Note: dispreferred to Leugh Seumas e gu tric

53j) Leugh Bob e gu tric
read.past bob 3sm adv frequent
“Bob read it frequently”
Note: dispreferred to Leugh Bob gu tric e

53k) Leugh Bob gu tric e
read.past Bob 3sm adv frequent
“Bob read it frequently”
Note: pronoun post-posing
Note: preferred order
Note: SWWSW

54) Chic Muirgheal am ball gu Pòl gu cùramach
kick.past Muriel the ball to Paul adv careful
“Muriel kicked the ball to Paul carefully”

54a) Chic Muirgheal am ball gu cùramach gu Pòl
kick.past Muriel the ball adv careful to Paul
“Muriel kicked the ball to Paul carefully”

54b) Chic Muirgheal gu cùramach am ball gu Pòl
kick.past Muriel adv careful the ball to Paul
“Muriel kicked the ball to Paul carefully”

54c) *Chic gu cùramach Muirgheal am ball gu Pòl
kick.past adv careful Muriel the ball to Paul
“Muriel kicked the ball to Paul carefully”
Note: ungrammatical

54d) *gu cùramach chic Muirgheal am ball gu Pòl
adv careful kick.past Muriel the ball to Paul
“Muriel kicked the ball to Paul carefully”
Note: ungrammatical

54e) Chic Muirgheal am ball gu Pòl gu cùramach
kick.past Muriel the ball to Paul adv careful

Dihaoine

Friday

“Muriel kicked the ball to Paul carefully on Friday”

54e) Chic Muirgheal am ball gu Pòl Dihaoine gu
kick.past Muriel the ball to Paul Friday adv

cùramach

careful

“Muriel kicked the ball to Paul carefully on Friday”

54e) Chic Muirgheal am ball Dihaoine gu Pòl gu
kick.past Muriel the ball Friday to Paul adv

cùramach

careful

“Muriel kicked the ball to Paul carefully on Friday”

Note: ok if stress on Dihaoine

55) Chic Muirgheal e gu Pòl gu cùramach
kick.past Muriel 3sm to Paul adv careful

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully”

Note: acceptable, but Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl e gu cùramach is preferred

55a) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl e gu cùramach
kick.past Muriel to Paul 3sm adv careful

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully”

Note: preferred order

Note: pronoun post-posing

55b) ?Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl gu cùramach e
kick.past Muriel to Paul adv careful 3sm

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully”

Note: pronoun post-posing

Note: Awkward

55c) Chic Muirgheal e gu cùramach gu Pòl
kick.past Muriel 3sm adv careful to Paul

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully”

Note: possible order, but Chic Muirgheal gu cùramach gu Pòl e is preferred

- 55d) Chic Muirgheal gu cùramach e gu Pòl
kick.past Muriel adv careful 3sm to Paul
“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully”
Note: possible order, but Chic Muirgheal gu cùramach gu Pòl e is preferred
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 55d) Chic Muirgheal gu cùramach gu Pòl e
kick.past Muriel adv careful to Paul 3sm
“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully”
Note: preferred order
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 55e) Chic Muirgheal e gu tric gu Pòl
kick.past Muriel 3sm adv frequent to Paul
“Muriel kicked it to Paul frequently”
Note: possible order, but Chic Muirgheal gu cùramach gu Pòl e is preferred
- 55f) Chic Muirgheal gu tric e gu Pòl
kick.past Muriel adv frequent 3sm to Paul
“Muriel kicked it to Paul frequently”
Note: possible order, but Chic Muirgheal gu cùramach gu Pòl e is preferred
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 55g) Chic Muirgheal gu tric gu Pòl e
kick.past Muriel adv frequent to Paul 3sm
“Muriel kicked it to Paul frequently”
Note: preferred order
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 56) Chic Muirgheal e gu Pòl Dihaoine gu
kick.past Muriel 3sm to Paul Friday adv

cùramach
careful
“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully on Friday”
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 56a) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl e Dihaoine gu
kick.past Muriel to Paul 3sm Friday adv

cùramach
careful
“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully on Friday”
Note: pronoun post-posing

56b) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl Dihaoine e gu
kick.past Muriel to Paul Friday 3sm adv

cùramach
careful

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully on Friday”

Note: pronoun post-posing

56c) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl Dihaoine gu cùramach
kick.past Muriel to Paul Friday adv careful

e
3sm

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully on Friday”

Note: Native speaker reports this one is “stretching it”

Note: pronoun post-posing

56d) Chic Muirgheal e gu Pòl gu cùramach
kick.past Muriel 3sm to Paul adv careful

Dihaoine
Friday

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully on Friday”

Note: pronoun post-posing

56e) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl e gu cùramach
kick.past Muriel to Paul 3sm adv careful

Dihaoine
Friday

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully on Friday”

Note: pronoun post-posing

56f) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl gu cùramach e
kick.past Muriel to Paul adv careful 3sm

Dihaoine
Friday

“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully on Friday”

Note: pronoun post-posing

- 56g) Chic Muirgheal gu Pòl gu cùramach Dihaoine
kick.past Muriel to Paul adv careful Friday
- 3sm
e
“Muriel kicked it to Paul carefully on Friday”
Note: Native speaker reports this one is “stretching it”
Note: pronoun post-posing
- 57) Bhris e an cathair leis an ord
break.past 3sm the chair with the hammer
- [a raoir]
[last night]
“He broke the chair with the hammer last night”
- 57a) Bhris e an cathair [a raoir] leis an
break.past 3sm the chair [last night] with the
- ord
hammer
“He broke the chair with the hammer last night”
- 58) Buidhe dhut a Mhòr a’ pòsadh laugh geal do
Yellow to.2s voc big prog marry.vn calf white 2s.poss
- chridhe aig deiradh a’ mhios
heart at end the month
“Congratulations on marrying your darling at the end of the month”
- 59) Bhris e e leis an ord [a raoir]
break.past 3sm 3sm with the hammer [last night]
“He broke the chair with the hammer last night”
- 59a) Bhris e leis an ord e [a raoir]
break.past 3sm with the hammer 3sm [last night]
“He broke the chair with the hammer last night”
- 59b) Bhris e leis an ord [a raoir] e
break.past 3sm with the hammer [last night] 3sm
“He broke the chair with the hammer last night”
- 60) Bhris e an cathair leis [a raoir]
break.past 3sm the chair with.3sm [last night]
“He broke the chair with it last night”

60a) Bhris e an cathair [a raoir] leis
 break.past 3sm the chair [last night] with.3sm
 “He broke the chair with it last night”

60b) Bhris e leis e
 break.past 3sm with.3sm 3sm
 “he broke it with it”

60c) * Bhris e e leis.
 break.past 3sm 3sm with.3sm
 “he broke it with it”

Note: UNGRAMMATICAL

61) Chan eil air a bhith air a dhoigh airson
 Neg be perf prt be on his way

bliadhnaichean

for years

“He has not been happy for years”

62) Bha e air ais annsin air a dhoigh air an rathad
 be.past 3 on back there on his way on the road

mhór [an dè]

big [yesterday]

“He was back there carefree on the road yesterday”

62a) Bha e air a dhoigh air ais annsin air a dhoigh
 be.past 3 on his way on back there on the road

air an rathad mhór [an dè]

big [yesterday]

“He was back there carefree on the road yesterday”

63) Tha Michael a’ bruidhinn Gàidhlig ri Ceit
 Be.pres Michael prog speak Gaelic with Kate

(gu) tric

(adv) frequent

“Michael speaks Gaelic with kate often”

64) Bithidh Michael 'ga bruidhinn ri Ceit
be.fut Michael prog.3sf.poss speak with Kate

tric

frequent

“Michael speaks it with Kate frequently”

Note: future tense here is interpreted as a habitual present

Note: 'ga is aig 'prog' and a “her’

65) Bithidh Michael a' bruidhinn Gàidhlig rithe
be.fut Michael prog speak Gaelic with.3fs

gu tric

adv frequent

“Michael speaks it with Kate frequently”

Note: future tense here is interpreted as a habitual present

65) Bithidh Michael ga bruidhinn rithe gu
be.fut Michael prog.3sf.poss speak with.3fs adv

tric

frequent

“Michael speaks it with her frequently”

Note: future tense here is interpreted as a habitual present

Note: 'ga is aig 'prog' and a “her’