



Speaking Gaelic Well (2)

Madainn mhath!

I hope your weekend has been a good one so far. ☺ It's good to see you today!

In Part 1 of this learning tip, we looked at what it means to speak Gaelic 'well.' We looked at some questions from a student of mine about his progress, exploring the possibility that being a 'good' Gaelic speaker is less about being accurate and more about gaining experience ('doing' speaking). It's worth considering. Little changes to your mindset can make your Gaelic learning much more powerful, effective, and enjoyable.

Sometimes, though, we **want to make sure we are moving forward with our Gaelic**. We want evidence that we're not wasting our time and money. I'd like to share my way to do this; it's quick, simple, and anyone can do it. It's nothing very magical or special - just **4 questions** and honest responses. ☺

Question 1: What is a recent success you've had on your Gaelic journey?

Question 2: Where were you? What happened? How did you feel? (write these down if it helps)

Question 3: Could you do this earlier in your Gaelic journey – maybe a year or two ago or more? (Be honest!)

Question 4: What changes do you see in your Gaelic now compared to earlier in your journey?

If you notice that you're more skillful now, consider one last question: How will you celebrate your progress? This is an important step because strong memories and feelings of success will help us get through future challenges. I highly recommend taking the time to do this.

I suggested something to my student that may be useful to you as well:

Would keeping a journal of these experiences help, CY? Reminders of your past successes and how you got through challenging moments can do a lot to keep your motivation aflame. Discouragement will happen but a few minutes of feeling crappy can't hold a candle to recalling dozens of examples of your skill and success.[]

By the way, 'holding a candle to' something in English means to be as good as it or be equal with it. In these pictures, the little flame doesn't hold a candle to the fire.



You might want to keep a record or a journal of your successes, like I mentioned to my student. This would be a very valuable tool on your Gaelic journey because you could see your progress any time!

If it's useful to you, try the 4 questions from this tip to see your progress. Don't worry about *how much* progress you've made. Every step on the Long Road of Gaelic matters!

Thank you for joining me for this 2 part learning tip! If you want to read Part 1, you'll find it at the [bottom of this page](#).



Le gach deagh dhùrachd (with every good wish),
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