



Try Without Your Notes

Feasgar math!

I hope things are going well over there. ☐ We've had weekly snow storms up here, which has affected the internet. Please consider this your February learning tip - I'll send another one this month.

This tip is about speaking more naturally.

Speaking Gaelic can feel so challenging at first. It takes time to build up the words and phrases in your mind, so that you can use them more easily. The first step is always putting more and more Gaelic into your memory - otherwise, you won't have much to use!

But after that, it can take a bit of practice to get them from your memory to your tongue.

Here's a speaking technique that may help you speak Gaelic more naturally. I've been using it with my students for the last month and I've noticed more smoothness and confidence in their spoken Gaelic.

Here it is: Put your notes out of sight and practice speaking without them.

In my eyes, there are several ways this can help you speak more naturally:

- You're practicing the art of conversation. Rarely do we have notes to look at when we're speaking with someone 'live' - it's a bit unnatural.
- You're training your mind to use your memory instead of notes. This strengthens your memory and can make recalling words quicker.
- You're relying on yourself and the Gaelic you've acquired, instead of anything outside of you. It can build resilience!

My recommendation: Don't throw all your notes away! They have their own valuable place in your learning. Just give your mind a chance to practice speaking without them - and be ready for future conversations.

At first, this may feel uncomfortable, strange, intimidating, many things. That's all fine. It's normal to feel these as we leave the safety of having notes.

The more you practice in this way, the more natural it will become. I believe this can *really* boost your speaking skills. Perhaps not overnight but certainly over time. ☐

Thank you for reading.

Want more learning tips? See all my past tips [here](#)



Le gach deagh dhùrachd (with every good wish),
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Gaelic with Jason

Immersive conversational lessons that make it easy to think more in Gaelic, use it more naturally, and help it reach future generations

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