



Three Kinds of Seeing

Madainn mhath!

I hope you are doing well and that your week is going well too. ☐ I meant to send this tip to you last week but a blizzard slowed things down.

This tip is about **sharpening your accuracy**.

In everyday Gaelic, we often talk about 'seeing' - seeing a movie, seeing friends, seeing snow, etc. In English we use the same word for all of these, but Gaelic does things a bit differently. Here's how it works:

- Seeing a movie = **a' coimhead (air)** film (literally: **watching** a film)
- Seeing the snow: **a' faicinn** an t-sneachda (literally: **seeing** of the snow)

The difference between them is seeing something quickly vs keeping your attention on it. A' faicinn (seeing) is more temporary, like a glance or a glimpse. A' coimhead is sustained attention, like watching something. Your focus stays on it.

What about seeing a friend or family - maybe having a visit? We use a different word:

- Seeing a friend: **a' cèilidh air/a' cur cèilidh air** caraid. (literally: **visiting** a friend)

If we visit with someone, we use a' cèilidh air / a' cur cèilidh air. If we just see them driving by or glimpse them at work, we'd use a' faicinn because it's a quick glance.

Getting used to these little differences between words will really boost the accuracy of your Gaelic. **You'll sound more like a native speaker for sure!**

Thank you for reading.

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