

<p>Manchán ar Seachrán ó Bhaile Átha Cliath go Nairobi i seanleoraí airm <i>le Manchán Magan</i></p>	
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<p>Manchán ar Seachrán ó Bhaile Átha Cliath go Nairobi i seanleoraí airm <i>le Manchán Magan</i></p>	<p>Manchán Straying from Dublin to Nairobi in an old army truck <i>by Manchán Magan</i></p>
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<p>ar seachrán – astray ó – from Baile Átha Cliath – Dublin go – to i – in seanleoraí – old truck sean- – old leoraí – truck airm – army (Adj.) arm – army le – by d’fhágamar slán le – we said goodbye to fág – leave! slán – farewell le – with Maracó – Marocco na – of the mandairíní – mandarines mandairín – mandarine milse – sweet (plural) milis – sweet ar maidín – in the morning maidín – morning agus – and isteach – in linn – with us saol – life, world Moslamach – Moslem na hAilgéire – of Algeria an Ailgéir – Algeria thrasnaíomar – we crossed trasnaigh – cross! teorainn – border go luath – early toisc gur – because is toisc go – because mó – bigger mór – big seans – chance nach mbeadh – wouldn’t be bí – be! oifigigh – officials oifigeach – official ar meisce – drunk ag – at am – time sin – that is – is beag – little eile – else atá – that is le déanamh – to be done déan – do! stáisiún – station teorann – of border seachas – other than</p>	<p>seilbh – possession a ghabháil – to take gabh – take! ar – on alcól – alcohol contrabhanna – contraband é – it a ól – to drink ól – drink! más – if is beoir – beer gafa – taken ní – is not baol – danger ach – but is mairg do – to bad for mairg – sorrow don – to the do – to té – person a théann – that goes a – that i ngiorracht – close to giorracht – proximity istoíche – at night a bhfuil – that is biotáille – distilled spirits ólta – drunk acu – at them shleamhnaíomar – we slid sleamhnaigh – slide! ár – our buidéil – bottles buidéal – bottle dí – of drink deoch – drink thar – over arís – againn cuid – part acu – of them faoi cheilt – hidden faoi – under ceilt – concealment san – in the sa – in the inneall – engine uair – time seo – this bhainfimis – we would get an-tairbhe – much benefit tairbhe – benefit astu – from them sna – in the (plural) laethanta – days lá – day a bhí – that were romhainn – before us roimh – before</p>	<p>mar – as ábhar – material cóisire – of party cóisir – party fásach – desert breaba – bribes breab – bribe ceannláidre – stubborn ceann – head láidir – strong custaim – of customs custam – customs chéad – first an Ailgéir – Algeria bhíomar – we were ag tiomáint – driving tiomáin – drive! linn – with us teas – heat na hiarnóna – of the afternoon iarnóin – afternoon iar- – after nóin – noon trí – through scrobarnach – brush leadránach – booring nuair a – when chonaiceamar – we saw feic – see! mar a bheadh – as if it were tor – bush ard – tall bóthar – road sinn – we ag teacht – coming tar – come! ina chónagar – close to it ina – in its cóngar – proximity dheineamar amach – we made out dheineamar – we made (dialect) rinneamar – we made déan – make!, do! amach – out nach – that not ann – in it slua – crowd daoine – people duine – person scréachadar – they screamed scréach – scream! go bagrach – threateningly bagair – threaten! orainn – on us go raibh – that was agóid – protest</p>	<p>ar siúl – going on acu – at them chaithimis – we’d have to casadh – to turn cas – turn! timpeall – around ní raibh – wasn’t aon – any bóthar – road eile – other ag dul – going ó dheas – to the South a d’fhéadfaimis – that we could d’fhéadfaimis – we could a thógaint – to take (dialect) a thógáil – to take tóg – take! chuir – put cuir – put! sé – it fearg – anger go raibh – that was plód – crowd inár gcoinne – against us inár – in our i gcoinne – against mar sin – therefore d’ordaigh – ordered ordaigh – order! sí – she dúinn – to us canbhás – canvas crochta – hung croch – hang! ar bharr – on top barr – top ar thaobhanna – on sides taobhanna – sides taobh – side leoraí – truck a fháscadh – to tighten, squeeze go daingean – securely daingean – fort réab – to tear up chun cinn – ahead chun – towards ceann – head i dtreo – towards treo – direction an daoscair – of the rabble daoscar – rabble d’ionsafodar – they attacked ionsaigh – attack! gach – every</p>	<p>léimeadar – they leapt léim – leap! in airde – [high] up cábán – cabin bhriseadar – they broke bris – break! fuinneoga – windows fuinneog – window tosaigh – front bataí – sticks bata – stick chaitheadar – they threw caith – throw! clocha – stones cloch – stone orainne – on us (emphatic) orainn – on us cúl – back ní fhada gur – it wasn’t long until ní – isn’t fada – long gur – until is go – until thuigeamar – we understood tuig – understand! rabhamar – we were fíor- – real baol – danger lean – continued lean – continue! uirthi – on her leis an – with the fogha – attack ina ainneoin sin – despite that ina – in its</p>
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d'fhágamar, srl – there are several verbs here in the past *táite* or *synthetic* form, where the person doing the action is part of the verb.

d'fhágamar slán le Maracó	we said goodbye to Marocco
thrasnaíomar an teorainn	we crossed the border
shleamhnaíomar ár mbuidéil dí	we slid our bottles of drink
bhíomar ag tiomáint linn	we were driving along
nuair a chonaiceamar	when we saw
dheineamar amach	we made out
thuigeamar	we understood
go rabhamar i bhfíorbhaol	that we were in real danger
scréachadar go bagrach orainn	they screamed threateningly at us
d'ionsaíodar ó gach taobh sinn	they attacked us from every side
léimeadar in airde	they jumped up
bhriseadar na fuinneoga	they broke the windows
chaitheadar clocha orainne	they threw rocks at us

seans nach mbeadh – a few verbs in this section are in the *modh coinníollach* (conditional mood).

seans nach mbeadh na hoifigh ar meisce	chance that the officials would not be drunk
bhainfimis an-tairbhe astu	we would get great benefit from them
go gcaithimis casadh timpeall	that we would have to turn around
a d'fhéadfaimis a thógaint	that we could take
mar a bheadh tor ard ar an mbóthar	as though there were a tall bush in the road

nuair a – the combination *nuair a* is equivalent to one of the uses of *when* in English. It is followed by the independent form of the verb.

nuair a chonaiceamar mar a bheadh tor ard	when we saw what was like a tall bush
nuair a bhí mé óg	when I was young
nuair a théann sí amach	when she goes out

isteach linn, srl – a form of the preposition *le* (with) is often used with a verb of motion to show ongoing or continuing motion. Sometimes the *le* form is used with just a directional word and no verb at all. For some verbs, a form of the preposition *ar* (on) is used instead.

isteach linn i saol Moslamach na hAilgéire	in we went into the Islamic world of Algeria
bhíomar ag tiomáint linn	we were driving along
lean Belinda uirthi	Belinda continued on

ar seachrán, srl – there are many fixed expressions in Irish that consist of a preposition followed by a noun: *ar seachrán* = astray, *ar maidin* = in the morning, *ar meisce* = drunk, *ar siúl* = going on, *faoi cheilt* = hidden, *chun cinn* = ahead, *i dtreo* = towards, *in airde* = up.

cuid acu – a combination of *cuid* (portion) and a form of the preposition *ag* (at) is sometimes used to refer to a portion of a group.

Tá Gaeilge ag cuid againn.	Some of us speak Irish.
An bhfuil ocras ar chuid agaibh?	Are some of you hungry?
Bhí cuid acu faoi cheilt san inneall.	Some of them were hidden in the engine.

seanleoraí airm, srl – there are several examples of the *tuiséal ginideach* (genitive case) in this passage. Often, a noun in the genitive translates as an adjective in English.

saol	an Ailgéir	saol na hAilgéire	the world of Algeria
stáisiúin	teorainn	stáisiúin teorann	border station
i ngiorracht	teorainn	i ngiorracht teorann	near the border
buidéil	deoch	buidéil dí	bottle of drink
ábhar	cóisir	ábhar cóisire	stuff for a party
oifigigh	custam	oifigigh chustaim	customs officials
an teas	an iarnóin	teas na hiarnóna	the afternoon heat
slua	daoine	slua daoine	a crowd of people
an barr	an leoraí	barr an leoraí	the top of the truck
na taobhanna	an leoraí	taobhanna an leoraí	the sides of the truck
i dtreo	an daoscar	i dtreo an daoscair	towards the rabble
na fuinneoga	tosach	na fuinneoga tosaigh	the front windows

Munster Irish – this book is written in Munster Irish, which varies somewhat from standard Irish.

thrasnaíomar	thrasnaíomar / thrasnaigh muid	we crossed
dheineamar amach	rinneamar amach / rinne muid amach	we made out
scréachadar	scréach siad	they screamed
a thógaint	a thógáil	to take
sinn	muid	we
ní fhada gur	níorbh fhada gur	it wasn't long until

go – many expressions in Irish are followed by *go* (that). For verbs that are preceded by *an* when making a question, *go* eclipses the following verb and *nach* is used in the negative. For verbs that are preceded by *ar* when making a question, *go* becomes *gur* and lenites the following verb, and *nár* is used in the negative. The combination of *go + is* becomes *gur* and *nach* is used in the negative; neither of these affect the following word. The combination of *go + ba* becomes *gur* and *nár* in the negative; both of these lenite the following word.

An bhfuil sé te?	Is it hot?	toisc go bhfuil sé te	because it is hot
Nach raibh sé fuar?	Wasn't it cold?	toisc nach raibh sé fuar	because it wasn't cold
Ar chuala sí é?	Did she hear it?	Dúirt sí gur chuala sí é.	She said that she heard it.
Nár chuala sí é?	Didn't she hear it?	Ceapaim nár chuala sí é.	I think she didn't hear it.
An maith leis feoil?	Does he like meat?	Cloisim gur maith leis feoil.	I hear he likes meat.
Nach maith leis cáis?	Doesn't he like cheese?	Cloisim nach maith leis cáis.	I hear he doesn't like cheese.
Ar mhaith léi uisce?	Would she like some water?	Dúirt sí gur mhaith léi uisce.	She said she'd like water.
Nár mhaith léi uisce?	Wouldn't she like water?	toisc nár mhaith léis uisce	because she wouldn't like water

is mó seans	the chance is better	toisc gur mó seans	because the chance is better
tá ...	there is ...	scréachadar go raibh ...	they screamed there was ...
bhíomar	we were	thuigeamar go rabhamar	we understood that we were
thuigeamar	we understood	ní fhada gur thuigeamar	it wasn't long until we understood

chuir sé fearg ar Belinda – many feelings in Irish are on you. Consequently, if something make you feel a certain way, they put the feeling on you. Likewise, a feeling can come on you.

Tá fearg ar Sheán.	John is angry.
Tháinig fearg ar Sheán.	John got angry.
Chuir Mícheál fearg ar Sheán.	Michael made John angry.

inár gcoinne – the word *coinne* by itself means *appointment* or *expectation*, but used with various prepositions, it takes on different meanings. A genitive noun is usually used after it.

Tá coinne agam leis an dochtúir.	I have an appointment with the doctor.
Ní raibh coinne agam leis.	I wasn't expecting it.
Tháinig sé ar ais gan choinne .	He came back unexpectedly .
Bhí sé go hiomlán i mo choinne .	He was completely against me.
Chuaigh sí faoi choinne an dochtúra.	She went for the doctor.
Bhí sí ina seasamh os coinne an dorais.	She was standing in front of the door.

ina ainneoin sin – the combination of the preposition *i* and *ainneoin* is used to mean despite. It will generally occur together with a genitive or possessive pronoun.

Chuaigh sé amach in ainneoin na báistí.	He went out despite the rain.
Lean sí uirthí ina ainneoin sin.	She continued on despite that.

is mairg do – the combination of *is* (is), *mairg* (woe, pity) and *do* (to, for) is used to express the idea that something would be a pity for someone.

Is mairg dom gan í a bheith anseo.	It's a pity to me that she isn't here.
Is mairg don té a théann ina giorracht.	It's a pity for the one who goes near it.

a bhfuil – when a noun is followed by a clause describing it, and the noun is the object of a preposition, the dependent form of the verb is used (e.g. *a bhfuil* instead of *atá*).

oifigigh atá ag obair go dian	officials that are working hard
oifigigh a bhfuil biotáille ólta acu	officials that have drunk some spirits
daoine atá ag ól uisce	people that are drinking water
daoine a bhfuil uisce uathu	people that need water
páiste a thug bronntanas dom	a child that gave a gift to me
páiste ar thug mé bronntanas dó	a child to whom I gave a gift

bain ... as – the combination of the verb *bain* and the preposition *as* is used in many Irish idioms.

Bain do lámh as do phóca.	Take your hand out of your pocket.
Bain greim as an arán.	Take a bite of the bread.
Bain do rogha astu.	Take your pick of them.
Bhaineamar úsáid as.	We made use of it.
Bhain sé buntáiste asam.	He took advantage of me.
Bhain sé fáscadh maith as.	He squeezed it well.
Bhain sé gail as an uisce.	He brought the water to a boil.

ábhar – the word *ábhar* by itself basically means *stuff* or *material*, but can also mean *the makings of*.

file	poet	ábhar file	the makings of a good poet
sagart	priest	ábhar sagairt	clerical student
cóisir	party	ábhar cóisire	stuff for a party

a d'fhéadfaimis – this is equivalent to *we could*, which is in the *modh coinníolach* (conditional mood).

D'fhéadfainn é a dhéanamh amárach.	I could do it tomorrow.
An bhféadfá cabhrú liom?	Could you help me?
Ní fhéadfadh sí teacht ag an am sin.	She couldn't come at that time.