Review of “is”

When “is” is used to identify an indefinite noun ("a", not “the”), the noun is placed immediately after “is”, followed by the pronoun.

- **Is rúnaí mé.** (iss roon-ee may) I am a secretary.

Remember that the third-person pronouns drop the initial “s”.

- **Is rúnaí é.** (iss roon-ee ey) He is a secretary.

When using a person’s name, the pronoun is still used, followed by the name.

- **Is rúnaí é Seán.** (iss roon-ee ey shawn) John is a secretary.

When using an adjective to describe the noun, the adjective comes after the noun.

- **Is rúnaí maith é Seán.** (iss roon-ee mah ey shawn) John is a good secretary.

Finally, the other forms of “is” are as follows:

- **Ní rúnaí é.** (nee roon-ee ey) He is not a secretary.
- **An rúnaí é?** (un roon-ee ey) Is he a secretary?
- **Nach rúnaí é?** (nakh roon-ee ey) Isn’t he a secretary?

To answer questions using “is” (with indefinite nouns), respond with:

- **Is ea.** ('Sea.) (shah) Yes.
- **Ní h-ea.** (nee hah) No.

Examples:

- **Is dochtúir mé.** (iss doh-toor may) I am a doctor.
- **Ní freastalaí í.** (nee frass-tah-lee ee) She’s not a waitress.
- **Nach scoláirí iad?** (nakh skul-oy-ree ee-ud) Aren’t they students?
- **Is cailín lách í.** (iss kal-yeen lawkh ee) She’s a pleasant girl.
- **Ní fear dáthúil é.** (nee farh dah-hool ey) He’s not a handsome man.
- **Is garda maith í.** (iss gar-dah mah ee) She’s a good police officer.

**Nach gadaithe grána iad!**
(nakh god-ee-huh graw-nah ee-ud) Aren’t they nasty thieves!