

1. Cad a rinne tú i rith na seachtaine? What did you do during the week?
2. Cad a dhéanfaidh tú sa samhradh? What will you do in the summer?
3. An raibh tú in áit fiáin riamh? Were you ever in a wild place?
4. An fearr leat an chathair nó an fiántas? Do you prefer the city or the wilderness?
5. Cad is maith leat a dhéanamh taobh amuigh den chathair? What do you like to do outside the city?

Caillte i gConamara

Lost in Connemara

Mícheál Ó Conghaile (ó An Fear nach nDéanann Gáire)

(from The Man Who Doesn't Laugh)

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| 1. ... Bhí mé caillte, i gConamara ... | ... I was lost, in Connemara ... |
| 2. Easpa codlata a ruaig chun siúil chomh moch sin mé. | A lack of sleep drove me out to walk so early. |
| 3. Níor ghá aláram goilliúnach le bagairt orm. | A distressing alarm wasn't needed to threaten me. |
| 4. Na néalta codlata úd nach dtaobhódh mé. | Those bits of sleep that wouldn't come near me. |
| 5. Nach leathfadh anuas ina mbrat foscúil orm. | That wouldn't spread down over me as a shady blanket over me. |
| 6. Nach bplúchfadh mé isteach iontu féin is nach gcrochfadh leo mé seal beag ón bpian. | The wouldn't smother me in themselves and that wouldn't take me off with them for a small while from the pain. |
| 7. Théis casadh sa leaba dom dhá chéad uair. | After I had turned in bed two hundred times. |
| 8. Céad uair ar chlé, céad uair eile ar ais ar dheis. | A hundred times to the left, a hundred times more to the right. |
| 9. Ar chnámh mo dhroma idir eatarthu. | On my back between them. |
| 10. Mé ag rolladh liom timpeall ina leath seisean den leaba. | I rolling around in his half of the bed. |
| 11. Mo leath féin den leaba tréigthe agam. Bánaithe. | My half of the bed abandoned. Deserted. |
| 12. Bhí sé ina mhaidin gheal nuair a tharraing mé siar na cuirtíní sa deireadh, mé théis géilleadh don lá. | It was a bright morning when I pulled back the curtains at last, just after succumbing to the day. |
| 13. Bhí úire shláintiúil san aer fionnuar nuair a bhog mé amach taobh amuigh. | There was a healthy freshness in the cool air when I moved outside. |
| 14. Néal ní raibh sa spéir ghorm. | There wasn't a cloud in the blue sky. |

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| 15. | An ghrian thoir ag ardú aisti féin. Go haonarach. | The sun in the east rising on her own. Alone. |
| 16. | Réidh le ceannas ceann a ghlacadh ar an lá di féin, ba chosúil. | Ready to take charge of the day for herself, it seemed. |
| 17. | Leath gealaí tréighthe thiar ag cúlú roimpi ina hómós. | An abandoned half-moon in the west retreating from her with respect to her. |
| 18. | Suas an bóthar linn. | Up the road we went. |
| 19. | Bhí an ciúnas forleathan seachas ceol bíogúil na n-éan a bhí ag ceiliúradh a lae dóibh féin. | The quiet was all around except the sprightly music of the birds that were celebrating the day for themselves. |
| 20. | Rinne corrgadhar tafann leisciúil is muid ag dul thar thithe. | An occasional dog let out a lazy bark as we went past houses. |
| 21. | Níor dhrann linn seachas sin. | They didn't growl at us besides that. |
| 22. | Níor rith amach romhainn, timpeall orainn ná inár ndiaidh go fiachlach. | They didn't run out in front of us, around us or after us with their teeth. |
| 23. | Shiúil mé agus shiúil mé agus shiúil. | I walked and I walked and I walked. |
| 24. | Gur chuir muid bóthar Ard an Bhaile dinn agus ansin an bóithrín clochach dóibeach portaigh, a d'fhás amach as ag gabhlóg theorainn an dá bhaile. | Until we put the Ard an Bhaile road behind us and then the rocky, muddy bog lane, that grew out of it at the border junction of the two villages. |
| 25. | Agus ansin an cosáinín casta fásta a shnigh as, amú cheapfá, ó thuaidh as sin. | And then the winding overgrown path that slowed out of it, astray you would think, north from there. |
| 26. | Bhí na héin ag ceol is ag ceiliúradh go meidhreach ar a mhíle dícheall sa réimse uachtarach cúlráideach seo. | The birds were doing their best to be singing and celebrating merrily in this high, secluded area. |

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| 27. | É uile faoina riail féin acu, nach mór. | All of it under their rule, just about. |
| 28. | Is muid amuigh sa bhfiántas ceart anois. Fiántas fiáin Chonamara. | And we out in the real wilderness now. The wild Connemara wilderness. |
| 29. | ... Níl sa saol seo ach seal, a deireadh sé. Caint seanchaite. | This life is only for a while, he would say. A trite saying. |
| 30. | Níl i ngaol, in aon ghaol, ach seal, a deireadh sé. | A relationship, any relationship, is only for a period, he would say. |
| 31. | B'in sul má bhí a fhios againn tada go cinnte. | That was before we knew anything for certain. |
| 32. | Breith ar an nóiméad, a deireadh sé, agus gan ligean dó breith ort. | Seize the moment, he would say, and don't let it seize you. |

Ceisteanna

1. Ar éirigh an scéalaí go luath no go déanach?
2. Cén fáth?
3. Cé mhéad duine a bhí sa leaba?
4. An raibh sé scamallach taobh amuigh?
5. An raibh an ghealach le feiceáil?
6. Cad a rinne na madraí?
7. An ndearna na madraí ionsaí ar an scéalaí?
8. Cad a chuala an scéalaí?
9. Cén chuma a bhí ar an gcosáinín?
10. An raibh an scéalaí sásta, meas tú?

Questions

- Did the narrator get up early or late?
- Why?
- How many people were in the bed?
- Was it cloudy outside?
- Was the moon visible?
- What did the dogs do?
- Did the dogs attack the storyteller?
- What did the narrator hear?
- What was the trail like?
- Do you think the storyteller was happy?