



Irish style guide - Instructions -

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Grammar

1. The Irish preposition 'le', followed by a vowel, puts an 'h' on the vowel. Also, avoid the hyphen between 'h' and the vowel; for example: le hathair, and not le h-athair. In Transit do a search with regular expressions for `(le) ([h|h\-])#([aeiouáéíúú]+[!])`

The screenshot shows a text editor with a search window open. The search window displays the regular expression `(le) ([h|h\-])#([aeiouáéíúú]+[!])` and the 'Regular expression' checkbox is checked. The search results in the text editor show various instances of 'le' followed by vowels, some with 'h' and some without. The search results are highlighted in yellow and green. The search window also shows options like 'Match case', 'Find whole words only', and 'Search in text only'.

The search should be negative if everything was done correctly, i.e the “h” was added where required, without hyphen to the word following “le”. To save your Search options, please see [Tips](#) section below.

2. **Avoid versions of verbs which are not in the Caighdeán Oifigiúil** such as 'thugadar'. Even though both the foirm scartha (e.g. 'cheannaigh muid') agus the foirm tháite (e.g. 'cheannaíomar') of the first person plural are now permitted by An Caighdeán Oifigiúil (pg. 70), please use the foirm tháite as this will ensure consistency if a text is translated by more than one translator.
3. **Avoid overuse of 'trí' as a translation for 'by' or 'through'**. Change the sentence structure; for example: put the second clause first etc. This is preferable once the meaning is retained.



4. **Hyphens:** avoid keeping to the English hyphens as the rules are different for both languages. For example: Third-level institutions (ENG), corresponds to institiúidí tríú leibhéal (GAE) - if the hyphen is not required, leave it out.
5. Follow the rules for the usage of “seo” and “sin”. As explained by previous translation guidelines from the DGT: Is gnách sa Ghaeilge 'seo' a úsáid chun tagairt a dhéanamh do rud atá le lua agus 'sin' chun tagairt do rud a luadh roimhe. Is féidir a mhalairt a bheith fíor sa Bhéarla; ná déantar aithris air sin sa Ghaeilge.
6. os comhair / os cionn, but ós rud é... (ó+is)
7. **Bunúimhreacha:** Prefer the use of the **newer simplified system** ('an córas simplithe') over the older system 'an córas seanbhunaithe'. See [An Gúm translation guidelines](#).

With an córas simplithe, the **numbers 1-19** should be followed by a séimhiú or an urú, as appropriate, and the singular form of the noun should be used, except in the case of nouns which have a special plural form that is used with the bunúimhreacha (these are listed on pg. 146 of An Caighdeán Oifigiúil) e.g. bliain. The bunúimhreacha 1-19 + aidiachtaí follow the rules as laid out in An Caighdeán Oifigiúil on pages 147-8 e.g. 'dhá leabhar mhóra', 'seacht bhfuinneog shalacha', 'cúig bliana fada', 'naoi gcinn mhaithe'. The **bunúimhreacha 20+** should not be followed by either a séimhiú or an urú. For bunúimhreacha 20 + aidiachtaí, the singular adjective is used, and a séimhiú is put on adjectives that describe feminine nouns.e.g '22 bád mór', '53 bó mhór'.

Tips

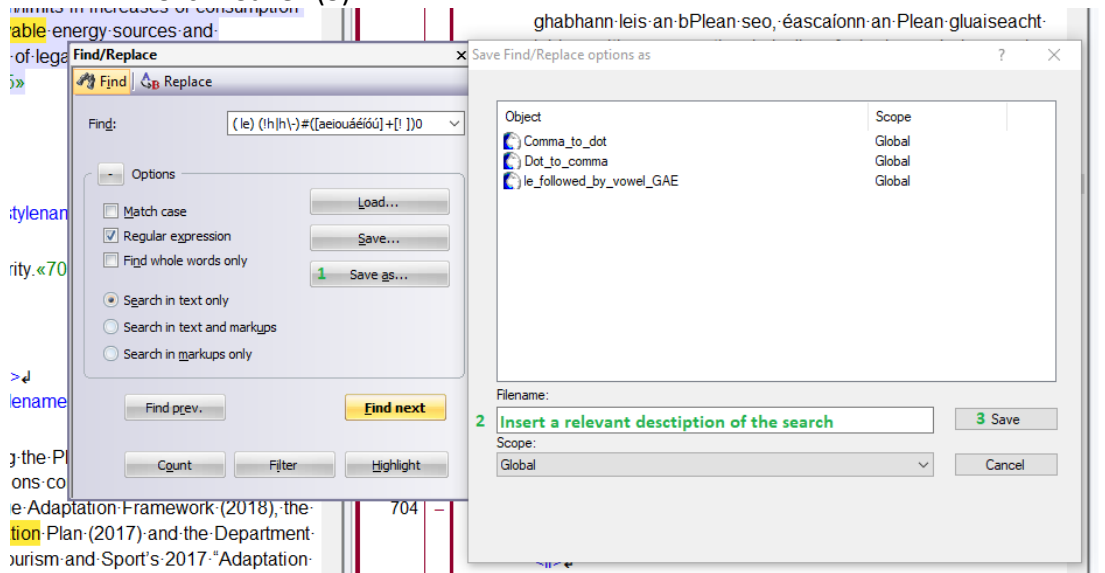
1. **Time markers** -> Use p.m / a.m and not the Irish equivalent i.n / r.n., unless you think the use of the Irish equivalent is appropriate for the text you are translating. In that case, please add a note when delivering the project.
2. **Change the word order of sentences to reflect natural Irish.** For example: “We allocated the tasks, giving priority to the most important one”, if the literal translation is used for 'giving' as 'ag tabhairt', is unnatural Irish. Simply use 'agus + verb'.
3. Check **terminology databases** for **terms** and for **place names**. Research is part of translation!
4. For **acronyms** and **abbreviations** follow section 3.2 in An Caighdeán Oifigiúil 2017, especially regarding the use of the article and gender of acronyms.
5. For the names of all **Acts, material from statutory instruments, and European material** visit Gaois.ie.
6. A number of **common grammatical/usage questions** are discussed in the Cruinneas section of the Aistear website.



7. **Grammar check:** Transit does not support grammar check. At the moment, the easiest way to check the grammar in Transit is to **right click** one segment of the target language in the Transit editor, click **"Display preview in Office application"**. The target language opens in Word, and the active Transit segment will be highlighted in the Word document. If changes are required, make sure you make your edits in Transit. *(Prerequisite: in MS Word > Languages > Irish must be an "editing language" and the "Proofing" must be installed).*

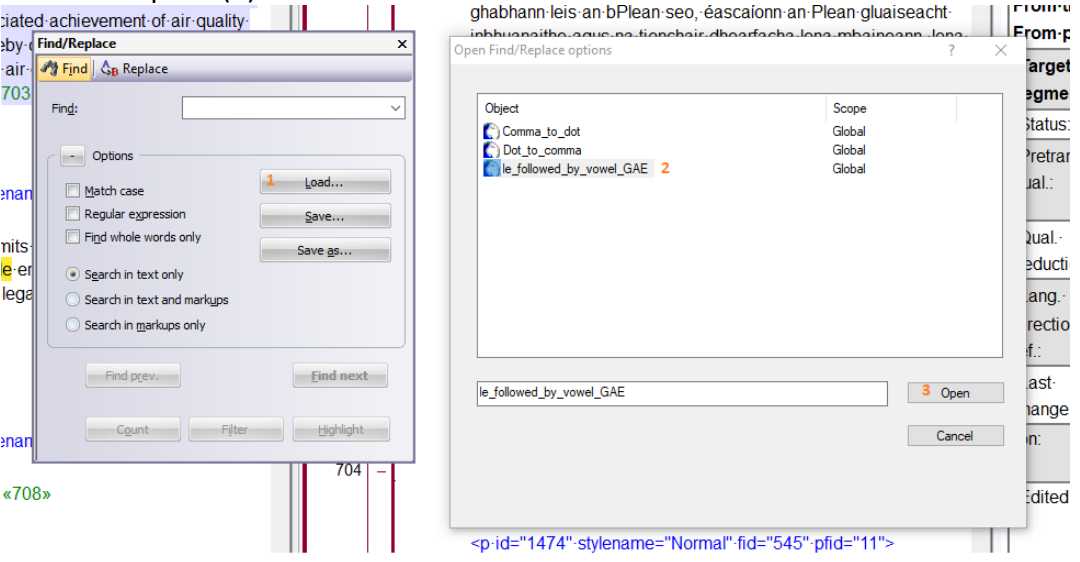
8. **In Transit, searches can be saved so that you can reuse them when needed.**
Once you have entered all search options correctly and what is it that you want to find...

- Click "Save as..." (1),
- Name the search file with a relevant description (2), and
- Click "Save" (3).



To use the same search options again...

- Click "Load..." (1),
- Select the appropriate search file (2) and
- Click "Open" (3).





Free Online Resources

- <https://www.aistear.ie/> (useful as a grammar reference. This discusses common errors and offers tips on how to avoid these)
- <https://www.focloir.ie/en/>
- <https://www.teanglann.ie/en/> (a grammar database)
- <http://corpas.focloir.ie/>
- <https://www.tearma.ie/> (a terminology database for individual technical terms)
- <http://www.acmhainn.ie/>
- <https://www.gaois.ie/trm/ga/> (a corpus of terminology, mostly extracted from Irish government and EU legislation (allows term or phrase search and provides back a list of its use in context))

Additional Tools

- <https://www.cruinneog.com/> - Irish spelling and grammar checker.
- <http://www.scriobh.ie/page.aspx?id=25&l=2>