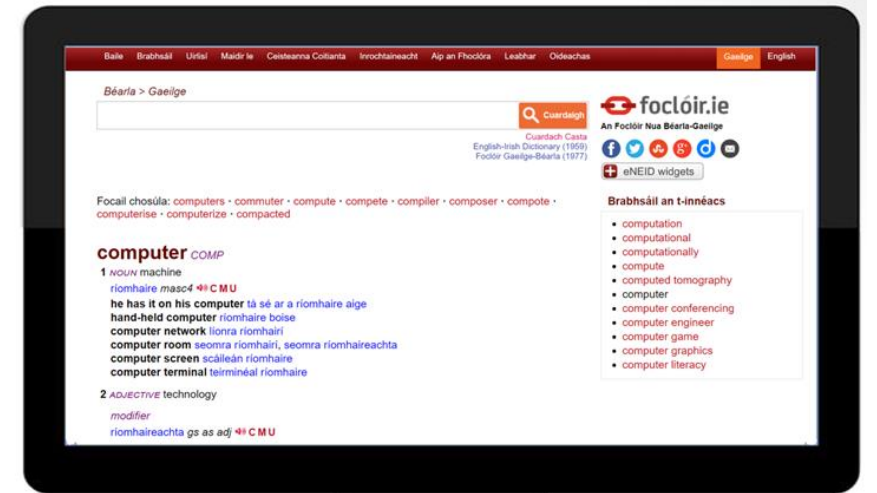
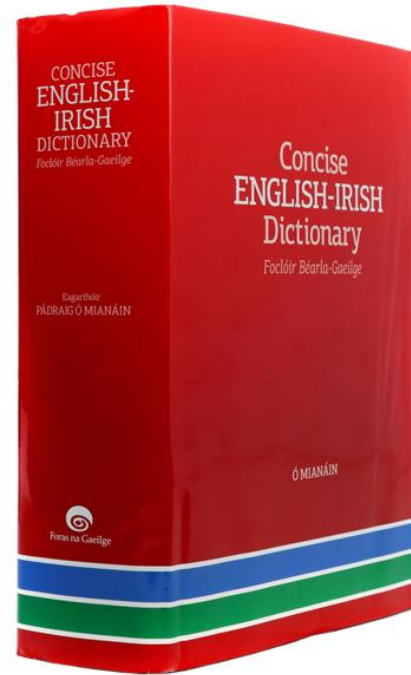




Lexicography in Foras na Gaeilge

Edel Ní Chorráin
October 2024



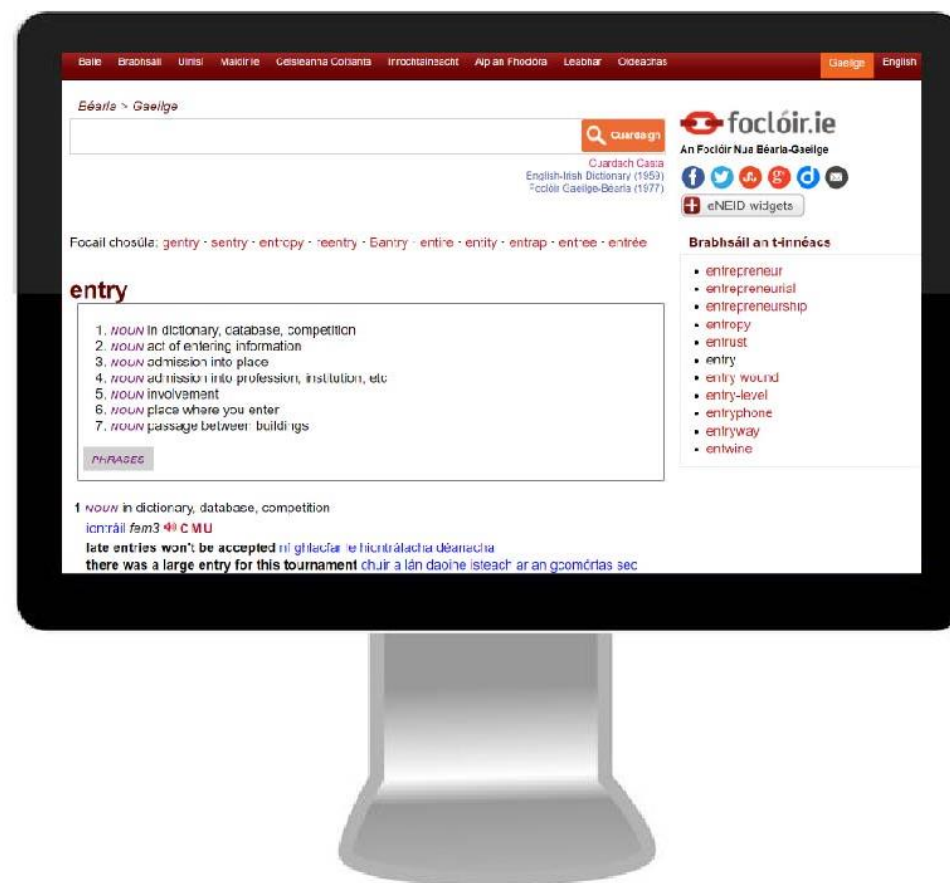
Foras na Gaeilge

The New English-Irish Dictionary

- Online at focloir.ie since January 2013
 - c. 48,000 entries
 - c. 140,000 meanings
- Available free of charge

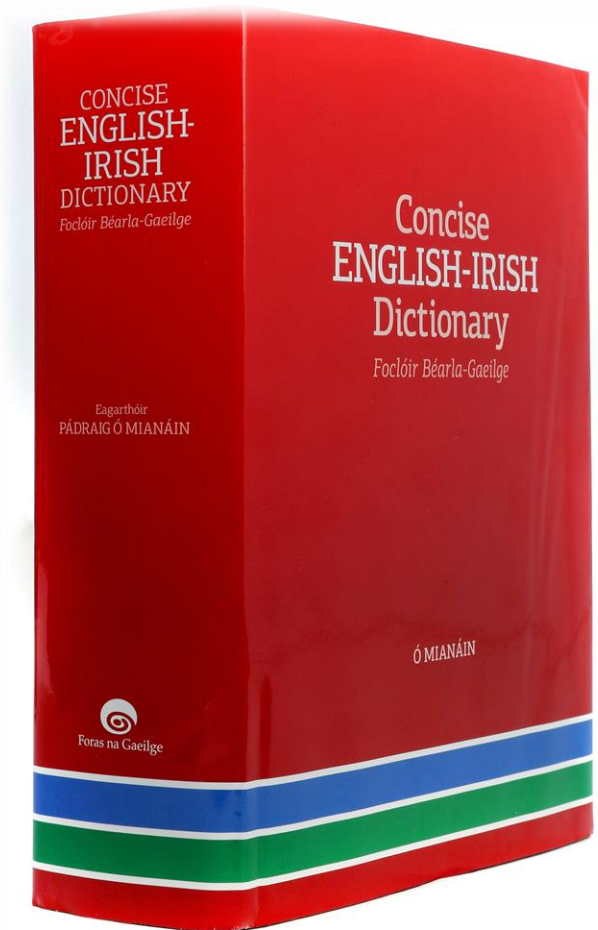


foclóir.ie



Concise English-Irish Dictionary

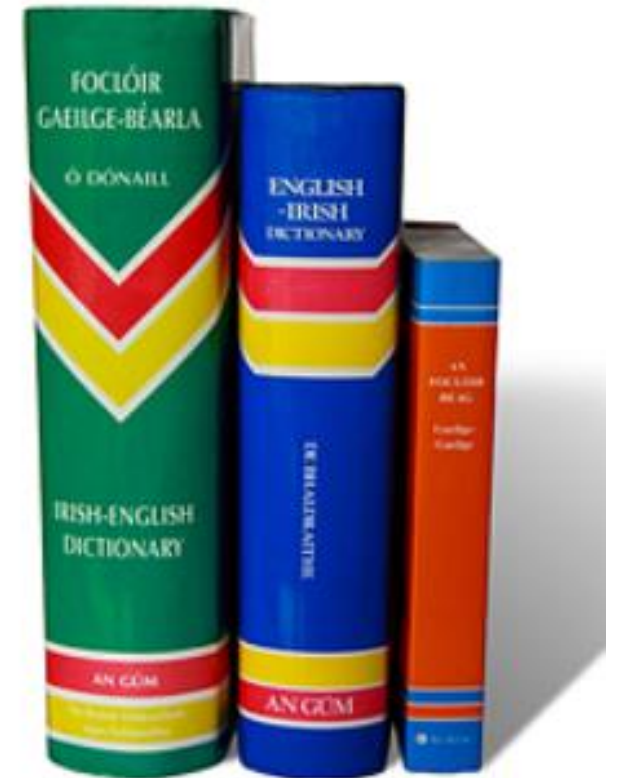
- Published in 2020
 - 1800 pages
 - 30,000 entries
 - 85,000 meanings
 - 200,000 phrases and sampla sentences
 - ~60% of site content
 - Introductory material, language and grammar supplement
- >10,000 copies sold



Dictionary and Language Library

- Online at teanglann.ie from October 2013
 - *English-Irish Dictionary* (1959)
 - *Irish-English Dictionary* (1978)
 - *An Foclóir Beag* (1992)
 - Grammar and audio files
 - The Grammar Wizard, a spelling game and the Dictionaries
- Available free of charge

 **teanglann.ie**



Use of the sites

 foclóir.ie

user	2.4 m
page	35 m

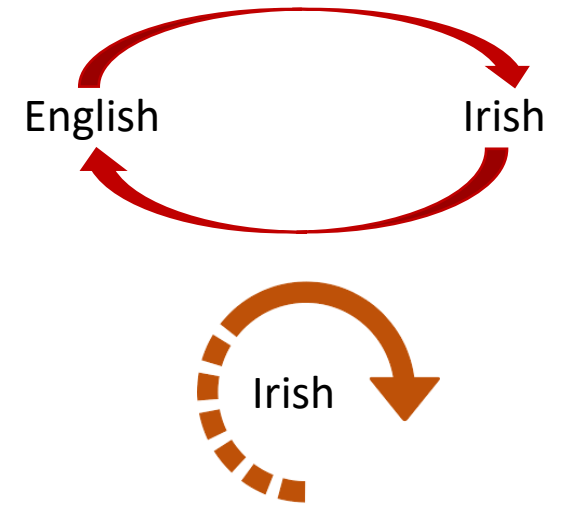
 teanglann.ie

user	2.8 m
page	42 m

- phone 61%, computer 35%, tablet 4%
- Ireland 78%, USA 10%, Britain 5%

The ideal dictionary supply

- Major language-minor language (English-Irish)
 - Minor language-major language (Irish-English)
 - Minor language-minor language (Irish-Irish)
-
- The status quo 2022
 - English-Irish up to date
 - Irish-English 40+ years out of date
 - No major Irish-Irish dictionary
 - A good start is a third of the work?



A monolingual Irish dictionary

- The Irish community
 - The Gaeltacht community
 - The Irish community outside the Gaeltacht
 - The Irish-medium Education Community
- self-reliance v 'slaves to the English language'
- self-confidence and survival as a language community



Irish-English dictionary

- A different target audience
- Functional users seeking confirmation
- Education system
- Literature, media, Irish language environment, etc
- Incomplete supply on teanglann.ie & focloir.ie

2022-2027: New Dictionaries

- A large monolingual Irish dictionary
- Major Irish-English dictionary
 - 5 year project
 - 30,000 keywords & 80,000 word senses
 - Online & as an app
 - Being developed parallel to each other
 - Publishing on an incremental basis
 - 1 share in 2025, full in 2027*

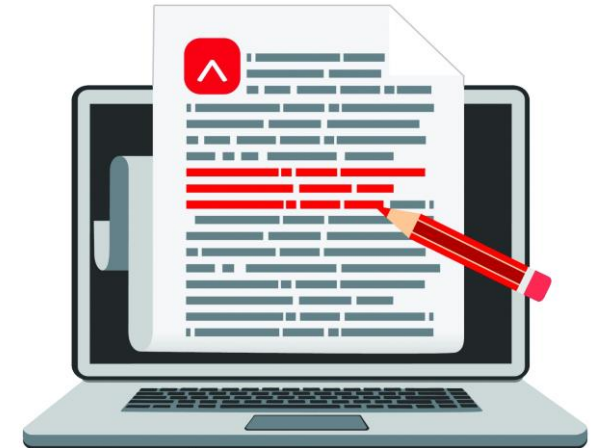


Preparation

- Recruitment
- Irish Dictionary Corpus
- Definitions from an English dictionary body
- Screening of primary and secondary school dictionaries
- Reverse entry frameworks from FNBG

After the reversal

- 70,000 possible entry frameworks
- 20,000 to be diverted manually
- New fields to enter
(definitions, noun qualifier)
- Fields to delete
(English grammar/register knowledge)
- 50,000 entry frameworks now available



Two paths

- c.80% of the content together by both dictionaries
- Headwords, meanings, examples are the same
- Monolingual: definition (and examples)
- Bilingual: translation (and translation examples)



Example: 'aibí' (*mature/ripe*)

aibí *ADJ3*

1. *behaviour, emotions, etc / iompraíocht, mothúcháin, srl*
Má deir tú go bhfuil duine éigin aibí, ceapann tú go bhfuil an duine sin lánfhorbartha agus stuama ina phearsantacht agus ina iompraíocht mhothúchánach.

mature

- ♦ tá sí an-aibí dá haois *she's very mature for her age*
- ♦ tá gá le cur chuige níos aibí *a more mature approach is required*

2. *AGR, COOK, HORT fruit, grain / toradh, grán*

Nuair a bhíonn toradh nó grán aibí, bíonn siad lánfhásta agus réidh le baint nó le hithe.

ripe

- ♦ má tá bananaí glas, níl siad aibí fós *if bananas are green, they aren't ripe yet*

‘aibí’ in the monolingual dictionary

aibí *AID3*

1.

Má deir tú go bhfuil duine éigin aibí, ceapann tú go bhfuil an duine sin lánfhorbartha agus stuama ina phearsantacht agus ina iompraíocht mhothúchánach.

- ♦ *tá sí an-aibí dá haois*
- ♦ *tá gá le cur chuige níos aibí*

2. *TALMH, CÓC, GARR*

Nuair a bhíonn toradh nó grán aibí, bíonn siad lánfhásta agus réidh le baint nó le hithe.

- ♦ *má tá bananaí glas, níl siad aibí fós*

'aibí' in the Irish-English dictionary

aibí *ADJ3*

1. *behaviour, emotions, etc*

mature

⌘ tá sí an-aibí dá haois *she's very mature for her age*

⌘ tá gá le cur chuige níos aibí *a more mature approach is required*

2. *AGR, COOK, HORT fruit, grain*

ripe

⌘ má tá bananaí glas, níl siad aibí fós *if bananas are green, they aren't ripe yet*

Selection of the content

- Constraints: resources, time, space (& budget!)
- No dictionary is ever complete
- Quantitative target of the new dictionaries:
 - c.30,000 entries
 - c.80,000 meaning
 - definition/translation with all meanings
 - knowledge of grammar, register, field, usage, etc
 - examples where appropriate

Statistics as the basis of selection?

- The first 30 headwords in FGB: frequency in the Irish Dictionary Corpus 2022
- green = 1000+ hits, yellow = 100-999, red = <100 hits

á	152,000	ábaltacht	378	ábhachtach	4
ab	25,000	abar	6,000	abhaile	17,000
aba	133	abarach	2	abhaill	34
ababú	25	abarlach	0	ábhailleach	22
abacas	16	abарtha	50	ábhaillí	25
abach	13	abarthacht	12	abhainn	9,000
abacht	3	abduchtach	0	ábhairín	676
abair	263,000	abhac	226	ábhal	19
abairt	5,000	ábhach	35	ábhalchéim	0
ábalta	11,000	ábhacht	36	ábhalmhór	158

Criteria for selecting entries

- Common meanings in any language
 - Secondary meanings omitted
 - c.60% of the content of the new dictionaries
- Sets (months, countries, plants, etc.)
- Localization (Ireland, Irish culture, etc)
- Frequency in lexical corpora
- Dialects
- Contemporary language
- Weighting (education system etc)



Building upon the entries

- Essential: Basic knowledge of each meaning in the dictionary
 - definition/translation
 - grammar knowledge
 - field, range of speech
 - grammar and audio file
- Additional information where appropriate
 - sample sentences
 - user guide

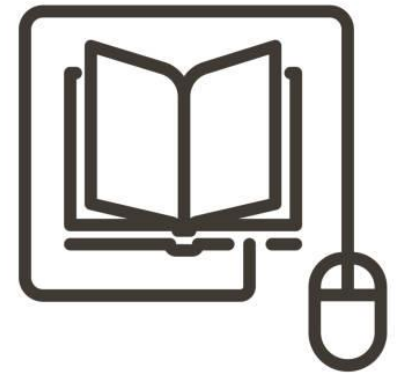


Successor to Foclóir Uí Dhónaill?

- A significant amount of FGB omitted
- Single and multi-word nouns
- Meanings in order of importance
 - Secondary meanings omitted
- Covering all areas of use, both high and low
- Foreign keywords included

Foras na Gaeilge – Vision for Lexicography

- An integrated suite of contemporary dictionaries on foclóir.ie:
 - Irish-Irish
 - English-Irish
 - Irish-English
- + teanglann.ie
- + The National Terminology Database
- Available free of charge online



Questions

