

Writing Computer Code in Irish



Part I

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Writing Computer Code in Irish

Chapter 1



Here's an idea I came up with in 2013

Let us imagine that I want to write computer code in Irish. How do I go about it?

Very, very simply.

Let us begin with IF, THEN, ELSE statements.

```
MÁ x = 1 ANSIN  
Teach = "gorm"  
AR SHLÍ EILE  
Teach = "dearg"  
DEIREADH MÁ
```

Ok, here is my code. It is written in a text file. The problem is the compiler doesn't know any Irish, so it would not compile if I tried to compile it. At least not as it currently is.

That's not a big problem. All I have to do is run a very simple program that goes through my source code text file and translates **MÁ** to **IF**, **ANSIN** to **THEN**, **AR SHLÍ EILE** to **ELSE** and **DEIREADH MÁ** to **END IF**. Effortless! That is a very, very simple piece of code to write.

I run this software tool and that translates my code to this:

```
IF x = 1 THEN  
Teach = "gorm"  
ELSE  
Teach = "dearg"  
END IF
```

This new source code text file will now compile without any problems.

To write this conversion tool is simplicity itself. All you have to do is come up with IRISH words for IF, THEN, ELSE, END IF (they may be different to the ones I have here), WHILE, END WHILE and whatever other commands one has in the computer language that you are writing in. Agree in advance whatever the Irish equivalents are and then write your conversion tool to swap all of these commands over to English before you compile the source code.

So you still get to write your source code in Irish. Which is important. It's simply that there is an additional step before you compile the code. A step to translate the commands to English before you send it to the compiler.



With me so far?

Ok, that's step 1. What's next?

```
IF x = 1 THEN  
Teach = "gorm"  
ELSE  
Teach = "dearg"  
END IF
```



*Let us imagine that someone in America wanted to read
my source code*

By running the conversion tool he can now understand the IF, THEN, ELSE statements. But what does Teach = "gorm" and Teach = "dearg" mean?

No problem! For this the coders who wrote the original code in Ireland have included a translation table as a separate file. That translation table lists all of the integers, strings, characters, function names, variables and so forth that are used in the program and provides the English equivalent. All the American has to do is to run a translation program that goes through the original source code and swaps out all of the Irish names for their equivalent English names.

In the translation tables there are some entries as follows:

Teach = House
"gorm" = "blue"
"dearg" = "red"



Let us convert the file for the American

After running the conversion the file now reads as follows:

```
IF x = 1 THEN  
House = "blue"  
ELSE  
House = "red"  
END IF
```



It's the same code as before



Just in a different format

Understand?

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End of Part I