

Development and Formation of Terminology in Irish since 1922



A Dhaoine Uaisle. Tá áthas orm a bheith anseo inniu chun labhairt libh ar chúrsaí téarmaíochta Gaeilge.

Ladies and Gentlemen. I am delighted to address you on the subject of Irish terminology.

Dames en Heren. Ik ben vereerd hier vandaag voor jullie te spreken over terminologie in het iers.

Mesdames et Messieurs. C'est avec honneur que je vais vous parler de la terminologie en irlandais.

Domain Loss

Historical background

1169 – Anglo-Norman Invasion

**1601 – final conquest of Ireland by
English**

1601-1922 – suppression

**1922 -> today: independence of 26 of 32
counties of Ireland**

Stages of Terminology Development

1. Pre 1922.
2. 1927-1939 – focussed on Education System.

"the combining form *hydro-* was variously Gaelicised as follows (all examples are from text-books or examination papers): *hydro-*, *hídho-*, *hiodra-*, *hudro-*, *íor-*, *íodhro-*, *udar-*, *údró-*, *udro-*, *udra-*, *uid-*. Apart from these, use was made of native elements e.g. *dobhar-*, *bual-*, *uisce-*, *fliuch-*, *leacht-*."

3. 1945-59 – English Irish Dictionary
4. 1968 → today – Coiste Téarmaíochta
(Terminology Committee)

DIFFICULTIES



1. Shortage of staff.
2. Lack of accessible sources.
3. Coordination. www.focal.ie
4. Small amount of original technical material and original textbooks in Irish.
5. Small pool of academic specialists who use Irish as a medium of instruction or in publications.

Examples of Methodology



1. Project 1: Standardisation and Normalisation of Traditional Terms.
2. Project 2: Standardisation of Existing Neologisms.
3. Project 3: Transliteration.

Examples of Traditional Flora and Fauna Terms

1. **common duckweed:** ros lachan (grán tonóg, lus gan athair gan mháthair, ros uisce) [*Lemna minor*]
2. **heron:** corr réisc (corr ghlas, corr mhóna, corr riasc, Máire fhada, Síle na bportach) [*Ardea cinerea*]
3. **ladybird:** bóin Dé (bó Dé, bó shamhraidh, bóin Mhac Dé, bóin shamhraidh, cearc Mhuire, ciaróg na mbeannacht) [Coccinellidae]

Examples of Literary Terms

1. **táin bó:** cattle-raid tale.
2. **ollamh:** (a) *Hist.* the highest grade of poet.
(b) *Mod.* university professor.
3. **seoladh:** first two lines in a quatrain.
4. **foinse thánaisteach:** secondary source.
5. **léirmheas neamhfabhrach:** adverse review.
6. **úrscéal:** novel.
7. **plota:** plot.

Examples of Transliteration

1. **bromate** < brom+ate > bróm+áit = **brómáit**
bromide < brom+ide > bróm+íd = **bróimíd**
bromophenol < brom+o+phen+ol>bróm+?+fein+ól
= **brómaifeanól**
2. **hydride** < hydr+ide > hidr+íd = **hidríd**
hydrate < hydr+ate > hidr+áit = **hiodráit**
hydrobromide < hydr+o+bromide > hidr+?+bróimíd
= **hidreabróimíd**
hydrophyte < hydr+o+phyte > hidr+?+fít = **hidrifít.**

aigéad

dí-ocsairibeanúicléasach

acide désoxyribonucléique (ADN)

ácido desoxirribonucleico (ADN)

deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)

desoxyribonucleïnezuur (DNA)

Desoxyribonukleinsäure (DNS)

ACHOIMRE

[SUMMING UP]

- 1. Language development rather than commercial standardisation.**
- 2. Use in formal language.**
- 3. Lack of penetration in ordinary language.
Some causes.**

**Go raibh maith agaibh.
Thank you for your patience.
Merci beaucoup.
Merci/Dankzegging.**