Irish Stuff

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1 Pronunciation

Broad 'l'	Slender 'l'
luì (lying)	lìne (line)
lae (of a day)	lèine (shirt)
là (day)	leà (melting)
lòn (lunch)	leòn (lion)
Lù (Louth County)	liù (a shout)
dìol (selling)	sìl (think)
bèal (mouth)	bèil (of a mouth)
fàl (hedge)	fàil (getting)
òl (drinking)	òil (of drinking)
cùl (back)	sùil (eye)

Long Vowels	Short Vowels
slender v:	*slender v*:
ì — sì (she)	i — sin (that)
è — mè I, me)	e — te (hot)
broad v:	*broad v*:
à — là (day)	a — cas (turn)
ò — bò (cow)	o — bog (soft)
ù — tù (you)	u — tugann (gives)

Basic V Combinations	More V
ai (= ɐ): baile (town)	ao (= ì): saor (free, cheap)
ia (= ìa): bia (food), iad (them), iasc (fish)	ua (= ùa): rua (reddish), fuar (cold), suas (up)
ea (= a): bean (woman)	ei (= e): ceist (question)
eo (= ò word initial): eolas (information)	iù (= ù word initial): Iùil (July)
uai (= ùe C final): uair (hour), fuair (got)	iai (= ìe C final): riail (rule)
oi (= ə): scoil	io (= i): mion (tiny)
	ui (= i): cuid (part), muid (we), duine (person)

Basic C	Complex C (slender/broad)
d = slender/broad	dh = y/ɣ
t = slender/broad	gh = y/ɣ, ow
l = slender/broad	th = h
n = slender/broad	ph = f
s = ʃ	ch = x/χ
r = ɾ	bh, mh = v, ow
	-igh, -idh = y, ì, a
	-adh = a

Some Rules of Thumb

- Broad and slender /l/ occur relative to the (long or short) vowel environment: slender v = /i/–/ì/, /e/–/è/; and broad = /a/–/à/, /o/–/ò/, /u/–/ù/.

- A consonant in the middle of a word must be flanked by slender /i/ or /e/ or broad /a/, /o/, or /u/.

- **caol le caol agus leathan le leathan** = slender with slender and broad with broad.

- For example, *Feic* (see) + *àil* (-ing) is **not** **Feicàil*, but *Faiceàil* (seeing).

(1)   Here is one.

(2)   * Here another is.

(3)   Here are some with judgements.

    a.   A grammatical sentence am I.

    b.   * A ungrammatical sentence is you.

    c. ?? A dubious sentence is she.

    d.   i. ** Need one a second embedding?

       ii.   % sometime.

    e. Dare to judge me!

(4)   This concludes the demonstration.

References