Expanding the use of your Verb Glance Card

Here's something that's not on the *Verb Glance Card* but can be added very easily. In normal speech we make use of six different patterns as shown in the table below. They can all be used in any tense, but for these examples we have used the past tense. All of them are quite common but the last three of these patterns are not featured on the card.

	Type	Past	Present & Future	Examples using the past tense
1	Affirmative statement	-	-	I broke the window *Bhris mé an fhuinneog*
2	Negative statement	níor	ní	I didn't break the window ***Níor** bhris mé an fhuinneog*
3	Question	ar ?	an ?	Did she break the window ? ***Ar** bhris sí an fhuinneog ?*
4	Negative question	nár ?	nach ?	Didn't she break the window ? ***Nár** bhris sí an fhuinneog*
5	Indirect statement	gur	go	I heard that Joe broke the window *Chuala mé **gur** bhris Joe an fhuinneog*
6	Negative indirect statement	nár	nach	I heard that Joe didn't break the window *Chuala mé **nár** bhris Joe an fhuinneog*

In the middle columns you can see the appropriate verbal particle as it's called. The first word of each pair is used for the past tense (shown in red on the card) while the second of each pair is used for both the present tense (yellow) and future tense (blue). The verbal particle is shown in bold in the examples so you can see how it fits into the word order.

To add the 3 additional patterns to your card just trim a sticky label or labels to fit and then fix them on the middle bar on both sides so you have something like this. If you have a colour printer then print this page, cut out these coloured boxes and attach with clear tape.

Níor	Ar ?	Ní	An ?	Ní	An ?
Gur	Nár (?)	Go	Nach (?)	Go	Nach (?)

You already know that some irregular verbs use *An* and *Ní* in the past tense instead of the normal *Ar* and *Níor*. The Verb Glance Card in its basic form shows these irregular verbs with asterisks. These same verbs use *Go* and *Nach* in the past tense instead of *Gur* and *Nár*.

The reason the question marks are in brackets for the new entries *nach* and *nár* is because these words actually have two uses, one as negative question (pattern 4 above) which requires the question mark, and another one as a negative statement (pattern 6 above) which doesn't.

How would you say "I didn't hear that Joe broke the window"... Clue - it's actually a combination of types 2 and 5