

GCE



CCEA GCE A2 Exemplifying Examination Performance **Irish**

This is an exemplification of candidates' performance in GCE A2 examinations (Summer 2018) to support the teaching and learning of the Irish specification.



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EXEMPLIFYING EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE

GCE Irish

Introduction

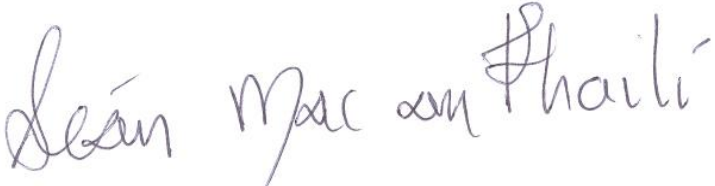
These materials illustrate aspects of performance from the 2018 summer A2 examination series of CCEA's revised GCE Specification in 2016.

Students' grade A responses are reproduced verbatim and accompanied by commentaries written by senior examiners. The commentaries draw attention to the strengths of the students' responses and indicate, where appropriate, deficiencies and how improvements could be made.

It is intended that the materials should provide a benchmark of candidate performance and help teachers and students to raise standards.

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Best wishes



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GCE: A2 Irish

AIR21: Listening

Grade: A Exemplar

Section A: Listening

Q1 Éist leis an tuairisc faoi bhás Leo Brennan agus freagair as Gaeilge na ceisteanna thíos.

Q1a Cad é mar a mhothaigh muintir Ghaoth Dobhair nuair a chuala siad faoi bhás Leo Brennan? [2]

Student's response

an-bhrón

Q1b Cén aois a bhí Leo nuair a fuair sé bás? [1]

Student's response

90

Q1c Cá mhéad páiste a bhí ag Leo? [1]

Student's response

naonar

Q1d Cad é mar a chuir a iníon, Moya, síos ar an saol a bhí ag Leo? [1]

Student's response

bhí saol iontach aige

Q1e Ainmnigh gléas ceoil **amháin** ar sheinn Leo air. [1]

Student's response

bhosca ceoil

Q1f Cad é atá ar na ballaí sa teach tábhairne? [1]

Student's response

griangraff

Q1g Cad é mar a bhí Leo lena chuid ama agus lena chuid ceoil? [1]

Student's response

iontach flaithiúil

Q1h Cad é mar a chuireann Cathal Póirtéir síos ar Leo? [1]

Student's response

mar fear iontach cinéalta

Q1(i) Seachas an tír seo cá has ar tháinig na turasóirí a thug cuairt ar Thábhairne Leo? Ainmnigh áit **amháin**. [1]

Student's response

Meiriceá

Examiner's comments

The candidate got all parts of the question correct. AO1 is being assessed in this part of the examination and Q1 (c) *naonar* was accepted as *naonúr* as it was agreed at the standardizing meeting that answers that conveyed understanding would be accepted. In Q1 (e) *bhosca ceoil* was accepted as *bosca ceoil* as it was clear that the candidate understood the recording. In Q1 (h) *cinéalta* was accepted for *cineálta*. Candidates should be aware that in this question understanding is being assessed and that all reasonable attempts will be taken into consideration. In this case the candidate was awarded 10/10.

Q2 Listen to the recording of a job interview and answer the following **questions in English**.

Q2a What is Síle Ní Chiaráin's job? [2]

Student's response

restaurant manager

Q2b Where did Peadar see the advertisement? [1]

Student's response

on the shop's website

Q2c In what city was Peadar working during the summer? [1]

Student's response

Boston

Q2d What course would Peadar like to do at university? [1]

Student's response

technology

Q2e How does Peadar describe his mark for coursework? [2]

Student's response

he got the highest mark in the country

Q2f What did Peadar develop for his coursework? [2]

Student's response

an app for smart phone

Q2g Who became interested in Peadar's product? [1]

Student's response

big companies

Q2h How do Peadar's teachers describe him? Make **two** points. [2]

Student's response

hardworking and ambitious

Q2i What swimming competition did Peadar recently win? [2]

Student's response

100m competition

Q2j What is Peadar's strongest stroke. [1]

Student's response

breast stroke

Examiner's comments

In Q2 the candidate responded in English as was required. All parts of the question were answered correctly and the candidate was awarded 15/15 in line with the mark scheme.

GCE: A2 Irish

AIR22: Reading

Grade: A Exemplar

Section B: Reading

Q1 Léigh an sliocht seo a leanas agus líon isteach na bearnaí. Tá na **focail ar fáil sa bhosca thíos faoi.**

Student's response

- Q1a** *Éirinn*
- Q1b** *slánaithe*
- Q1c** *amhlaidh*
- Q1d** *ógánaigh*
- Q1e** *tír*
- Q1f** *toghadh*
- Q1g** *alcólaí*
- Q1h** *tromchúiseacha*
- Q1i** *luath*
- Q1j** *dtuismitheoirí*

Examiner's comments

The candidate clearly understood the task and all parts of the question were answered correctly. The candidate was awarded 10/10.

Q2 Léigh an sliocht *Cuirimis crainn!* agus freagair, as Gaeilge, na ceisteanna, a leanas. (See Insert.)

Q2a Cad é an dúshlán atá lucht eagraithe *Lá na Cruinne* ag cur faoi phobal uile an domhain sna cúig bliana atá amach romhainn? [2]

Q2b Cad é mar is féidir le crainn an domhan a dhéanamh níos sláintiúla do gach duine? [1]

Q2c Cad é an tionchar a bhíonn ag crainn ar gháis chontúirteacha cosúil le hocsáid nítrigine, amóinia agus CO₂? [2]

Q2d Cad é mar is féidir le crainn an dochar a dhéanann carr amháin a laghdú? [2]

Q2e Luaigh **dhá** rud phraiticiúla a d'fhéadfaí a dhéanamh le tacaíocht a thabhairt don ghluaiseacht seo. [2]

Q2f Cad é an t-ábhar tacaíochta a chuirfidh *Lá na Cruinne* ar fáil do chuirfidh *Lá na Cruinne* ar fáil do dhaoine ar a suíomh idirlín? [2]

Q2g Ón méid atá scríofa san alt, cad é mar atá a fhios againn go bhfuil plean fadtéarmach ag *Lá na Cruinne*? [2]

Q2h De réir an ailt dheireanaigh, cad é an fhís atá ag lucht eagraithe *Lá na Cruinne* don phlainéad s'againn? [2]

The above questions could not be exemplified as the candidate's permission could not be obtained.

Q3 Read the following passage and write a summary, *in English*, of approximately 100 words.

The above question could not be exemplified as the candidate's permission could not be obtained.

Q4 Translate the following passage *into Irish*.

The above question could not be exemplified as the candidate's permission could not be obtained.

GCE: A2 Irish

AIR31: Extended Writing

Grade: A Exemplar

Freagair as Gaeilge ceist amháin as na roghanna thíos.

Mac Labhraí: *Anam na Teanga*

Q1a Scríobh anailís ar an léargas a fhaighimid ar thuras an duine “ón mbroinn go dtí an fód” sa ghearrscéal *An Beo* le Liam Ó Flaithearta.

Question not selected by Examiner.

nó

Q1b Scríobh anailís ar charachtar Nóra sa ghearrscéal *Nóra Mharcais Bhig* le Pádraic Ó Conaire.

Question not selected by Examiner.

Ó Tuairisc: Lá Fhéile Míchíl

Q2a Scríobh aiste ar théama na coimhlinte sa dráma *Lá Fhéile Míchíl*.

Student's response

Ní féidir leat labhairt faoin drama “Lá Fhéile Míchíl” gan tagairt a dhéanamh do choimhlint. Níl dabht ar bith ná gur téama lárnach agus déanann Ó Tuairisc a dhícheall chun an téama seo a fhorbairt.

A luaithe is ardaítear an brat a fheicimid an Dealbh Naomh Mhíchíl leis an claíomh ina lámh. Tá paradacs ann anseo agus i mo bharúil féin, imríonn Ó Tuairisc le seo ar fud an scéil. Is é an paradacs idir maith agus olc; coimhlint agus síocháin. Dealraíonn sé measartha neamhghnathach mar gur figiúr Naofa é ach tá siombal na cogaíochta ina lámh.

Lena chois sin, tá coimhlint fite fuaite sa drama seo. Is féidir leis an lucht fheachanna an tionchar a bhfuil ag coimhlint a fheiceáil nuair a aimsíonn said amach go raibh Pacaí agus Emmett ag troid ar an taobh ceanna ar son na hÉireann tráth. Anois, tá said i gcoinne a chéile. Thiteann dluth chairde amach mar gheall ar an coimhlint.

Chomh maith leis seo, léiríonn Ó Tuairisc an nadúr don choimhlint nuair a maraíodh Bob “Bocht” Mac Lochlainn agus ceathrar poblachtach. Cuireann Ó Tuairisc síos ar Bob gur fear “bocht” a bhí ann agus tá brón ar an lucht feachanna mar thoradh air seo. Ba mhaith le Ó Tuairisc na deacrachtaí a bhaineann leis an Chogadh na gCarad a iniúchadh.

Cé go bhfuil coimhlint ar fud an scéil seo, ar an lámh eile tá cuid mhór grá léirithe fosta. Is léir go bhfuil grá ag Nuala do Phacaí agus tagann seo i gcoimhlint nuair a thaispeanann dúinn go bhfuil Pacaí ag brionglóid faoi Maeisí agus sé ina luí sa chlochar.

Roimhe seo feiceann muid scáil Phacaí ag léim thar de bhallaí isteach sa chlochar. Sílim go léiríonn seo an dosheachantacht a bhaineann le coimhlint. Cuireann an Mhaistreás síos ar an chlochar mar “tearmann” ach fiú ní feidir leat anseo coimhlint a sheachaint.

Feictear an dealbh Naomh Mhíchíl ar an ardán fud fad an scéil agus sílim go bhfuil Ó Tuairisc ag iarraidh an dóigh a rachaidh an scéal – tá deireadh foreigeanach agus fuilteach i ndán.

Ag an deireadh, tá Nuala i gcoimhlint. Caithfidh sí a roghnú idir a dheartháir, Emmett, agus a ghrá, Phacaí. Tá sí idir dhá chomhairle, agus is léir go bhfuil Ó Tuairisc ag scrúdú faoi na deacrachtaí a raibh ag daoine sa Chogadh na gCarad.

Ar deireadh, roghnaíonn sí Pacaí agus maraíonn sí Emmett. Deir Nuala, “ó a Phacaí, a Phacaí, is tú mo ghrá geal, is tú chéadsearc mo chroí.” Ach, iontas na hiontas, chun an dliaíog mhullaigh a chur ar an scéal seo, diúltaíonn Pacaí í agus

imíonn sé as an chlochar, ag dúradh leis féin, “tá sí as a meabhair ar fad.” Nuair a imíonn an tearmann, maraíodh é, ag cur deireadh ar an tragóid seo.

Mar fhocal scór, caithfidh mé a rá go n-úsáideann Ó Tuairisc a chuid focail agus cur síos go cliste chun téama na coimhlinte a phlé agus a chur chun tosaigh.

Examiner's comments

General

The candidate has given a very good response to the question and the quality of written communication is very good. There is evidence that the response was planned and no irrelevant material is included. The introduction is short and to the point and repeats the key terminology from the question.

AO2 Understanding

This is a particularly good response in terms of the candidate's ability to analyse the writer's intentions and his/her ability to relate this to the theme given in the question. Phrases like “Sílím féin...” “Níl dabht ar bith ná...” and “sílím go léiríonn seo...” show personal engagement with the text and show insight into what is required in an answer at this level.

Not only does the candidate show understanding of the text in its written form but (s)he has demonstrated an awareness of how the theme of conflict can be understood from the theatrical conventions employed by Ó Tuairisc – references to the statue of St Michael with a sword in his hand remaining on stage throughout as a visual reminder of conflict and Pacaí seeking “tearmann” in the convent grounds, something that is at odds with the audience's perception of what a sacred place should be.

The question is addressed appropriately and coherently and the level of analysis is very high. Conflict within the Civil War, conflict between characters, conflict in characters' own minds are all scrutinised. The candidate has given a personal analysis of the way the theme is presented as being unavoidable in the context in which the play is set. The response is clearly in Band 5 and was awarded 32/35 marks.

AO4 Knowledge

In this response, the candidate displays excellent knowledge of the text. There may not be long passages quoted from the text but there is a clear awareness of the text and the candidate is able to focus appropriately on key aspects of the question. The candidate does not tell the story of the play but concentrates each paragraph on “téama na coimhlinte”.

There is a clear insight into how the dramatist manipulates the audience through his use of images of conflict, his choice of conflicting characters, his portrayal of internal conflict and his historical setting. The candidate presents this insight clearly with phrases such as; “Tá paradacs anseo agus i mo thuairim, imríonn Ó Tuairisc le seo ar fud an scéil.” “Is féidir leis an lucht feachanna an tionchar a bhfuil ag an choimhlint a fheiceáil...” “...agus tá brón ar an lucht feachanna mar thoradh air seo.” “Sílím go léiríonn seo an dosheachantacht a bhaineann le coimhlint.” “...tá Nuala i gcoimhlint. Caithfidh sí a roghnú...” “Is léir go raibh Ó Tuairisc ag scrúdú faoi na deacrachtaí a raibh ag daoine sa Chogadh na gCarad.”

It is obvious from this response that the candidate has thought about the theme of conflict and has chosen not just to recount times in the play when conflict is obvious but to analyse what effect the theme, as presented by Ó Tuairisc, has on the audience. The response was deemed to be in Band 5 and was awarded 18/20 marks.

AO3 Language

The language used in this response is fluent and there is evidence of the use of complex structures for this level. The essay reads well and, even where there are inaccuracies, communication is achieved at a very high level. Examples of idiomatic language are prevalent and the response is mature and assured in its manipulation of the target language.

“A luaithe is ardaítear an brat a fheicimid...”

“Lena chois sin, tá coimhlint fite fuaite sa drama seo.”

“Anois, tá said i gcoinne a chéile.”

“Chomh maith leis seo...”

“...mar thoradh air seo.”

“Cé go bhfuil coimhlint ar fud an scéil seo...”

“Tá sí idir dhá chomhairle.”

Under AO3, this essay was deemed to be at the top of Band 5 and was awarded 19/20 marks.

nó

Q2b “Tá ról iontach láidir le himirt ag Murtach sa dráma *Lá Fhéile Míchíl*. Deirtear linn gur ‘seanduine cantalach’ atá ann ach is fiú éisteacht lena bhfuil le rá aige.”

Déan an tuairim sin a mheas.

Question not selected by Examiner.

Q3 Filíocht

Ó Searcaigh

Q3a Scríobh anailís ar théama na háite dúchais i bhfilíocht Chathail Uí Shearcaigh. Déan tagairt do **dhá** dhán ar a laghad a bhfuil an áit dúchais mar théama iontu.

Student’s response

Rugadh Cathal Ó Searcaigh sa bhliain 1954 in aice le Gort an Choirce. Is léir óna chuid dánta go bhfuil tionchar mór ag a áit dúchais ar an fhile.

Is dán faoina áit dúchais é Níl Aon Ní. Is léir ó thús go deireadh an dáin an grá atá aige ar a cheantar dúchais agus déanann sé codarsnacht idir an áit sin agus Baile Átha Cliath, áit a bhfuil a ghrá geal.

Tá saibhreas teanga agus rithim láidir le sonrú, rud a chuireann béim ar na háiteanna a luaitear – Caiseal na gCorr, Inis Bó Finne, Mín na Craoibhe. Úsáideann sé meafar ar leith in achan véarsa le cur síos ar áilleacht na háite. Baineann sé úsáid as uaim sa chéad véarsa le suaimhneas na háite a chur in iúl: “smolaigh”.

Sa tríú agus sa cheathrú véarsa tugann an file cuireadh dá ghrá teacht a chónaí leis. Deir sé go mbeidh saol foirfe acu agus go mbeidh an filíocht ag teacht chuige gan stró. Léiríonn seo go bhfuil a áit dúchais iontach tábhachtach agus beagnach draíochtach. Cruthaíonn “geantraí sí” an íomha seo.

Chomh maith leis sin tá onamataipé le sonrú – “I gclintreach”. Léiríonn seo go bhfuil an file ag scríobh don tsúil agus don chluas. Ba mhaith leis an léitheoir bheith ábalta a áit dúchais a shamhlú dóibh féin.

Sa chúigiú véarsa is léir go bhfuil codarsnacht idir dearcadh an fhile agus dearcadh a leannán. Úsáideann sé fuaimeanna chrua le cur síos ar an chathair – “b”. Úsáideann sé fuaimeanna boga “sléibhe” le cur síos ar a cheantar, rud a chuireann béim ar an chodarsnacht idir saol chrua na cathrach agus suaimhneas na tuaithe.

Chomh maith leis sin is maith liom an íomha den cheo mar atá plaincéad cosanta ann “le teacht na hoíche”. Déanann an file iarracht áilleacht na háite a chur ina luí ar a leannán trí na híomhanna seo. Tá gach véarsa mar ionad ann féin agus is maith liom an dán mar i mo bharúil féin is dán éifeachtach é a leagann tabhacht ar téama an dúchais.

Is dán éifeachtach, cumasach é An Tobar. Scríobh Ó Searcaigh an dán seo do Maire Mhac an tSaoi.

Ag tús an dáin is léir go raibh an tobar tábhachtach do gach duine sa cheantar. Cuireann na focail a deir Brigid béim air sin.

Bhí sé mar bhall den phobal agus cuireann an rithim láidir, dúchasach béim air sin.

Tá codarsnacht le sonrú, áfach, i lár an dáin nuair a thosaíonn sé ag caint faoin saol nua nuair atá tú ábalta an uisce a fháil sa cistín láithreach. Ní chaithfidh tú dul chuig an tobar anois. Cuireann meafar an thobair béim ar an saol tradisiúntha ag marbh. Tá a shaol ag athrú agus ní maith leis sin agus cuireann na fuaimeanna crua béim air sin.

Is léir go bhfuil meas mór aige ar a cheantar dúchais agus ar saol tradisiúnta agus cuireann an rithim láidir ó thús go deireadh an dáin béim air sin.

Sílim go bhfuil an dán seo mar caoineamh ar an saol atá ag imeacht. Tá comhardadh le sonrú, rud coitianta san fhilíocht Ghaelach a chuireann béim ar mhothúcháin an fhile. Ní maith liom an dán seo mar, i mo bharúil, tá sé iontach diúltach.

Sa deireadh thiar sílim go n-éiríonn le O Searcaigh téama an dúchais a léiríonn go héifeachtach sna dánta seo leis an teanga a úsáideann sé.

Examiner's comments

General

This is a good sound response to the question and the quality of written communication is excellent. The candidate has selected two poems which are appropriate to “téama na háite dúchais” required in the question. The introduction is short and relevant and refers to the poet’s birthplace as a natural way of introducing poems that deal with the importance of place.

AO2 Understanding

In this response, the candidate has shown that (s)he has an excellent understanding of the requirements of the question. Two appropriate poems have been chosen and the candidate shows very good insight into the poet’s intentions:

“...déanann sé codarsnacht idir an áit sin agus Baile Átha Cliath”

“Baineann sé úsáid as uaim le suaimhneas na háite a chur in iúl”

“Léiríonn seo go bhfuil an file ag scíobh don tsúil agus don chluas.”

The essay remains focussed on the theme throughout and, while one poem is given more attention than the other, it is clear that the candidate addresses the question appropriately and coherently with no repetition and no irrelevant material.

The level of analysis is excellent for this level and shows a deep understanding of the mechanics of poetry and how the poet uses language for effect. Phrases such as: “Úsáideann sé fuaimeanna boga...” “...rud a chuireann béim ar an chodarsnacht...” “...is maith liom an íomha den cheo mar atá plaincéad cosanta ann...” “Bhí sé (an tobar) mar bhall den phobal...” “cuireann an rithim láidir...béim air sin” show a deep understanding of the effect the poet’s words have on the reader. There is clear evidence of personal engagement with the poems and the answer was deemed to be in Band 5 for AO2.

AO4 Knowledge

This essay is a very good example of how knowledge can be demonstrated in the exam without quoting large chunks from the text. Granted, there are times when marks would have been enhanced by the use of a quotation to illustrate a point made. The sentence: “Tá comhardadh le sonrú, rud coitianta san fhilíocht Ghaelach a chuireann béim ar mhothúcháin an fhile” is crying out for a quotation from the poem to show that the candidate understands what (s)he has written and also, to bring the essay to the top mark under AO4.

As already stated, however, this essay demonstrates sound knowledge of Ó Searcaigh’s work and analyses his intentions in writing these poems. The candidate is also able to distil his/her knowledge to produce a compact piece of writing that addresses the key aspects of the question. Detailed knowledge, views, arguments and insights are presented clearly and the answer was placed in Band 5. Marks could have been enhanced by a better analysis of the second poem. 17/20 marks

AO3 Language

Throughout this essay the candidate demonstrates excellent command of the target language and uses frequent examples of accurate and complex structures appropriate to this level. The language flows naturally: "...tugann an file cuireadh dá ghrá teacht a chónaí..." "Is léir go bhfuil codarsnacht..." "...chomh maith leis sin..." "...rud a chuireann béim ar..."

Some complex sentence structures are used and the candidate handles these naturally: "Déanann an file iarracht áilleacht na háite a chur ina luí ar a leannán trí na hÍomhanna sin." "Úsáideann sé fuaimeanna boga "sléibhe" le cur síos ar a cheantar, rud a chuireann béim ar an chodarsnacht idir saol chrua na cathrach agus suaimhneas na tuaithe." Grammar and spelling are generally accurate and inaccuracies like "caoineamh" and "ag marbh" can be put down to exam pressure. Under AO3, this essay was deemed to be at the top of Band 5 and was awarded 19/20 marks.

Q3b Scríobh anailís liteartha ar an dán *Rian na gCos* le Seán Ó Ríordáin.

Rian na gCos

Anois ba mhaith liom bualadh leis
Nuair nach féidir é,
Ó dheas a ghabh sé an mhaidin sin,
Aneas ní thiocfaidh sé.

Maidin ghréine i gCiarraí,
Ba chlos trithí sruthán
Mar ghlór cailín fé cheilt sa chlaí
Is mé ag dul thar bráid.

Do shiúil sé liom an mhaidin sin,
Ár mbeirt ar aon chosán,
Ag siúl ar ais sea tuigeadh dom,
Chonac rian a chos sa láib.

Ní raibh sé ann gur imigh sé,
Ní hann go has go brách,
An duine sin 'tá imithe
Atá sé siúd iomlán.

Mo dhuine bocht 'bhí i bhfara liom,
Go raibh a anam slán,
Is anam gach a leanfaidh é
Dem dhaoine go brách.

Is liomsa anois na cosa sin
Ar shiúil sé leo sa láib,
Ach ní mé a bhí i bhfara leis
Ag éisteacht le sruthán.

Níor saolaíodh mé gur cailleadh é,
Is mó mé i mise amháin,
Cailltear le gach focal mé
Ach éiríonn le gach anáil,

An mé nua sin a leanann mé
Go gcomhlíontar mise amháin;
Scata a scrí', na ranna seo,
Duine as gach anáil.

Sceo ar sceo do scumhadh iad,
Na daoine seo dem chroí,
Ní hionadh gurb ionmhain liom rian
A gcos sa láib im shlí.

Poem: *Rian na gCos* by Seán Ó Ríordáin. Published in *Seán Ó Ríordáin Na Dánta (Riomhleabhar) (978-1-905560-73-8)*, 2011.
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Question not selected by Examiner.



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