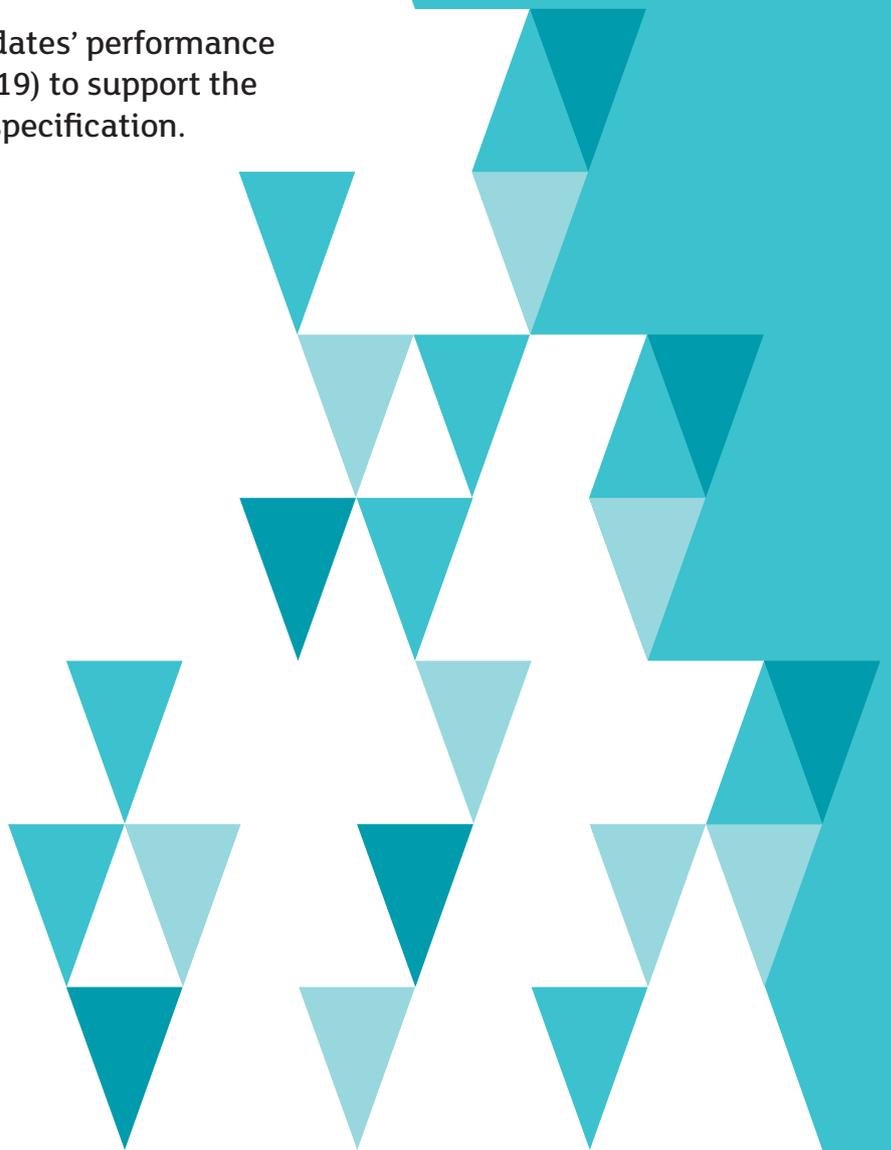


GCSE



CCEA GCSE Exemplifying Examination Performance Irish

This is an exemplification of candidates' performance in GCSE examinations (Summer 2019) to support the teaching and learning of the Irish specification.



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EXEMPLIFYING EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE

GCSE Irish

Introduction

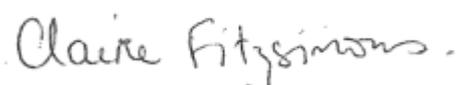
These materials illustrate aspects of performance from the 2019 summer GCSE examination series of CCEA's revised GCSE Specification in 2017.

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.

For further details of our support package, please visit our website at www.ccea.org.uk

Best wishes



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GCSE: Irish

Unit 4: Writing

Grade: A Exemplar

Q1a A part-time job

You have been asked to attend an interview for a babysitting job and you are preparing answers to possible questions.

Write **one** sentence in **Irish** in response to each of the questions below.

What age are you? [2]

Student's response

Tá mé sé bliaina déag d'aois.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. Response offered in the desired full sentence format. Full communication is achieved to a high degree of accuracy. There is a spelling error in the word '*bliana*' but it is not sufficient to warrant the deduction of a mark.

Q1b What sort of person are you? [2]

Student's response

Is duine díograiseach agus ciallmhar mé agus deitear go bhfuil mé greannmhar.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. Full communication is achieved and additional information offered. It was important that the '*mé*' was included to complete the '*'is___mé*' structure and in this case it is. A spelling error in the word '*deirtear*' doesn't detract from the marks awarded.

Q1c Do you have a job? [2]

Student's response

Tá post páirtaimseartha agam i mbialann áitiúil.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. The candidate communicates the response in a succinct and accurate manner.

Q1d Why do you want this new job? [2]

Student's response

Is breá liom bheith ag obair le páistí, agus tugaim aire do mo dheirfiúr gach lá.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. In this instance the candidate offers supporting information as a justification for their response. The initial sentence would suffice for full marks but in this instance the communication is a very high standard throughout.

Q1e When will you be able to work? [2]

Student's response

Beidh mé ar fáil i mí Iúil agus i mí Lúnasa.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. For this question, examiners were asked to look for a response to the 'able to' element in order to award full marks. A list of days or hours on its own register as partial communication as availability was needed for full communication in this instance.

Q2 Holidays

This is an extract from a holiday blog.

**Am ar dóigh agam ar laethanta saoire.
Ní thig liom fanacht go dtí an samhradh seo chugainn.**

Write **five** sentences about your holiday last year.

Make sure you use a variety of vocabulary. [2] [2] [2] [2] [2]

Student's response

Q2a *Chuaigh mé chun na Spáinne ar an bhliain seo caite, le mo theaghlach.*

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. The response offered is correctly in the past tense and is written with a great degree of accuracy.

Student's response

Q2b *Bhí mé ag stopadh in óstán deas atá suite i lár na chathrach.*

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. Full communication is achieved. This answer begins in the past tense, as anticipated but then moves to the present tense. Although it is anticipated that the majority of responses to Question 2 should be in the past tense as that is what the stimulus lays out, there are instances where other tenses can also be correct. This is one of them. The candidate comments, '*Bhí mé ag stopadh in óstán deas*' – 'I was staying in a nice hotel' and then continues, '*atá suite i lár na chathrach*' – which is situated in the city centre'. It isn't ideal to phrase it in this way, but it also isn't incorrect. The presence of an erroneous 'h' in '*cathrach*' holds little bearing on accuracy in this response as it wouldn't be reasonable to expect a GCSE student to have working knowledge of the genitive case and its intricacies.

Student's response

Q2c *Bhí a lán rudaí le dhéanamh ann mar shampla dul ag siopadóireacht.*

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. Full communication achieved. An unjustified lenition occurs on the verbal noun, 'déanamh' and the second part of the sentence would read better if it included, 'is féidir leat' or similar.

Student's response

Q2d *Lá amháin, chuaigh muid ar thuras báid chun na radharcanna deasa a fheiceáil*

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. Full communication achieved. There is some exemplary use of language in this response; significantly above the level of expectation. Lenition of 'turas' and the slenderisation of the first declension noun 'bád' is impressive, as too is the adjectival agreement in the term 'na radharcanna deasa'.

Student's response

Q2e *Bhí an ghrian ag soilsiú an t-am ar fad, agus ní raibh scamall ar bith sa spéir.*

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. Full communication is achieved. Again, a high degree of accuracy is achieved and the candidate offers additional information which enhances the response. That said, it isn't necessary to achieve full marks in this section and it is often the case that additional information can introduce errors which are in turn penalised.

Q3a A healthy lifestyle

A prefect in your school has asked you to help with the translation into Irish of a blog about her healthy lifestyle.

Translate the English sentences into **Irish**.

I drink a lot of water. [2]

Student's response

Ólaim a lán uisce.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. This is a highly accurate rendering of the stimulus. There are no errors.

Q3b I like chocolate but I don't eat sweets. [2]

Student's response

Is maith liom séacláid, ach ní ithim milseáin.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. Accuracy is evident throughout with the exception of an additional accent on the word, 'seacláid'. This is classified as a minor error and doesn't affect the marks awarded.

Q3c I walk to school in the morning and home in the afternoon. [2]

Student's response

Siúlaim ar scoil sa mhaidin agus abhaile sa tráthnóna.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. This is a highly accurate translation although there is a tendency towards direct translation in the way that 'in the' is interpreted by the candidate for 'in the morning'. That said, they do accurately capture the grammar associated with the use of 'sa' and the translation reads competently.

Q3d I play football with my friends at the youth club. [2]

Student's response

Imríim peil le mo chairde ag an chlub óige.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. This is a highly accurate rendering of the stimulus. There are no errors.

Q3e I go to bed early every night. [2]

Student's response

Téim a luí go luath gach oíche.

Examiner's comments

Band 2. Two marks awarded. This is a highly accurate rendering of the stimulus. There are no errors.

Q4a Choose **one** question from the three options provided and write your answer in **Irish**.

Write **five** paragraphs.
Include **all** bullet points.

Context 1

You are writing a blog about your birthday.

- State when your birthday is and how you normally celebrate it
 - Write about how you spent money you received for your birthday
 - Mention some other presents you got and give your opinion of them
 - Write about a special birthday meal you had with your family
 - Give details about how you and your friends celebrated your birthday
- [30]

Question not exemplified

Q4b Context 2

You are selling your house. Give a description for prospective buyers.

- State where you live and give details about the type of house you have
- Mention the rooms in the house
- Give information about the outside of the house
- Write a description of the area and nearby facilities
- State where you will be moving to and whether you would prefer to live in the city or in the countryside [30]

Student's response

Tá mé i mo chónaí in lúr Cinn Trá, leathmhíle ó lár na cathrach. Is áit chiúin í agus tá teach dhá urlár agam, ar bharr cnóic. Is maith liom mo cheantar, mar tá mo chara ina cónaí in aice liom agus níl aon tinteán mar do thinteán féin.

Tá cúig seomra thíos staighre, is iad an chistin, an seomra bia, an oifig, an seomra suí agus an seomra folctha. Tá ceithre sheomra leapa ann thuas staighre. Tá mo sheomra leapa mór agus te teolaí.

Tá gairdin mór ann os comhair an tí agus tá cúirt cispheile againn, tá sé iontach úsáideach chun cleachtadh a dhéanamh. Chomh maith leis sin, tá péint bhán ar na ballaí agus síleann mo chairde go bhfuil an teach galánta ar fad.

Tá mo cheantar álainn agus tá na siopaí agus na bialanna iontach cóngarach dom. Is breá le a lán daoine am a chaitheamh ag an iarsmalann, mar is baile stairiúil í lúr Cinn Trá. Fosta, is féidir leat dul ar siúil sna sléibhte.

Ar an drochuair, bógfaidh mé go dtí Contae Mhaigh Eo, mar tá post nua ag mo mhamaí. B'fhéarr liom bheith i mo chónaí sa chathair, mar cé go bhfuil sé níos contúirtí, bíonn níos mó le dhéanamh ann. Chomh maith leis sin, is é mo thuairim go mbeadh sé uaigneach faoin tuath.

Examiner's comments

(4 Communication)

Band 5. Twenty marks awarded. The candidate communicates an effective and well considered response. Planning, although not compulsory, is evident on the stimulus page. Each paragraph is equal in length and accurately and effectively deals with each of the bullet points in a logical fashion. The use of language is as anticipated with clear knowledge of appropriate and higher level vocabulary; 'leathmhíle', 'i lár na cathrach', 'mo cheantar', 'cóngarach', 'iarsmalann', etc. The candidate is very accomplished in offering opinions and supporting them with justification which is a key indicator for this band; 'síleann mo chairde go bhfuil an teach galánta', 'Is breá le a lán daoine am a chaitheamh ag an iarsmalann mar is baile stairiúil í lúr Cinn Trá', 'B'fhearr liom bheith...cé go bhfuil sé níos contúirtí'. In addition, the candidate offers unsolicited detail which adds to addressing the bullet point but isn't strictly requested. With word limits suggested, it is anticipated that this only happens once or twice in a piece but it is important to give it some consideration. The candidate writes, 'tá cúirt cispheile againn, tá sé iontach úsáideach chun cleachtadh a dhéanamh'. The bullet point in question asks for 'information about the outside of the house'. That which is given certainly exceeds this request in a positive fashion.

(4 Grammar and Structures)

Band 5. Ten marks awarded. The candidate is very successful in completing a piece which demonstrated a high level of competence and coherence and is clearly laid out in an organised fashion. Each paragraph is clear to see, sentences are complete, contain verbs and are accurately punctuated in the majority of instances. Movement between the tenses is very well dealt with. The candidate makes language choices which include a range of verbs and verbal structures – 'síleann mo chairde', 'tá', 'níl', 'is maith liom', 'is féidir leat', 'bogfaidh' etc. In addition to this, there is clear evidence of an ability to manipulate language or make sound grammatical judgements; 'Is áit chiúin í', 'tá mo chara ina cónaí', 'Is é mo thuairim **go mbeadh** sé uaigneach'.

Q4c Context 3

You are describing your secondary school to students from the local primary school.

- Give some general information about the school
- Mention some subjects you are studying and state what you like or dislike
- Give information about a typical secondary school day
- Explain how secondary school is different from primary school
- Mention how you felt when you came to secondary school at first and why [30]

Question not exemplified



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