

# FACTFILE:

# GCSE IRISH

## Grammar & Structures



## Introduction



### Learning Outcomes

You should be able to:

- show understanding of a range of spoken language that contains a wide variety of structures and more complex language;
- show understanding of written texts that contain a variety of structures;
- use a variety of structures and verb tenses, as appropriate.

### Skills

Here are some key points to help you with Grammar and Structures. These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive. Refer to the Specification, Appendix 4.

### Articles

(See page 176 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

- There is no indefinite article in Irish, e.g. doras = a door, peann = a pen.
- The definite article 'an' can cause aspiration to feminine nouns, e.g. an bhean.
- The definite article can cause a **prefix t-** to masculine nouns, e.g. an t-airgead.
- The definite article can cause a **prefix t** to feminine nouns beginning with 's' followed by l, n, r or a vowel, e.g. an tseachtain, an tsráid.

- The plural form 'na' causes a **prefix h** to vowels, e.g. na hainmhithe, but not to consonants, e.g. na táblaí.

### Adjectives

(See Page 172 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

- The adjective comes **after** the noun, e.g. an cailín ard, an buachaill beag.
- Adjectives can be aspirated after a feminine noun, e.g. an bhean mhór chairdiúil, but not after a masculine noun, e.g. an fear mór cairdiúil.

### Possessive Adjectives

(See Page 171 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

- Mo, do, a, a, ár, bhur, a – my, your, his, her, our, your, their – all have an effect on the noun following (see CCEA textbook page ).

### Prepositions

(See Page 177 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

- With these simple prepositions: ag, as, le, chuig, i, go, os – only add a séimhiú when used with the definite article, e.g. ag fear, ag an fhear /.
- With these simple prepositions: do, de, roimh, thar, faoi, roimh – add a séimhiú with or without the article, e.g. do bhuachaill, don bhuachaill.

- When used with the article they are: ag an, as an, chuig an, sa, go dtí an, os an, don, den, roimh an, thar an, faoin, roimh an.
- Learn some useful compound preposition phrases, e.g. i rith an tsamhraidh, os comhair na farraige, ar chúl an tí, i ndiaidh tamaill, ar feadh seachtaine.

### Prepositional Pronouns

(See Page 177 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

These can be used on their own or with different structures. The most used in Irish are given below with examples of how they can be used:

- dom, duit, dó, di, dúinn, daoibh, dóibh, e.g. Thug mo mhamaí airgead dom;
- liom, leat, leis, léi, linn, libh, leo, e.g. Is maith liom Gaeilge;
- agam, agat, aige, aici, againn, agaibh, acu, e.g. Tá madadh agam;
- orm, ort, air, uirthi, orainn, oraibh, orthu, e.g. Tá áthas orm.

### Past tense of Regular Verbs

(See Page 180 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

- Aspirate verbs beginning with a consonant, e.g. ghlan mé, tú, sé, sí, muid, sibh, siad.
- Add a d' to verbs beginning with a vowel, e.g. d'ól mé, d'éist tú le.
- Aspirate and add a d' to verbs beginning with an f, e.g. d'fhág mé, d'fhoghlaim mé.
- The negative is Níor + aspiration.

### Present tense of Regular Verbs

(See Page 181 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

- One syllable, broad: Glanaim, glanann tú/ sé / sí, glanaimid, glanann sibh, glanann siad.
- One syllable, slender: Cuirim, cuireann tú/ sé / sí, cuirimid, cuireann sibh, cuireann siad.
- Two-syllable, broad: Ceannaím, ceannaíonn tú/ sé/sí, ceannaímid, ceannaíonn sibh, ceannaíonn siad.
- Two syllable, slender: Bailím, bailíonn tú/sé/sí, bailímid, bailíonn sibh, bailíonn siad.
- Negative = Ní + aspiration.

### Future tense of Regular Verbs

(See Page 183 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

- One syllable, broad: glanfaidh mé/tú/sé/sí/muid/ sibh/siad.
- One syllable, slender: cuirfidh mé/tú/sé/sí/muid/ sibh/siad.
- Two syllable, broad: ceannóidh mé/tú/sé/sí/muid/ sibh/siad.
- Two syllable, slender: baileoidh mé/tú/sé/sí/ muid/sibh/siad.

### The Irregular Verbs

(See Page 185 of Irish for CCEA GCSE Textbook)

- Bhí mé, Dúirt mé, Fuair mé, Chonaic mé, Rinne mé, Chuaigh mé, Thug mé, Rug mé, D'ith mé, Chuala mé, Tháinig mé.
- Tá mé, Deirim, Faighim, Feicim, Déanam, Téim, Tugaim, Beirim, Ithim, Cluimim, Tagaim.
- Beidh mé, Déarfaidh mé, Gheobhaidh mé, Feicfidh mé, Déanfaidh mé, Rachaidh mé, Tabharfaidh mé, Béarfaidh mé, Íosfaidh mé, Cluinfidh mé, Tiocfaidh mé.

### Miscellaneous

- An Chopail : If it is a, don't use tá, e.g. Is múinteoir é, is dochtúir é.

