

FACTFILE: GCSE IRISH



Reading 8

CONTEXT 2: LOCAL, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL AREAS OF INTEREST



Travel and tourism



Introduction

Here are some key points to help you study this topic.

Learning Outcomes

You should be able to:

- understand and respond to different types of written language;
- understand details within texts using high frequency familiar language;
- identify the overall message, key points, details and opinions in a variety of written passages;
- deduce meaning from a variety of written texts (from a range of specified contexts including short narratives, authentic material and unfamiliar material);
- recognise and respond to key information, important themes and ideas in extended written text and authentic sources;

- demonstrate understanding by being able to scan for particular information, organise and present relevant details, draw conclusions in context and recognise implicit meaning where appropriate; and
- translate sentences from Irish into English.

These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Skills

- Develop the skill of reading for enjoyment and pleasure, by accessing material of interest to you in Irish language magazines or newspaper articles.
- Note new phrases and idioms that you come across and organise them into a notebook or file, for future reference.
- You should always begin by reading through the whole paper before you attempt to answer any questions.
- Identify key elements such as verbs, nouns and pronouns and pay close attention to whether the nouns are singular or plural.
- Do not panic if you encounter something unfamiliar. If you encounter a word or phrase which you do not recognise try saying it to yourself. Sometimes this helps you see connections with what is already familiar to you.
- At times, there may be some contextual clues in the graphics and layout of the question.
- When you have dealt with the material you are confident that you have answered correctly, return to any question which you found challenging, on first reading.
- Remember if you leave a question unanswered you cannot be awarded any mark.

Preparation

- An essential step in preparation is to be familiar with the key phrases and vocabulary to discuss Travel and Tourism. These can be found in the Vocabulary lists for the New GCSE Specification, and in the GCSE Textbook (pages 78–79).
- Materials that you may have recorded for the speaking test should be carefully reviewed when preparing for the Reading Paper.
- The best tip for improving your scores on reading papers is to read as wide a range of material as possible, from short extracts in newspapers and magazines to flyers, posters, menus and ads. There are often opportunities to gather this type of material on holiday in hotels, on camp sites, in restaurants, tea rooms museums and other places of interest.
- Develop the skill of reading for enjoyment and pleasure, by accessing material of interest to you in Irish language magazines or newspaper articles.
- Again, familiarise yourself with the rubrics given in Irish on the reading paper:
 - ‘Léigh an sliocht agus freagair na ceisteanna’;
 - ‘Léigh na habairtí agus ceangail iad leis an íomhá chuí’;
 - ‘Líon isteach na bearnaí le focail ón bhosca’.

Practice

- Maximise the opportunity to read short extracts, advertisements and posters to extract key ideas and help to develop this skill.
- There is extensive range of reading practice materials available from the CCEA Irish GCSE microsite and your teacher will have past reading papers and probably some suitable reading material that you can borrow, in a class library.
- Begin the paper by answering the easiest questions first, regardless of their order, and do not write in your final answer until you have read over the question at least twice.
- If you encounter a word or phrase which you do not recognise try saying it to yourself. Sometimes this helps you see connections with what is already familiar to you.
- Identify key elements such as verbs, nouns and pronouns and pay close attention to whether the nouns are singular or plural.
- Keep a tally of your score when you complete each reading paper, and set a target score for the next test.

Revision

- It is always worth reviewing all the recent reading papers you have done in class and it can be very beneficial to carry this out with a friend.
- Focus particularly on the way the marks are distributed and always complete this short check before you start to write your answers.
- Work with a friend to review past papers that you have completed in class and pay close attention to questions where marks were lost because the language rubrics were not understood.

