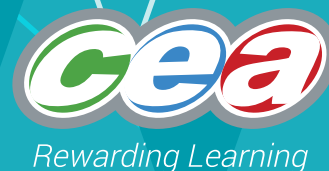


FACTFILE: GCSE IRISH

Speaking 5

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



My local area and the wider environment



Introduction

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

Learning Outcomes

You should be able to:

- communicate and interact effectively in speech for a variety of purposes;
- take part in short conversations, asking and answering questions, exchanging opinions and producing extended sequences of speech;
- speak spontaneously, responding to questions, points of view or situations and sustaining communication, as appropriate;
- express information and narrate events coherently and confidently, using and adapting language for new purposes;
- make appropriate and accurate use of a variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures;

- make creative use of the language, as appropriate, to express and justify your own thoughts and points of view; and
- use accurate pronunciation and intonation that would be understood by a native speaker.

These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Skills

You should be able to:

- ask and answer a range of questions confidently;
- deliver information with good pronunciation, intonation and fluency;
- express and justify a variety of personal views and opinions on a range of subjects;
- use a range of grammar and verbal structures with an acceptable level of accuracy;
- work with others to complete a range of role-play and presentation tasks;
- familiarise yourself with the mark allocation for each task.

Preparation

- Leave yourself plenty of time to learn.
- Use verbs carefully in your speaking practice. Learn how to use the tenses and try to include a variety in your answer if it is relevant.
- You could add in useful phrases and idiomatic expressions in your work if you really want to impress.
- Use connectives, e.g. *chomh maith* (as well), *fosta* (also), *ach* (but), *mar* (because), *agus* (and).
- Use time expressions such as *anois is arís* (now and again), *in amanna* (sometimes) *ansin* (then).

- Include some negative phrases in your answer to show you can use a variety of language.
- Use more sophisticated ways of giving your opinion, e.g. *caithfidh mé a rá go...*, *silim go...*
- Use adjectives to describe aspects of your local area.
- Try to anticipate the unprepared question of the oral.

Practice

- Record your answers on your phone. Do you sound confident?
- Work with a friend. Take turns saying your work out loud.
- Answer giving full sentences.
- Try to extend your answers as much as you can – 2/3 sentences per answer is ideal.
- Take the initiative. Show that you can talk on without being asked every question.
- Listen to Irish before you do an oral exam. This will get the language into your head.

Revision

- Revise the vocabulary you learned for this topic – you may need it for the unprepared question.
- Revise the question words.
- Try to revise your answers in a different order.
- Use idiomatic language that you have used in other topics – just make sure that you can pronounce it and that it is naturally occurring.
- Break your work up into paragraphs and learn it gradually.
- Try not to lean too heavily on pre-learnt material.
- Revise verbs, particularly the yes/no response in Irish.

