

# FACTFILE: GCSE IRISH



## Writing 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 in writing for a variety of purposes;
- write short texts, using simple sentences and familiar language to convey meaning and exchange information;
- translate sentences from English into Irish to convey key messages accurately and to apply grammatical knowledge of language and structures in context;
- produce clear and coherent extended text to present facts and express ideas and opinions for different purposes and in different settings;

- make accurate use of a variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures;
- manipulate the language, using and adapting a variety of structures and vocabulary with accuracy and fluency for new purposes (including using appropriate style and register); and
- make independent and creative use of the language to identify key points, express and justify your thoughts and points of view.

These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

#### Skills

- Remember that the Irish sentence structure and the English sentence structure (syntax) are different. The verb comes first in Irish.
- Use examples from reading passages on this topic. You could also make slight changes (language manipulation) to these examples to suit what you want to say.
- Be careful with irregular verbs.
- Translate sentences from English to Irish.
- Check that spellings are accurate and any síneadh fada are in the right place using a dictionary.
- Avoid irrelevant material. You will not get extra marks for it and you will be prone to make mistakes.

## Preparation

- An essay should have an introduction, main body and a conclusion. Organise your essay by writing a plan before you write it. Avoid repetition.
- Use the preparation time you are given in class to seek guidance from your teacher. Check that you are on the right track.
- Learn about your house and local area.
- Practise difficult spellings.
- Learn verbs associated with this unit. You could show off your knowledge of tenses by writing about where you go and what you do with your friends in your area.

## Practice

- Write out a list of things you can see in the town, city and country. Memorise as many as you can and then try to write them from memory.
- Now write some of these things in a full sentence – *Tá sléibhte, páirceanna agus ainmhithe le feiceáil faoin tuath; Tá tithe, ospidéal agus amharclann le feiceáil ar an bhaile mhór.*
- Practise giving and justifying your opinion. You need to be able to do this to get into the highest mark bands.
- Write where you would like to live in the future and why – *Ba mhaith liom bheith i mo chónaí sa Ghaeltacht mar is breá liom Gaeilge.*
- Write about what the facilities in your area are like for different groups of people, e.g. *páistí, daoine óga, daoine meánaosta, seandaoine, turasóirí.*
- Write about what is lacking in your area, what you like and dislike about it, what it needs.
- Try to be more original in your writing, e.g. use adjectives with nouns.
- Use a range of structures in your writing.

## Revision

- Revise grammar rules to be accurate in your writing.
- Use connectives and idioms to enrich your answer.
- Revise the rules of tenses.
- Try to use both the negative and positive forms of the verb in your writing.
- Be careful with irregular verbs. Always check these as you go along.
- Look over notes from other topics you have studied. There will probably be vocabulary that you can use in different topics.
- You could revise topics such as Holidays, Daily Routine, Social Issues to help you with this unit.

