

## Ireland

### Pre-session webquest

#### People

Who is the patron saint of Ireland?

Which Irish-American was president of the USA?

Find one more famous Irish person. Write briefly who they are and what they are famous for...

#### History

Research one of the following events. When did it happen? Why? What was the result?

- The Great Famine
- The Easter Rising
- The Good Friday Agreement

What:

When:

Why:

Result:

#### Culture

Listen to three Irish musicians or musicians influenced by Irish music (suggestions below). Which do you like the most? Why? What are they singing about?

*Kerbdog, Sinead O'Connor, U2, Boomtown Rats, The Pogues, Dubliners*

Favourite:

Reason:

What are they singing about?

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### Post-session comprehension

#### St. Patrick

Put these events from the life of St. Patrick in the correct order

- *Changed his name to Patricius and went back to Ireland.*
- *Returned to Britain, became a monk and decided to convert the pagans.*
- *Born Maewin Succat, a British pagan.*
- *Heard the voice of God telling him to run away and find a ship.*
- *Captured and sold as a slave in Ireland.*

#### Sport

Explain, in as much detail as you can remember, how to play *either* Hurling *or* Gaelic Football

Use the words in the box below to complete the sentences

Scald	Catholic	The Shades	Gaelic	Protestant
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1. "The Troubles" were a conflict in Northern Ireland between the mainly \_\_\_\_\_ Republicans and the mainly \_\_\_\_\_ Unionists.
2. As well as English, Irish \_\_\_\_\_ (related to Scottish and Welsh) is still spoken today.
3. After a hard day at work, there's nothing like a good \_\_\_\_\_ to relax you.
4. Hide me! I've run away from prison and \_\_\_\_\_ are looking for me.

## Ireland

### Reading comprehension (higher)

**Read the article, titled “Why I Love Dublin”, and answer the questions.**

More than anything I love Dublin’s intimacy. It’s really just a big capital village, where going for a walk is as much an opportunity for socialising as actually making an arrangement to meet someone. As a travel writer, I’ve always played host to visitors from out of town, which means I get the chance to experience the city with an outsider’s perspective, exploring those corners I often take for granted and discovering new bits to be enthusiastic about.

Even Dubliners will admit that theirs isn’t the most beautiful city in the world, telling you that pretty things are as easy to like as they are to forget...before showing you the showstopper Georgian bits to prove that Dublin has a fine line in sophisticated elegance. Their beloved capital, about which they can be brutally unsentimental, has personality, which is much more important and lasts far longer. Garrulous, amiable and witty, Dubliners at their ease are the greatest hosts of all, a charismatic bunch whose soul and sociability are so compelling and infectious that you mightn't ever want to leave.

#### True or False?

1. The writer loves Dublin because it is huge and busy.
2. The writer says she often shows around guests.
3. Dubliners don’t mind that their city isn’t particularly pretty.
4. Dubliners seem unfriendly at first but are nice once you get to know them.

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### Reading comprehension (lower)

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**Look at the following underlined words from the text. What do you think they might mean? Use the words around them to give you clues.**

1. *Intimacy*:
2. Can you think of another place that feels intimate?
3. *Outsider’s perspective*:
4. What would people think of your city from an outsider’s perspective?
5. *Showstopper*:
6. What is the “showstopper” part of your city?
7. *Garrulous*:
8. Do you know anyone who is particularly garrulous?