Contents

Getting started… Brainstorming, pair work, create a mind map, share knowledge on Ireland, personal comment.

Irish history and culture a quiz – test your knowledge on Ireland, words/phrases related to Ireland (definitions/explanations), research on the history of Ireland (groupwork + presentations), Irish economy: the Celtic Tiger and recession (sentence matching, editing), analyse song (summarise and find synonyms), limericks.

Newspaper article 1 “Celtic tiger at bay: a new generation of migrants crosses Irish Sea” summarise article, translate/explain metaphors, elicit information + collect ideas, present personal viewpoint, class discussion, conduct a survey and write a report.

Newspaper article 2 “St. Patrick’s Day festivities to bring €90m tourism boost” word match (compounds), fill in gaps, questions on the article, verb phrases + collocations, conduct and present a survey.

Newspaper article 3 “GUINNESS STOREHOUSE retains its position as Ireland’s No. 1 international visitor attraction” banked gap filling task, find suitable headlines, describing figures and numbers, word formation, true/false + false statements corrected, vocabulary work (compounds + verb phrases), facts and figures, tourist attractions (groupwork + presentations), planning a class trip.

Students will

娆 learn and talk about Ireland: basic facts and figures, history and culture, tourists’ favourites, the Celtic Tiger, St. Patrick’s Day, Guinness
娆 share their views and attitudes towards and express their opinion on different aspects of these topics
娆 scan newspaper articles for information
娆 revise, study and get to know words and phrases (dictionary search, collocation/sentence match, word/synonym match, cartoons etc.)
娆 work on their vocabulary (explain words and use in new contexts)
娆 revise skills used in the centralised exam (Standardisierte Reifeprüfung Neu)
Celtic tribes arrived on the island between 600-150 B.C. Invasions by Norsemen that began in the late 8th century were finally ended when King Brian BORU defeated the Danes in 1014. English invasions began in the 12th century and set off more than seven centuries of Anglo-Irish struggle marked by fierce rebellions and harsh repressions.

A failed 1916 Easter Monday Rebellion touched off several years of guerrilla warfare that in 1921 resulted in independence from the UK for 26 southern counties; six northern (Ulster) counties remained part of the UK.

In 1949, Ireland withdrew from the British Commonwealth; it joined the European Community in 1973. Irish governments have sought the peaceful unification of Ireland and have cooperated with Britain against terrorist groups. A peace settlement for Northern Ireland is gradually being implemented despite some difficulties. In 2006, the Irish and British governments developed and began to implement the St. Andrews Agreement, building on the Good Friday Agreement approved in 1998.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Dublin (ir. Baile Átha Cliath)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Parliamentary republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currency</td>
<td>Euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Total</td>
<td>70,273 km²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>4,588,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>Irish, English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religions</td>
<td>Roman Catholic Church: 86.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major cities</td>
<td>Cork, Limerick, Galway and Waterford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 1 GETTING STARTED…

**1A Brainstorming**

Spend one minute writing down everything that you know about Ireland. Create a mind map.

**1B Typical of Irish culture**

These are things/clichés associated with Ireland. Find out what they mean and why they seem to be typical of Irish culture. Share with the rest of the class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leprachauns</th>
<th>fairies</th>
<th>little people</th>
<th>potato</th>
<th>Guinness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emerald Isle</td>
<td>Five Nations rugby</td>
<td>traffic-free lanes with herds of cows and sheep</td>
<td>pub culture</td>
<td>the harp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick</td>
<td>Gaelic</td>
<td>the craic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1C Personal comment

Look at the following cartoon and together with your partner talk about what the humour is based on. Then compare your ideas with the rest of the class.

"By the look of yourself, kind sir, I take it you're a local... could you tell me if I'm on the right road to the 'fair city'?

from: http://www.cartoonstock.com
2 A GLANCE AT IRISH HISTORY AND CULTURE...

2A What do you know about Ireland?

Go through the questions and try to answer them. Then ask your teacher to give you the answers. Compare your results. Is there anything that is new to you?

1. What is the capital city of Ireland?

2. What is the currency in Ireland?

3. What three colours are found on the Irish flag?
   a. red, white, blue  b. green, orange, white  c. green, blue, red  d. orange, blue, green

4. Which sea separates Ireland from Great Britain?
   a. the Irish Ocean  b. the Channel  c. the North Sea  d. the Irish Sea

5. What is the population of Ireland?
   a. 4 million  b. 4.5 million  c. 5 million  d. 6 million

6. What is Ireland’s internet country code?
   a. .ri  b. .ei  c. .ie  d. .ir

7. Ireland’s national holiday - St. Patrick’s Day - is celebrated on which day?

8. What is the national name of Ireland?
   a. Irlandia  b. Einara  c. Eire  d. Eireland

9. Which of these flowers is used as the Irish emblem?
   a. the Shamrock  b. the daffodil  c. the rose  d. the acorn

10. Which of these bands is NOT Irish?
    a. U2  b. Westlife  c. Oasis  d. The Corrs

11. Which of these actors is NOT Irish?
    a. Liam Neeson  b. Sean Connery  c. Gabrial Byrne  d. Colin Farrel
12. Dublin Trinity College Library houses an extremely rare artefact. Which?
   - a. the Magna Carta
   - b. a Gutenberg Bible
   - c. the original copy of the Canterbury Tales
   - d. The Book of Kells

13. Which of the following Irish writers did NOT receive the Nobel Prize for Literature?
   - a. James Joyce
   - b. William Butler Yeats
   - c. Seamus Heaney
   - d. Samuel Beckett

14. What are the selkies of Celtic legend?
   - a. unicorns
   - b. seals that transform to human
   - c. forest spirits
   - d. ghosts that steal children

15. What was responsible for the potato crop failure causing the Great Irish Famine?
   - a. a draught
   - b. wind storms
   - c. a fungus
   - d. locust swarms

16. What is Ireland's Eye?
   - a. a Dublin observation point
   - b. a small island
   - c. a massive emerald
   - d. the prime minister's home

17. What is Ireland's most popular tourist attraction?
   - a. Cliffs of Moher
   - b. Dingle Peninsula
   - c. Galway City
   - d. Dublin Castle

18. What is the name of Ireland's longest river?
   - a. River Barrow
   - b. River Suir
   - c. River Shannon
   - d. River Nore

19. Which of the following is an Irish sport?
   - a. Soccer
   - b. Tennis
   - c. Golf
   - d. Hurling

20. The Vikings founded Dublin in which century?
   - a. 5th century
   - b. 7th century
   - c. 9th century
   - d. 11th century

21. The Republic of Ireland joined the EU in which year?
   - a. 1973
   - b. 1975
   - c. 1979
   - d. 1981

22. On Bloody Sunday…
   - a. Catholics killed Protestant demonstrators
   - b. British soldiers killed Catholic demonstrators
   - c. British soldiers killed Protestant demonstrators
   - d. Catholics killed British soldiers

23. A historic agreement was signed on…
   - a. Bloody Sunday
   - b. Easter Sunday
   - c. Maundy Thursday
   - d. Good Friday
The following words are taken from the quiz. Give the German equivalent for each:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>German</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>shamrock</td>
<td>fungus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>daffodil</td>
<td>locust swarms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acorn</td>
<td>emerald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unicorn</td>
<td>peninsula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crop</td>
<td>agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>famine</td>
<td>Maundy Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>draught</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2B Research on the history of Ireland

Work in six groups and do research on the following periods of Irish history, then present your findings in class. Keep the amount of information to a reasonable limit and make it interesting for your colleagues to listen to. The task is to get an overview of Irish history by providing each other with the most important information. After the presentation give each other feedback on the performance.

- Early times: the Celts, Vikings and Normans, Saint Patrick, Christianisation
- Early religious problems: the plantation of Ireland and Queen Elizabeth I
- 19th century: The Famine – death and emigration
- 20th century: the War of Independence, the Civil War, IRA, the Irish Free State, Northern Ireland
- Northern Ireland: The Troubles, Bloody Sunday and more recent developments
- The Celtic Tiger: The Beggars of Europe and emigration, economic development

2C The Celtic Tiger – a 2010 viewpoint

As you have found out in the previous exercise, Ireland was one of Europe’s poorest countries for more than two centuries. During the 1990s, Ireland transformed to one of the wealthiest and was commonly referred to as the Celtic Tiger. During the last years, however, global recession has had its impact on Irish economy. The following sentences are taken out of an article on that topic, published in The Guardian on January 3, 2010.

Connect the parts in column A with the ones in column B and put them into the right order to produce a meaningful paragraph. What do the phrases in bold mean? Can you explain them in English?
Celtic Tiger licks its wounds as Ireland's boom crumbles

The global recession has shattered the Irish economy, with cuts in pay and benefits adding to the misery brought by soaring unemployment

Richard Wachman | 3 January 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Irish banks funded an unsustainable property boom that forced the Irish government to guarantee all deposits of the five biggest institutions,</td>
<td>with low taxes luring foreign multinationals, fuelling a huge expansion in employment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland was for a long time one of the poorest countries of Europe</td>
<td>with Ireland over-dependent on housing and financial services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But the roar of the tiger turned to a whimper as the economy was hammered by the global slump,</td>
<td>with high unemployment, a dearth of foreign investment and a skills shortage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>But in the last two decades it has become a wealthy, modern industrial state, dubbed the &quot;Celtic Tiger,&quot;</td>
<td>in an attempt to prevent a Northern Rock-style bank run.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Celtic Tiger slipped into recession

The following weblog entry presents a more recent view on the latest economic developments in Ireland.

In some lines of the text there is one word that is not necessary. Write the extra word in the space provided after each line. Some lines are correct. Indicate these with a tick. The first two have been done for you.

The Celtic Tiger Slipped Into Recession

Norm Becker | March 28, 2012

Ireland’s economy was once referred to as the Celtic Tiger because of its high growth rate. Ireland was attracted US multinationals with low tax rates and a skilled English speaking labor force. They have export products to the eurozone from Ireland without having to deal with foreign currency issues, and their profits that are taxed at a low rate. Export led growth and employment contributed to the housing bubble in Ireland. The bursting of the housing bubble led to a banking bailout that is being financed by the taxpayers. The most high cost of the bailout has limited the ability of government to use fiscal policy to stimulate the economy. The combination out of fiscal austerity and a decline in exports has ended the era of the Celtic Tiger.

from: http://abnormalecon.blogspot.com/2012/03/celtic-tiger-slipped-into-recession.html
2E Singing about history: Sunday, Bloody Sunday (U2)

a) Listen to the song Sunday, Bloody Sunday by the Irish band U2 (e.g. on youtube). While listening, fill in the missing words.

I can't believe the (1) ………………. today
Oh, I can't close my (2) ……………. and make it (3) ………………………..!
(4) ……………………………………….? How long must we sing this song?
How long? How long?
'Cause tonight… we can be as one – Tonight...

Broken bottles under (5) ……………………………………. feet
Bodies strewn across the dead-end (6) …………………………………
But I won't heed the battle call
It puts my back up, puts back up against the (7) …………………!

Sunday, (8) ………………………………………
Sunday, Bloody Sunday
Sunday, Bloody Sunday
All right let's go!

And the battle's just (9) ……………………………
There's many lost but tell me who has won
The trenches dug within our hearts
And (10) ……………………………………………tom apart!

Sunday, Bloody Sunday
Sunday, Bloody Sunday

How long? How long (11) ………………………………………? How long? How long?
'Cause tonight...we can be as one – Tonight...
Tonight Tonight Tonight Tonight
Come get some!

Wipe the tears from your (12) ………………………
(13) ……………………………………………… away
Wipe your tears away
I wipe your tears away
I wipe your blood shot eyes

Sunday, Bloody Sunday
Sunday, Bloody Sunday
Here I come!

And (14) …………………………… we are immune
When fact is fiction and (15) ………………………… reality
And today the (16) ………………………… cry
We (17) …………………………………….. while tomorrow they (18) …………………!

The real battle yet began (Sunday, Bloody Sunday)
To claim the victory Jesus won (Sunday, Bloody Sunday) on...

Sunday, Bloody Sunday
Sunday, Bloody Sunday...
b) Vocabulary work: Find the appropriate words from the song for the following explanations taken from a dictionary.

1. ....................................— reports of recent events that appear in newspapers or on television or radio.

2. ....................................— a drop of liquid that comes out of your eye when you cry.

3. ....................................— a long vertical solid structure, made of stone, brick or concrete, that surrounds or protects an area of land.

4. ....................................— a fight between armies, ships or planes, especially during a war, or between groups of people.

5. ....................................— to rub a surface with a cloth in order to clean it.

6. ....................................— a thing that is invented or imagined and is not true.

7. ....................................— the true situation and the problems that actually exist in life, in contrast to how you would like life to be.

8. ....................................— success in a game, an election, a war, etc.

9. ....................................— a long deep hole dug in the ground, for example for carrying away water, also used by soldiers to be protected from enemy attacks.

10. ....................................— to cover a surface with things.

c) Read through the lyrics again and summarise the main idea of the song in a few sentences. Read your summaries out and compare them.

2F Limericks

Limerick is the name of both a city and county in south western Ireland. Most people, however, recognise it as a kind of witty, humorous or nonsense poem, especially one in 5-line anapestic or amphibrachic meter with a strict rhyme scheme (a a b b a), which is sometimes obscene with humorous intent. It became famous at the end of the 19th century and newspapers and magazines often held limerick contests. (see http://en.wikipedia.org)
Read through the following examples of limericks and try to come up with the pattern characteristic of each limerick.

There was a young man from Dealing
Who caught the bus for Ealing.
It said on the door
Don't spit on the floor
So he jumped up and spat on the ceiling.

There was a young lady from Hyde,
Who ate a green apple and died.
While her lover lamented,
The apple fermented,
And made cyder inside her inside.

There was a young lady from Ickenham
Who went on a bus-trip to Twickenham.
She drank too much beer,
Which made her feel queer,
So she took off her boots and was sick-in-'em.

There once was an old man from Esser,
Whose knowledge grew lesser and lesser.
It at last grew so small,
He knew nothing at all,
And now he's a college professor.

A mosquito was heard to complain,
'A chemist has poisoned my brain!'
The cause of his sorrow
was paradichloro-
tri phenyldichloroethane.

I once had a blind date with Cilla.
I took her to watch Aston Villa.
She sang to the crowd
And she sang very loud
And that's why they threatened to kill 'er.

Do-it-yourself limerick writing station:

Go through the following recipe of how to write your own limerick and then see if you can come up with your own version!

Limericks are fun to create and easy to write. The subject matter is basic and often self-deprecating. The key to writing a limerick is to devise an opening line, and then build a story upon it.

1. Establish the subject. The first line of a limerick needs to establish the subject without giving the story's intentions away: e.g. There once was a man on the run. Other common first lines are: There once was..., There was a lady/man from...

2. Set up the action. The second line defines the subject, or the consequences of a past action the subject took. e.g. Who lost his mind in the sun.

3. Make the switch. The next two lines explain the action taken by the subject, which are the guts of the limerick. e.g. He ran down the street / No brains lead his feet

4. The close. Next comes the punch line. You can use wordplay, a surprise twist or a tongue twister. e.g. And never had so much fun

adapted from: http://www.webexhibits.org/poetry/explore_famous_limerick_make.html

Now it's your turn:

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Ireland was one of Europe’s poorest countries for more than two centuries. Yet, during the 1990s, Ireland transformed to one of the wealthiest and was commonly referred to as the Celtic Tiger. During the last years, however, the Celtic Tiger slipped into recession. (Before working on this section, make sure you have dealt with exercises B, C and D in section 2.)

Celtic tiger at bay: a new generation of migrants crosses Irish Sea

Unemployment in Ireland pushes emigration to highest level for 20 years – and many disembark in Liverpool

Helen Carter, 8 March 2012

Like Boston and Glasgow, Liverpool has long been synonymous with emigration from the Emerald Isle. For a while, the Celtic Tiger roared and the direction of travel was the other way across the Irish Sea. But the economic sands have shifted again, and Merseyside is the destination for a new generation of migrants.

Up to 75,000 Irish citizens are predicted to emigrate in 2012 – higher than the levels of the late 1980s. In a country with a population of 4.5 million, such shifts generate intense interest and the Irish Times has even created a Generation Emigration blog, with the headline styled up as a departure board.

With rising unemployment, young people, particularly men in their late teens and early 20s, are turning to other European countries, Australia and the Middle East for work. There are now 356,000 Irish nationals living in the UK, latest Office for National Statistics figures show, with the number of arrivals second only to Polish immigrants.

Emigration has not run at such high levels since 1989, when 44,000 people left. Its impact was underscored when the Gaelic football association was unable to field teams last winter because there weren't enough men on the Dingle peninsula.

Liverpool, which has a long history of immigration from Ireland – up to three-quarters of its residents claim some Irish genes – is experiencing a new wave of Irish migration.

An academic and former journalist, associate professor Michael Mulqueen and his wife, Fidelma, bought their dream house in 2008, when he was lecturing at the University of Limerick. Their two children were settled in school and they had close family nearby in County Clare.

Then he was offered a job as head of the department of politics, media and communication at Liverpool Hope University. "It was a hugely difficult decision on the family front, because we didn't want to uproot the children," Mulqueen said. "There was the instability, but there was also the lure of the job."

Initially, Mulqueen commuted from Ireland each week with great support from his faculty dean, who had been a similar situation. He would leave on Sunday evening and return to his family late on Thursday. "It was an
intensively busy time with very long and challenging days," he recalls. "During the week we'd have Skype conversations, but the children intimated that they were not terribly happy with that. We made the decision that we'd have to go for it and emigrate."

The family arrived in Liverpool in February 2011. His wife was still working in Limerick, so began commuting in the other direction for a couple of months. Finding a place in the right school for their children proved complex and he imagines it would be much worse with English as a second language. The family enjoyed their first Christmas in Liverpool, are making friends and say they settled quickly.

Mulqueen says there are similarities between Liverpool and Limerick. "While Liverpool's regeneration is yet to be fully realised, it has made enormous strides since I first came here as a visitor in the early 1990s. Limerick, on the other hand, is a city that's experiencing almost identical problems of social deprivation, housing and estates that are zones of despair."

Mulqueen grew up in Galway county, which had pockets of social disadvantage and in the early 1990s after university, a tranche of his peers migrated from Ireland.

Does he feel guilty about leaving? He says the Irish government has realised the huge contribution that education can make to economic growth and has invested heavily, so he believes it won't be such an issue for future generations.

Michael Noonan, the Irish finance minister, caused consternation in January when he branded migration "a lifestyle choice" and said it wasn't to do with the economic crisis. Noonan, who has three children living abroad, said: "There are always young people coming and going from Ireland and some of them are emigrants in the traditional sense. Others simply want to get off the island for a while. A lot of the people who go to Australia – it's not being driven by unemployment at home, it's driven by a desire to see another part of the world and live there." He later said he'd been quoted out of context.

Willie O'Dea, a Fianna Fáil spokesman, called on Noonan to apologise. "Of course there are many young people who, after college, travel abroad. But there is an undeniable link between the high rate of unemployment and the number of people seeking work abroad," he said.

The Generation Emigration blog is full of stories of Irish nationals moving further afield, such as Ruth Barrett O'Sullivan, a teacher, who followed husband Jer, an engineer, to Saudi Arabia, last summer after almost a year apart.

The couple, who have three children, married in the hazy days of the Celtic Tiger in 2007. They now live in a compound in Riyadh. She wrote: "The weather is fantastic, and there's lots of organised activities for the kids. We have made friends with families from all over the world. We are not necessarily looking at this as a permanent move, but we have no plans to go home any time soon. We have nothing to go home to."

Alan Barrett, of the Economic Social and Research Institute, described the return of emigration as one of the most traumatic elements of the Irish collapse. "For all the years from independence to the Celtic Tiger of the 1990s, people born in Ireland could never assume that they would work in Ireland. That changed with the Celtic Tiger, but has now reversed again.

"As was the case in previous emigration waves, the UK remains a main destination for Irish emigrants. However, the poor state of the UK labour market and the relative strength of the Australian economy means that Australia is attracting more Irish people in this wave."

He did not share the concern that this outflow would limit Ireland's chance of economic growth. "The experience of the 1980s and 1990s suggests that while people will go when times are bad, they will return when things get better."

from: http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/mar/08/ireland-migration-young-liverpool

Summarise the article in three to five sentences. Compare your summaries.
3B The tiger and other animals – idioms and sayings

a) The tiger is a metaphor used for the Irish economic boom. Look at the following idioms and phrases with 'tiger'. With the help of a dictionary, find out what they mean.

- to fight like a tiger
- paper tiger
- have a tiger by the tail
- He who rides a tiger is afraid to dismount.

b) More animal idioms… Match the following idioms in column A with their explanations in column B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To have ants in your pants.</td>
<td>Said when someone isn’t saying anything.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be like a bear with a sore head.</td>
<td>To be unable to keep still because you are very excited or worried about something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.</td>
<td>Someone who is very rich and powerful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The early bird catches the worm.</td>
<td>To solve two problems with a single action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To kill two birds with one stone.</td>
<td>A short sleep, during the day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be like a bull in a china shop.</td>
<td>To be exhausted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A cat nap.</td>
<td>To surprise everyone by suddenly doing something clever.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A fat cat.</td>
<td>Sometimes people can be correct just by being lucky.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has the cat got your tongue?</td>
<td>If you do something in a timely manner you will succeed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To let the cat out of the bag.</td>
<td>To speak frankly and openly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It’s raining cats and dogs!</td>
<td>Used when someone or somewhere becomes less successful than it was.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A dog and pony show.</td>
<td>Leave something alone if it might cause trouble.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be dog tired.</td>
<td>A failure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gone to the dogs.</td>
<td>Someone who doesn’t show how they feel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let sleeping dogs lie.</td>
<td>To be uncomfortable in a particular situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A dead duck.</td>
<td>Having something for certain is better than the possibility of getting something better.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A cold fish.</td>
<td>To raise a false alarm about something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Like a fish out of water.</td>
<td>To eat a lot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Something is fishy.</td>
<td>Someone who is dangerous, but pretends to be harmless.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To eat like a horse.</td>
<td>It’s raining very heavily.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To pull a rabbit out of the hat.</td>
<td>To do something that exposes a very difficult issue or set of problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A wolf in sheep’s clothing.</td>
<td>To reveal a secret.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Even a blind squirrel can find a nut once in a while.</td>
<td>Used when something is suspicious.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To talk turkey.</td>
<td>To be in a bad mood.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To cry wolf.</td>
<td>A show or other event that has been organized in order to get people’s support or to persuade them to buy something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To open a can of worms.</td>
<td>To be clumsy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c) Now use five of the idioms in sentences illustrating their meaning.
3C Leaving the country

a) Which reasons for leaving one’s country are mentioned in the article? Do you know people who have left their home country to permanently live in another country? What are/were their reasons? Spend a couple of minutes and compile a list. Then compare with your partner and share your ideas with the rest of the class.

b) Can you imagine leaving Austria in case you do not find a job later on? Why (not)? Share ideas with your partner, then compare with the rest of the class. What are the pros and cons?

c) Radio Show “People around the world”
Work in groups and conduct a survey. Ask as many people as possible why they left or would leave their home country and how their experiences have been so far or what their expectations are. Include people from different age groups. Compile the information, evaluate the answers and prepare a report for a radio news magazine “People around the world”. Present the outcomes to the rest of the class and read your reports.
St Patrick’s Day festivities to bring €90m tourism boost

By Stephen Rogers
Saturday, March 17, 2012

The economy is set for a much-needed €90m (1) ...................... this weekend, as up to 200,000 (2) ...................... join in the St Patrick’s Day celebrations.

Up to 300,000 people will pass through the nation’s airports over the weekend. In Dublin alone, St Patrick’s Day (3) ................... estimate 120,000 tourists will be among the half a million people lining the streets today.

The latest figures from Tourism Ireland point to an average (4) ...................... of over €450 each time they visit this country.

The fact that St Patrick’s Day falls on a Saturday will be a massive boost for many struggling retailers. Normally, most shops do not open for the day but up to 70% will throw their doors open to cash in on the (5) ......................

In the country’s cities, most major retailers will be trading, with some even extending their hours. Of those who will not be open, most are located close to the (6) ...................... ... and have decided that, due to (7) ...................... ......., trading would be non-productive.

Retail Ireland admits that sales will likely be down on a normal Saturday but will be significantly higher than a mid-week St Patrick’s Day, especially as Sunday is Mother’s Day.

The (8) ...................... will also capitalise, especially with the added bonus of the England-Ireland Six Nations rugby match, which will see tourists from across the water flocking to the nearest pub at 5pm today.

The only dampener, literally, on the atmosphere will be the weather. Met Eireann predicts that, while the day will start dry and sunny, rain will spread across the country from the west and south. Those showers are likely to be prolonged in the southern half of the country.

from: http://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/st-patricks-day-festivities-to-bring-90m-tourism-boost-187482.html
4B Read through the article again and answer the following questions.

1. Why is Ireland waiting for the St. Patrick’s Day celebrations?
2. Which three factors are said to have a positive effect on sales on the St. Patrick’s Day weekend this year?
3. Who is said to contribute from the high visitor numbers?

Together with your partner work out who exactly these people/companies/firms/etc. are to benefit from the tourists and overseas visitors coming to Ireland for the St. Patrick’s Day celebrations.

4C Verb phrases of movement

In the article several verb phrases indicating movement are used. Find out the preposition/noun each verb collocates with and make sentences to illustrate their meanings.

- to be set
- to join
- to pass
- to line
- to point
- to fall
- to throw
- to cash
- to extend
- to flock
- to spread

4D A survey

Some 60 million people worldwide claim Irish heritage and St. Patrick’s Day has become one of the world’s most recognised national holidays. People all around the world – whether they are Irish or not – celebrate this day.

Conduct a survey on that matter to find out St. Patrick’s Day customs in your surroundings. Find one representative from each of the following age groups (15-18, 19-25, 26-30, 31-45, 46-60) and ask her/him how they commemorate this day. What do they do? Why? What do they think about St. Patrick’s Day.

Take notes and evaluate your answers. Then write a summary of your survey and present it to your class.
A

...........................................................

Guinness, which is a dark beer (sometimes called "porter" or "stout"), is world (1) ........................................... It was first (2) ........................................ by a young 34-year-old (3) ........................................... called Arthur Guinness in 1759. He was trying to produce a new beer and he produced a batch which was very dark. He considered it so bad that he gave it away free of charge. The next day he was absolutely (4) ........................................... when people came back for more and were willing to pay for it as well. Guinness beer had been (5) ...........................................!

B

...........................................................

Arthur Guinness then took a 9000 year lease on an old (6) ........................................... at St. James Gate near the centre of Dublin. A very optimistic man indeed or a great (7) ........................................... in his product! The drink was so (8) ........................................... that by 1803 it was even making its way to the Caribbean, and by 1914 Guinness was the biggest brewery in the world. St. James Gate now has sister (9) ........................................... in five countries: Britain, Malaysia, Nigeria, Cameroon and Ghana. It is brewed under license in the USA, Canada and Australia and is (10) ........................................... in no fewer than 120 countries ranging from Albania to Zambia. But Dublin people (11) ........................................... the best Guinness is found only in Dublin.

C

...........................................................

The only ingredients (12) ........................................... in the brewing of Guinness are (13) ........................................... Irish barley (for the black colour), hops (for the bitter flavour) and yeast (to ensure the creamy head). Doctors in Ireland even (14) ........................................... a pint (=568ml) of Guinness per day for people who are ill. So the famous advertising slogan “Guinness is Good for You” may have (15) ........................................... after all.

D

...........................................................

Guinness can be (16) ........................................... in bottles or (17) ........................................... or in draught form from the pumps. There is an art in pulling a (18) ........................................... of Guinness, which is referred to as "The Pour" where the glass is three quarters (19) ........................................... , "The Settle" where the Guinness in the glass is (20) ........................................... ... to settle for ¾ minutes, and the "Top-up" where the glass is completely (21) ........................................... .. before being served.

E

...........................................................

Every Guinness product can be recognised by its (22) ........................................... , the traditional Irish (23) ........................................... which is in fact the national (24) ........................................... of Ireland. The Guinness organisation also produces Kilkenny (a light brown ale) and Harp (a lager beer). Guinness also owns several famous whiskey (25) ........................................... , publishes the “Guinness Book of Records” and is involved in aviation leasing and the leisure (26) ...........................................
a) Read through the text again and for each paragraph (A–E) find a suitable headline. The headline should be short and to-the-point. Discuss different options in class.

b) How much did you know about Guinness? Was there anything new?

5B Read the following article on the bad economic situation the Guinness brewery found itself in 2007. While reading highlight all the phrases and passages dealing with the description of trends, figures and numbers. Write them in the spaces provided below.

**Last orders for Guinness?**

by Debbie Fabb | 23 November 2007

Guinness is one of Britain's best loved brands, yet sales of the famous black stout have been falling year after year both in the UK and Ireland.

But with nearly 250 years of history behind it, Guinness is not about to go quietly. It has launched a fight back with a new lighter, sweeter version, Guinness Red, and a much hyped multi-million pound advertising campaign. Will it be enough to reverse the decline?

**Global reach**

In the last two years Guinness sales by volume have declined by 13% in the UK and things are even worse in Ireland, where sales are down nearly 30% since 2001. Guinness, however, is continuing to perform well in some markets, particularly Nigeria and America.

In the UK and Ireland, a growing taste for lighter, blander, more refreshing drinks and a long term shift to entertaining at home, have taken their toll on Guinness's sales.

"You're talking about a company that's been around for 250 years and a brand that has been growing from strength to strength, not just in this market but all over the world over that time," says Philip Almond, marketing director for Guinness GB.

from: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/7106277.stm

Describing positive developments

- ...
- ...
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- ...
- ...
- ...
- ...

Describing negative developments

- ...
- ...
- ...
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- ...
- ...
- ...

5C Read the following press release from GUINNESS STOREHOUSE. Use the words in brackets to form new words that fit in the respective gaps (1-19). Then do the tasks below.
GUINNESS STOREHOUSE retains its position as Ireland’s No. 1 international visitor attraction
Visitor numbers increase by 10% in 2011
Press release | 5 January 2012

Today, Thursday 5th January, GUINNESS STOREHOUSE is celebrating a 10% increase in 2011 (visit) numbers having once again welcomed over a million (1,025,677) visitors through its doors last year and retaining its position as Ireland’s no.1 international visitor (attractive).

Despite the (economy) downturn and impact this has had on tourism figures in recent years, GUINNESS STOREHOUSE is continuing to buck the trend, with the attraction also ranked as the (four) largest brand visitor attraction in the world*.

Speaking at the (announce) today, Managing Director, Paul Carty said: “We are delighted to announce we are still the no. 1 (nation) visitor attraction in Ireland with over 1 million people passing through the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE doors last year. Over the past number of years, the Irish tourism industry has been under severe (press) and we have to play a part in enticing overseas visitors to Ireland and (courage) domestic visits too.”

Mr Carty continued “all eyes were on Ireland during the high profile state visits of US President Barack Obama and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last May and this had a positive impact on our visitor numbers. A very (success) St Patrick’s Day festival and the launch of FIVE, an entirely new experience dedicated to Guinness and Food at the Storehouse also contributed to helping us achieve our (two) highest footfall figures ever recorded.”

“To increase visitor numbers by 10% and welcome one in every two holiday (make) visitors to the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE (proof) that we offer a superb visitor experience that rivals some of the world’s top attractions and is one that we can be proud of.”

Welcoming the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE figures, Alex Connolly, Head of Communications at Fáilte Ireland (emphasis): “Visitor attractions play a vital part in growing both tourism revenue and visitor numbers and these figures today reflect an increase in overseas visitors last year and maybe also a royal bounce from the Queen’s visit. If we can maintain this momentum in 2012, there is every reason to believe that the Storehouse, and all our other key tourism attractions, can further increase visitor numbers this year. That will be good for (tourist) and great for our economy”.

92% of all visitors to the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE are from (sea). Visitors from the USA, Germany, the UK, Ireland and Italy were ranked as the top five visiting nations to GUINNESS STOREHOUSE last year with Germany (up 17%), the USA (up 14%), Ireland (up 14%) and Italy (up 5%) showing (signify) increases compared to 2010.

Visits from Spain (up 15%), Scandinavia (up 9%), France (up 8%) and Australia and New Zealand (up 4%) also showed significant (grow) in 2011. Summertime is peak season in the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE and the month of August was ranked as the (business) month in the history of the Storehouse with 116,021 visitors.

The (high) ever visitor numbers to the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE were recorded in 2008 when 1,038,910 passed through its doors.

* GUINNESS STOREHOUSE is ranked the fourth largest branded visitor centre in the world after Hersheypark in Pennsylvania; Autostadt, the Audi/Volkswagen Centre in Wolfsburg, Germany; and the Coca-Cola Centre in Atlanta, Georgia.


a) Read through the text again and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F). Correct the false statements.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>T</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Although the overall economic situation is not the best, GUINNESS STOREHOUSE manages to keep up its success.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Far more than one million visitors from overseas countries were recorded last year.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The inauguration of a new restaurant proved to be useful for attracting visitors.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Alex Connolly doubts that GUINNESS STOREHOUSE will manage to keep up the promising numbers in 2012 as well.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The majority of visitors are from overseas countries.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The busiest year so far was 2008.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

False statements corrected.

b) Go through the text once more and highlight all the phrases dealing with the description of figures and numbers. Go back to the previous exercise and complement your lists.

5D Vocabulary work

a) The following compounds are taken from the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE press release. Find out what they mean and explain them in English.

- economic downturn
- visitor attraction
- overseas visitor
- domestic visits
- visitor numbers
- footfall figures
- tourism revenue
- peak season

b) The following verb phrases are taken from the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE press release. Find out what they mean and use them in meaningful sentences.

- to retain one’s position
- to have an impact on
- to play a part in
- to buck the trend
- to maintain momentum
- to be under pressure

5E Did you know…? – Guinness Storehouse facts & figures
With the information from the article complete the following sentences with the numbers provided in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>150</th>
<th>14.3</th>
<th>44</th>
<th>1.6</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>125400,000</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

a) The Guinness Storehouse has welcomed over ......................... million visitors since opening its doors in 2000.

b) ......................... % of all visitors to the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE are international. The top 5 nationalities who visit the Storehouse are: USA, UK, ROI, Italy and Germany.

c) Approximately ..................... people are employed at the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE.

d) 1 in ......................... holiday-makers who visit Dublin, visit the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE.

e) The building is ......................... feet high, 170 feet long and 151 feet wide.

f) It would take ......................... million pints of Guinness to fill the giant glass atrium in centre of the GUINNESS STOREHOUSE building.

g) Over ......................... million visitors have tasted Guinness for their first time.

h) Over ......................... visitors have learned how to pour a pint of Guinness.

i) Gravity Bar is the highest bar in Dublin located ......................... metres off the ground.


5F Tourist attractions

Planning a trip to Ireland can be a daunting task. Everyone has their own favourite sights and places. Yet there are a number of locations every visitor to Ireland should see. Find about these places and decide which is your personal favourite!

Get together in groups and choose one or two of the tourist attractions listed below. Make sure that all the sights are divided equally among the class and not two groups are working on the same project.

Do research and find out the most important and interesting things about each sight. As a group prepare a power point presentation including some keywords and pictures. Make sure that you keep the amount of information to a reasonable limit and that what you present and the way you present it is interesting for your colleagues!

The others take notes. In the end everybody decides on her/his three favourites.

Brú na Boinne
Bunratty Castle and Folk Park
Cliffs of Moher
Clonmacnoise
Dublin City
Glendalough
Guinness Storehouse
Ring of Kerry
Muckross House
Powerscourt Gardens

Rock of Cashel
The Book of Kells
The Burren
The Connemara Countryside
The Dingle Peninsula
The Giant's Causeway
The Hill of Tara
The Lakes of Killarney
Wicklow Mountains

see: http://www.fantasy-ireland.com/tourist-attractions-in-ireland.html,
http://goireland.about.com/od/preparingyourtrip/tp/tops1osights.htm
A class trip to Ireland

You are planning a class trip to Ireland: either a 4-day city break or a 1-week round trip. Together with your partner choose one travel option and search the internet in order to put together a programme for your trip. Your programme should consist of sights, interesting things to do and see, accommodation and suggestions for the evening programme.

Put together a presentation which you present to your class. The rest of the class votes on the best trip.
Ireland was for a long time one of the poorest countries of Europe with high unemployment, a dearth of foreign investment and a skills shortage. But in the last two decades it has become a wealthy, modern industrial state, dubbed the “Celtic Tiger,” with low taxes luring foreign multinationals, fuelling a huge expansion in employment. But the roar of the tiger turned to a whimper as the economy was hammered by the global slump, with Ireland over-dependent on housing and financial services. Irish banks funded an unsustainable property boom that forced the Irish government to guarantee all deposits of the five biggest institutions, in an attempt to prevent a Northern Rock-style bank run.

To have ants in your pants. = To be unable to keep still because you are very excited or worried about something. / To be like a bear with a sore head. = To be in a bad mood. / A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. = Having something for certain is better than the possibility of getting something better. / The early bird catches the worm. = If you do something in a timely manner you will succeed. / To kill two birds with one stone. = To solve two problems with a single action. / To be like a fish out of water. = To be uncomfortable in a particular situation / Something is fishy. = Used when someone or somewhere becomes less successful than it was. / Let sleeping dogs lie. = Leave something alone if it might cause trouble. / To be a dead duck. = A failure. / A gold fish. = Someone who doesn’t show how they feel. / A wolf in sheep’s clothing. = Someone who is dangerous, but pretends to be harmless. / Even a blind squirrel can find a nut once in a while. = Sometimes people can be correct just by being lucky. / To talk turkey. = To speak frankly and openly. / To open a can of worms. = To do something that exposes a very difficult issue or set of problems.
Neues Angebot auf wko.at/aws

Das Länderspiel „Ab durch die Mitte“
Das große Spiel zum Donauraum

Jugendliche wissen in der Regel einiges über die USA und Westeuropa, aber wenig über unsere Nachbarn. Ziel unseres Brettspiels „Ab durch die Mitte“ ist es daher, Schülerinnen und Schülern diese Länder spielerisch und zielgruppenadäquat näher zu bringen.


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