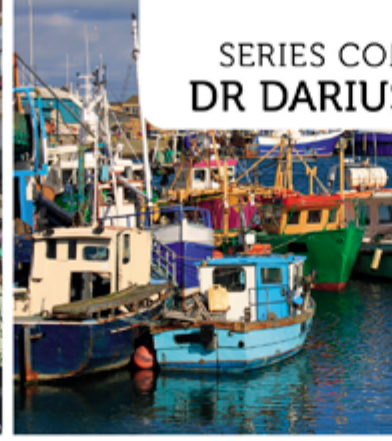
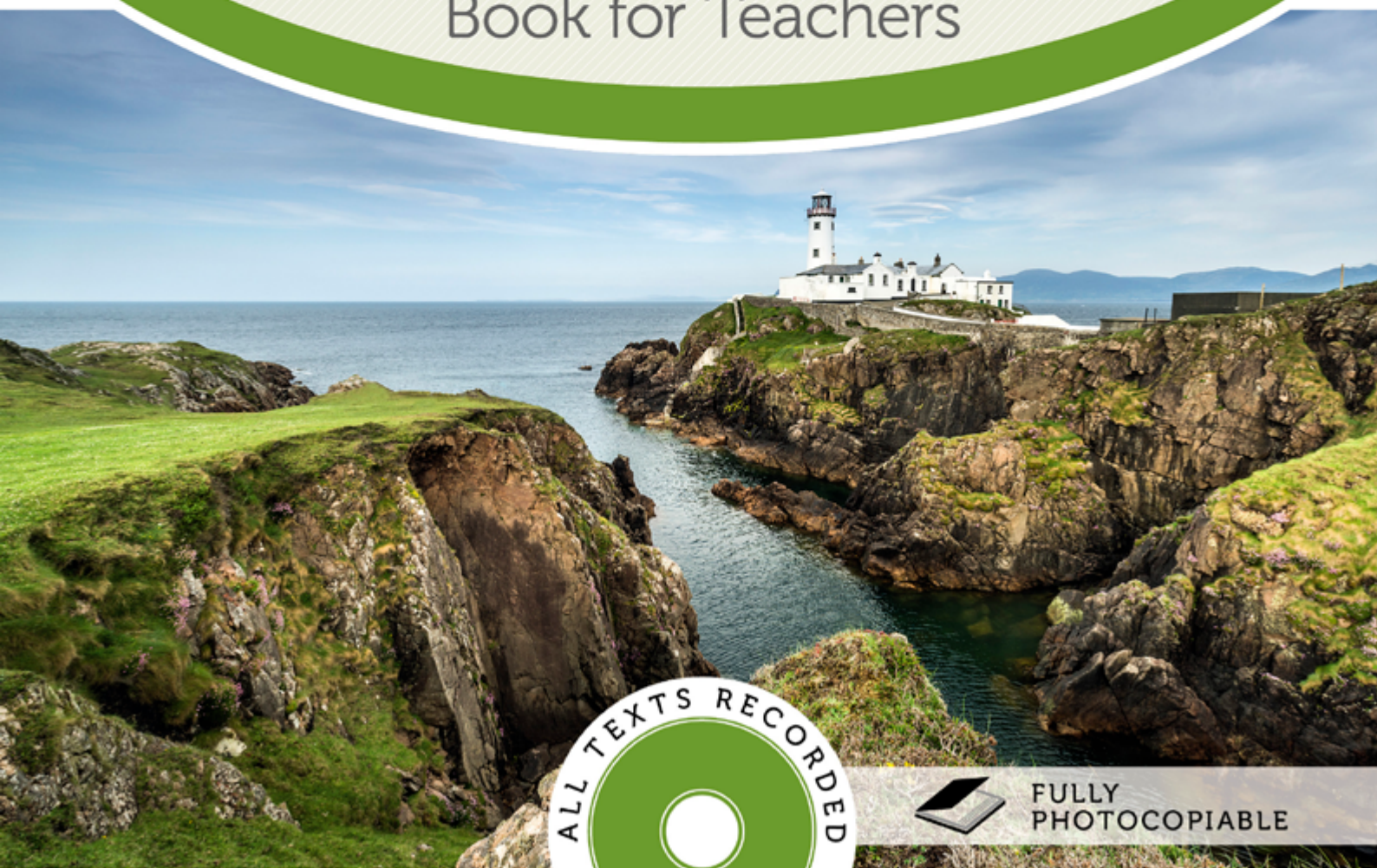


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DR DARIUSZ WÓJCIK



Let's Visit IRELAND

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Book for Teachers



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RESOURCE BOOK FOR TEACHERS

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UNIT 1

The Geography of Ireland

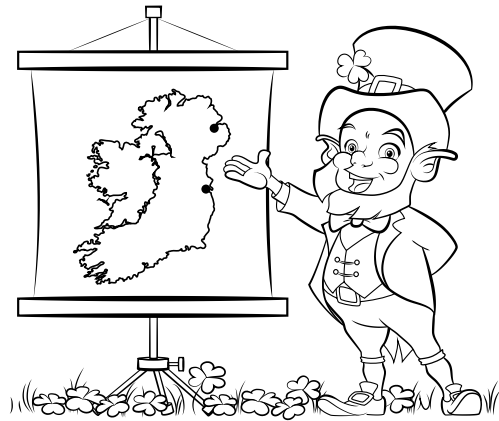
TASK 1.1



Let's see what you know

Answer the following questions.

1. What is the land area of the island of Ireland?
2. What separates Ireland from Great Britain?
3. What type of climate does Ireland have?
4. What does the typical Irish landscape feature?
5. What is Ireland commonly known as?



Let's have a look at Ireland!

TASK 1.2



Vocabulary strip

Read the definition and choose the best answer.

1. half of the Earth
a) hemisphere b) headland
2. a brown substance formed from plants under the surface of the ground, which is dried for use as a fuel or in gardening
a) peat b) archipelago
3. a piece of land that sticks out from the coast into the sea
a) bog b) headland
4. a large area of flat, dry land with few trees
a) artificial b) plain
5. soft, wet, muddy ground
a) bog b) fertilizer
6. a group of small islands
a) peninsula b) archipelago
7. made or produced by people to be like something that is real or natural
a) artificial b) peat
8. a chemical or natural substance that is put on soil or land to make plants grow
a) plain b) fertilizer
9. a part of the coast where the land curves inwards so that the sea is surrounded on three sides
a) bay b) hemisphere
10. a long piece of land almost completely surrounded by water that sticks out from a large area of land into the sea or a lake
a) peninsula b) bay



5

10

15

20

25

30

The British Isles lie in the northern **hemisphere**, off the northwest coast of continental Europe. The **archipelago** consists of the islands of Great Britain, Ireland and thousands of smaller islands. After Great Britain and Iceland, Ireland is the third largest island in Europe. The island is located to the west of Great Britain. It is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the Irish Sea. Its coastline is over 5,600 kilometres long.

Ireland extends 486 kilometres from north to south and it is 275 kilometres wide. The interior of Ireland consists of **plains** and lowlands which are surrounded by a ring of coastal mountains. The western coastline of Ireland is a rugged one; there are many cliffs, islands, **peninsulas**, **headlands** and **bays**. Ireland's highest mountain is Carrauntuohil in the southwest, which is 1,038 metres above sea level.

At 386 kilometres, the River Shannon is the longest river in Ireland (and within the British Isles). The Shannon has its source in County Cavan in the northwest and it flows into the Atlantic Ocean, near the city of Limerick. At 396 sq km, Lough Neagh is the largest lake both in Ireland and within the British Isles. There are two **artificial** inland waterways in Ireland, which total 435 kilometres. They are the Grand Canal and the Royal Canal. They link Dublin with the River Shannon.

Around 15% of the Irish landscape is covered by 'peatland' or '**bog**.' There are two kinds of **peat** bogs: blanket bogs and dome-shaped raised bogs. Peat, i.e. partially decayed vegetation, is still gathered from boglands. It is used as fuel in power stations and for domestic heating. Peat is also used as **fertilizer** in garden cultivation. The most commonly occurring minerals in Ireland are lead, zinc and limestone. Important minerals used in construction and road building are sand, gravel and stone.

The climate of Ireland is temperate and moist due to the warming influence of the North Atlantic drift. The average yearly temperature is 10°C. Although summers are warm and winters mild, the Irish weather is changeable. Ireland is also wet: average annual rainfall is 109 cm. However, in the mountains, particularly in the west, the average rainfall can exceed 300 cm.


The Republic of Ireland occupies five-sixths of the island of Ireland. It has a population of 4.6 million and its capital is Dublin. The remaining one-sixth of the island is occupied by Northern Ireland, part of the United Kingdom. Its population is 1.8 million and its capital is Belfast.

Key facts

Ireland is the third largest island in Europe.

Ireland has a total population of 6.4 million.


The climate of Ireland is marine west coast (mild and moist).

TASK 1.3 

Comprehension Questions

Decide whether the following sentences are true (T) or false (F).

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Ireland lies off the northern coast of Great Britain. | T | F |
| 2. Ireland is the largest island in Europe. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. There are many hills and low mountains in Ireland. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The highest mountain in Ireland is located in the east. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The River Shannon flows into the Atlantic Ocean. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Only a small part of the Irish landscape is covered by peat bogs. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Zinc and lead are used in road building. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. The Irish climate is cold and wet. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. The Republic of Ireland has a larger population than Northern Ireland. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Belfast is the capital of the Republic of Ireland. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |


TASK 1.4 

Word-building

Use the word in brackets to form a new word that fits in the gap. Then go back to the text and find seven words from this exercise. Which words do not appear in the text?

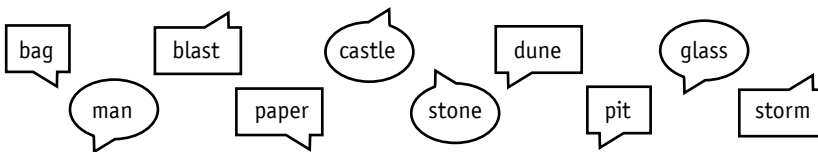
- The _____ of the city of Limerick is around 57,000. (POPULATE)
- Our new house has oil-fired central _____. (HEAT)
- Would you like a _____ cup of chocolate? (WARM)
- What is the average _____ temperature in your region? (YEAR)
- At this time of year the air is heavy with _____. (MOIST)
- Is the island of Sicily part of _____ Europe? (CONTINENT)
- The house has an _____ garden. (EXTEND)
- Bangor is a large _____ town in Northern Ireland. (COAST)
- My brother has a rare occupation; he is a _____. (MINERAL)
- The fields on the south bank of the river have been under _____ for hundreds of years. (CULTIVATE)

The words which do not appear in the text: _____, _____, _____.

TASK 1.5 

Collocations with sand

Complete each sentence with a suitable word. Use its plural form if necessary.



- A sand _____ is a character who makes children go to sleep by sprinkling sand in their eyes.
- A sand _____ is a strong wind in a desert which carries clouds of sand and dust.
- You can use sand _____ to sharpen your scissors.
- If you want to cook eggs, you can use a three-minute sand _____.
- The garden wall was built of sand _____.
- The children were busy on the beach, building a huge sand _____.
- There are over 18 kilometres of grass-covered sand _____ in the park.
- There is a wooden sand _____ behind the house for the children to play in.
- When the river threatened to overflow, they used sand _____ to control it.
- If you want to clean this metal fence quickly, you can sand _____ it.



How to read numbers

Length

- 109 cm – one hundred **and** nine **centimetres**
- 300 cm – three hundred centimetres
- 1,038 m – one thousand **and** thirty-eight **metres**
- 275 km – two hundred **and** seventy-five **kilometres**
- 386 km – three hundred **and** eighty-six kilometres
- 486 km – four hundred **and** eighty-six kilometres
- 5,600 km – five thousand six hundred kilometres

Area

- 396 sq km – three hundred **and** ninety-six **square** kilometres

Percent

- 15% – fifteen **percent**

Degrees

- 10°C – ten **degrees Celsius**

Millions

- 4.6 mln – four **point** six **million**
- 1.8 mln – one **point** eight **million**

Dates

- 1961 – nineteen sixty-one
- 1986 – nineteen eighty-six

TASK 1.6 

Over to you

Think about your country and make notes under those headings.

Then tell your partner/group about your country. Alternatively, write a short description.

Name of the country:	_____	Longest river:	_____
Location:	_____	Largest lake:	_____
Size:	_____	Minerals:	_____
Capital:	_____	Natural resources:	_____
Population:	_____	Climate:	_____
Typical landforms:	_____	Annual rainfall:	_____
Highest mountain:	_____	Average temperature:	_____

TASK 1.7 

Let's retell the story

Use the words and expressions to make meaningful sentences. Modify the words and add articles, auxiliaries, connectors and prepositions if necessary. Do not change the order of the words given.

1. island / Ireland / be / part / British Isles

2. Ireland / be separated / Great Britain / Irish Sea

3. area / Ireland / be / around 84,000 square kilometres

4. Irish climate / be / wet / moist / due / influence / Atlantic Ocean

5. total population / Ireland / be / 6.4 million

6. Republic of Ireland / occupy / around 80% / island / Ireland

7. capital / Republic of Ireland / be / Dublin

8. Northern Ireland / be / part / United Kingdom / lie / north-east

9. capital / Northern Ireland / be / Belfast


10. River Shannon / be / longest river / Ireland

11. highest mountain / Ireland / be / Carrauntuohil


12. peat bogs / cover / around 15% / Irish landscape




Writing hints

 **Hint 1**

When you talk or write about a country, use the verb **be** to talk about location or characteristics, e.g. *This **is** the longest river in the country.*

 **Hint 2**

When you want to introduce some variety into your writing, use **passive voice**, e.g. *This mineral **is used** in several processes.*

 **Hint 3**

When you describe processes or states, use **present tenses**, e.g. *The river **flows** into the ocean (process), The city **lies** near the coast (state).*

TASK 1.8  

Highlight

Read the text and fill in the missing prepositions.

The Giant's Causeway

The Giant's Causeway is located 1. _____ the north coast of the County of Antrim 2. _____ Northern Ireland. It is an area made up 3. _____ around 40,000 massive black basalt columns which stick 4. _____ of the sea. This striking geological formation was caused 5. _____ volcanic activity around 60 million years ago. Most of the columns are hexagonal, i.e. have six sides, and some of them are even 12 metres high. 6. _____ the average, the columns measure about 30 cm across. Legend has it that the causeway was built 7. _____ the giant Finn MacCool. He laid the causeway to cross the sea and fight 8. _____ the Scottish giant Benandonner. The Giant's Causeway has been owned and managed by the National Trust 9. _____ 1961. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO 10. _____ 1986. There are 28 World Heritage Sites in the UK and overseas territories, but the Giant's Causeway is the only World Heritage Site in Northern Ireland.

TASK 1.9 

Fun corner

Solve the crossword puzzle. What is the answer to the question?

1.										
2.										
3.										
4.										
5.										
6.										
7.										
8.										
9.										
10.										
11.										
12.										
13.										

- a substance that is burned to produce heat or energy
- fairly warm
- a white or light grey rock
- small, rounded stones
- a river or canal along which ships or boats can sail
- a chemical substance that is formed naturally in the earth
- a soft, heavy, dark grey metal that is poisonous
- a city which is the seat of the main government of a country
- slightly wet
- a large area of rock with a steep side at the edge of the sea
- all the people who live in a particular country or place
- a unit of local government in Ireland
- a substance that consists of very small grains of rock that can be found on beaches and in deserts

What is Ireland often called?

The _____.

TASK 1.10 

What do you remember?

Answer the following questions.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. What is the location of Ireland? | 6. What is the capital of Northern Ireland? |
| 2. What is the area of Ireland? | 7. What is the name and length of the longest river in Ireland? |
| 3. What is the climate of Ireland like? | 8. What are peat bogs? |
| 4. What is the total population of Ireland? | 9. Where is the Giant's Causeway located? |
| 5. What is the capital of the Republic of Ireland? | 10. What exactly is the Giant's Causeway? |

UNIT 1

TASK 1.1

1. The land area of the island of Ireland is 84,000 sq km. 2. The Irish Sea separates Ireland from Great Britain. 3. Ireland has the moist climate. 4. The typical Irish landscape features hills and plains. 5. Ireland is commonly known as the Emerald Island.

Task 1.2

1. a) hemisphere 2. a) peat 3. b) headland 4. b) plain 5. a) bog
6. b) archipelago 7. a) artificial 8. b) fertilizer 9. a) bay 10. a) peninsula

Task 1.3

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T 6. T 7. F 8. F 9. T 10. F

Task 1.4

1. population 2. heating 3. warming 4. yearly 5. moisture 6. continental
7. extensive 8. coastal 9. mineralogist 10. cultivation

The words which do not appear in the text are: *extensive, moisture, mineralogist.*

Task 1.5

1. man 2. storm 3. paper 4. glass 5. stone 6. castle 7. dunes 8. pit
9. bags; 10. blast

Task 1.7

- The island of Ireland is part of the British Isles.
- Ireland is separated from Great Britain by the Irish Sea.
- The area of Ireland is around 84,000 square kilometres.
- The Irish climate is wet and moist due to the influence of the Atlantic Ocean.
- The total population of Ireland is 6.4 million.
- The Republic of Ireland occupies around 80% of the island of Ireland.
- The capital of the Republic of Ireland is Dublin.
- Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom and lies in the north-east.
- The capital of Northern Ireland is Belfast.
- The River Shannon is the longest river in Ireland.
- The highest mountain in Ireland is Carrauntuohil.
- Peat bogs cover around 15% of the Irish landscape.

Task 1.8

1. on 2. in 3. of 4. out 5. by 6. On 7. by 8. against 9. since 10. in

Task 1.9

1. fuel 2. mild 3. limestone 4. gravel 5. waterway 6. mineral 7. lead
8. capital 9. moist 10. cliff 11. population 12. county 13. sand
What is Ireland often called? – The *EMERALD ISLAND*.

Task 1.10

- Ireland is located in the north-west of Europe.
- The area of Ireland is 84,000 square kilometres.
- The climate of Ireland is classified as marine west coast (mild and moist).
- The total population of Ireland is 6.4 million.
- The capital of the Republic of Ireland is Dublin.
- The capital of Northern Ireland is Belfast.
- The River Shannon is the longest river in Ireland. Its length is 386 kilometres.
- Peat bogs are areas of land with a naturally accumulated layer of partially decayed vegetation.
- Giant's Causeway is in the County of Antrim, Northern Ireland.
- Giant's Causeway is an area made up of around 40,000 massive black basalt columns which stick out of the sea.

UNIT 2

Task 2.1

1. Ireland became separated from Great Britain 10,000 years ago. 2. Oaks grew in the original Irish forests. 3. 50 species of mammals can be found in Ireland. 4. The mole does not live in Ireland. 5. The typical Irish landscape is pastureland.

Task 2.2

1. a) glacier 2. a) moss 3. b) mare 4. a) amphibian 5. a) waterfowl
6. a) mammal 7. b) breed 8. b) reptile 9. a) lichen 10. a) livestock

Task 2.3

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. T 5. F 6. F 7. T 8. T 9. T 10. F

Task 2.4

1. separation 2. coniferous 3. numerous 4. temporarily 5. climatic
6. sparsely 7. mountainous 8. migratory 9. height 10. waterways
The word which does not appear in the text is *mountainous*.

Task 2.5

1. overland 2. moorland 3. highlands 4. landlord 5. pastureland
6. landmarks 7. landmine 8. mainland 9. landscape 10. never-never land

Task 2.7

- Ireland was part of continental Europe until the end of the last Ice Age.
- When the glaciers retreated and sea levels rose, Ireland became separated from Great Britain.
- Most species of animals and plants arrived in Ireland overland from northern Europe.
- Ireland was densely wooded but the original oak forests were cut down.
- Today, most forests in Ireland are coniferous forests of pine and spruce.
- The island has plenty of pastureland for grazing livestock.
- The mountains and highlands are covered with blanket bogs or moorlands.
- Wild mammals in Ireland include badgers, rabbits, otters, and dolphins.
- The seas around Ireland are home to such sea creatures as pollock, herring, and lobster.
- Ireland is a perfect stopover for migratory birds such as petrels, auks, cormorants, herons and puffins.
- The Connemara pony was brought to Ireland by the ancient Celts.
- Connemara ponies are the largest of the pony breeds and they range in height from 128 to 148 cm.

Task 2.8

1. around 2. former 3. latter 4. Apart from 5. within
6. with 7. because 8. also 9. such as 10. and

Task 2.9

1. spruce 2. oak 3. pine 4. cormorant 5. fox 6. pony 7. puffin 8. seal
9. fern 10. otter 11. lizard 12. heather

Task 2.10

- Ireland became separated from continental Europe around 10,000 years ago, at the end of the last Ice Age.
- The original forests in Ireland consisted of oak trees.
- A typical Irish landscape includes pastureland for grazing livestock.
- Some common wild mammals in Ireland are: foxes, badgers, rabbits, hedgehogs, shrews, martens, red deer, otters, seals and dolphins.
- Common Irish fish are: salmon, pollock, mackerel, herring or cod.
- Ireland is a perfect place for migratory birds.
- The Connemara pony is a pony breed which originated in Ireland.
- The Connemara pony is the largest of the pony breeds. It is athletic, intelligent and versatile. The Connemara pony may live well into its thirties.
- The Burren is located in the north-west of Ireland, in County Clare.
- The Burren is a region of unique landscape with the hills composed of limestone pavements, which form 'clints' and 'grikes.'

UNIT 15

Task 15.1

1. English and Irish Gaelic are the two official languages of the Republic of Ireland. 2. English is most commonly used in Northern Ireland. 3. Irish Gaelic and Ulster Scots are officially recognised minority languages in Northern Ireland. 4. The Gaeltacht areas are western counties in which many Irish speakers live. 5. Polish is the most popular minority language spoken in the Republic of Ireland.

Task 15.2

1. b) census 2. b) branch 3. a) de facto 4. b) obligatory 5. a) minority 6. b) primary 7. b) county 8. b) foreign 9. b) resident 10. b) dominant

Task 15.3

1. T 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. F 6. F 7. T 8. T 9. F 10. F

Task 15.4

1. indifference 2. nationality 3. dominant 4. daily 5. education 6. foreigner 7. officially 8. classified 9. declarative 10. remaining
The words which appear in the text are *dominant*, *daily*, *education*, *officially* and *classified*.

Task 15.5

1. foreign exchange 2. Foreign Legion 3. Foreign Office 4. foreign body 5. foreign affairs 6. Foreign Secretary 7. Foreign Service 8. foreign aid 9. foreign minister 10. foreign policy

Task 15.7

- English is the most popular language in Ireland.
- Both English and Irish Gaelic are classified as Indo-European languages.
- English belongs to the western sub-branch of Germanic languages.
- Irish Gaelic and Ulster Scots are members of the Goidelic branch of Celtic languages.
- The Irish language has the status of the national language in the Republic of Ireland.
- The English language is a second official language in the Republic of Ireland.
- Around 77,000 people use Irish daily outside the education system.
- There is no official language in Northern Ireland.
- English is a 'de facto' language used in Northern Ireland.
- Irish Gaelic and Ulster Scots are the two officially recognised minority languages in the UK.
- Over half a million Irish residents speak a language other than English or Irish at home.
- Polish is the most common foreign language used in the Republic of Ireland.

Task 15.8

1. language 2. plural 3. respected 4. chief 5. sense 6. roles 7. literary 8. passed 9. custodian 10. exchange

Task 15.9

Vertically:

1. sign 2. tale 3. census 4. majority 5. myth 6. act 7. area 8. profession 9. clan 10. shelter 11. chief 12. minority 13. art 14. knowledge

Horizontally:

15. education 16. speaker 17. storyteller 18. resident 19. language 20. itinerant

Task 15.10

- English and Irish Gaelic are Indo-European languages.
- English belongs to the western sub-branch of Germanic languages.
- Irish Gaelic belongs to the Goidelic branch of Celtic languages.
- There are two official languages in the Republic of Ireland: Irish and English.
- English is the dominant language in the Republic of Ireland.
- Around 77,000 people use Irish daily, mainly in the Gaeltacht areas.
- There is no official language in Northern Ireland; English is a 'de facto' language.
- Polish is the most popular language in Ireland other than English or Irish.
- The word 'seanchai' means the 'storyteller' in Irish.
- The seanchai kept track of the history of the clan and he also entertained the audience with myths and tales.

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Regardless of everything, all mistakes and faults in this book remain the sole responsibility of the author.

How to use *Let's Visit Ireland*

The material in each unit provides enough input and practice for students to cover during a 90-minute lesson. The tasks are arranged in the order in which they should be carried out, but the teacher should feel free to omit and/or adapt any task to match the level and needs of her students, as well as to meet the limitations of time and space in the classroom.

The following points should be kept in mind while using this book:

- The two primary purposes of this book are to focus on providing factual information about Ireland and to expand students' vocabulary range through a series of reading, listening, speaking, writing and lexical activities.
- Although grammar is neither presented nor practiced in the form of separate tasks, the Writing Hints boxes do contain some grammatical advice. It is up to the teacher to decide whether she wants to expand it or not.
- While it may seem that there is a lot of repetition of factual material in each unit, it was the author's deliberate decision. Typically, the factual material presented in the texts will be new to students, so they should be given enough time to process and digest it.
- All texts in this book are recorded, so Tasks 3 and 8 may also be done as listening activities or a combination of reading and listening. For example, the teacher may ask students to solve Task 8 individually or in pairs, and then play the recording for students to check their answers.
- Task 7 is designed as guided writing but the teacher may choose to use it as a speaking activity with more proficient students. In such case, the clues given become a plan for a short oral presentation.
- Conversely, Task 6 (i.e. Speaking) may be used as a writing activity to be done in class or set as homework.

However, these points should be treated only as suggestions. Approaching this book in a flexible and creative way is strongly encouraged by the author.

Those interested in updates on the author's current ventures may follow his blog at www.onamor.pl.

For extra activities, quizzes and vocabulary lists, please visit www.polonsky.pl

Good luck and enjoy exploring Ireland!

	Unit	Collocations	Over to You	Highlight	Fun Corner
1	The Geography of Ireland	<i>sand</i>	Geography	<i>The Giant's Causeway</i>	Crossword Puzzle
2	Animals and Plants	<i>land</i>	Animals and Plants	<i>The Burren</i>	Pictures of Irish Animals and Plants
3	The Republic of Ireland	<i>rain</i>	Your Country 1	<i>The Irish Government</i>	Word Search
4	Northern Ireland	<i>water</i>	Your Country 2	<i>The Titanic</i>	Odd-man out
5	People of Ireland	<i>name</i>	Population	<i>The Travellers of Ireland</i>	Word Snake
6	The Symbols of Ireland	<i>cross</i>	National Emblems	<i>Saint Patrick</i>	Pictures of Irish Symbols
7	Dublin	<i>black</i>	The Capital	<i>Trinity College</i>	Word Search
8	History of Ireland	<i>wave</i>	History	<i>Carrickfergus Castle</i>	Labelling Parts of a Norman Castle
9	Writers and Poets	<i>play</i>	Writers	<i>Bram Stoker</i>	Crossword Puzzle
10	Irish Games	<i>ball</i>	National Sports	<i>Greyhound Racing</i>	Odd-man out
11	Irish Food and Drinks	<i>potato</i>	Food and Drink	<i>Guinness</i>	How to Make Soda Bread
12	Irish Legends and Heroes	<i>queen</i>	Mythical Heroes and Creatures	<i>Mythical Creatures</i>	Crossword Puzzle
13	Irish Music and Dance	<i>music</i>	Music	<i>U2</i>	Pictures of Musical Instruments
14	Irish Holidays and Celebrations	<i>holiday</i>	National Holidays	<i>The Irish Pub</i>	Holidays in ROI and Northern Ireland
15	Languages in Ireland	<i>foreign</i>	Languages	<i>Seanchaithe</i>	Word Search

Let's Visit Ireland provides a bank of 15 clear, step-by-step units that present different aspects of geography, history, culture and daily life of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Ideal for teachers of English who seek new content for their lessons. Students benefit from developing their reading, listening, speaking, writing and vocabulary skills.

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- Speaking and writing activities to develop productive skills
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TOPICS

The Geography of Ireland | Animals and Plants of Ireland | The Republic of Ireland | Northern Ireland | People of Ireland | The Symbols of Ireland | Dublin | History of Ireland | Writers and Poets | Irish Games | Irish Food and Drinks | Irish Legends and Heroes | Irish Music and Dance | Irish Holidays and Celebrations | Languages in Ireland

B1/B2

About the author



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About the series consultant



Dr Dariusz Wójcik is an economic geographer specializing in research on finance and globalisation. Currently, he is Fellow of St Peter's College and holds a position of Lecturer at the School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford.

Common European Framework

A1 Beginner

A2 Elementary / Pre-Intermediate

B1 Intermediate

B2 Upper-Intermediate

C1 Advanced

C2 Proficiency

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