



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit

State Examinations Commission

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S71/11

To: School Authorities, and Teachers and Students of Irish in Second-Level Schools

Leaving Certificate Irish 2012: Sample Examination Papers and Aural CDs

From the 2012 examinations and onwards the proportion of marks awarded for the oral test in Leaving Certificate Irish will be increased at all levels. To assist schools in their preparations for the 2012 examinations the State Examinations Commission (SEC) has prepared sample examination papers which are enclosed with this letter. Supplies of the following sample materials are enclosed:

Higher Level; Paper 1 (incorporating the aural test), Paper 2, and CD*

Ordinary Level: Paper 1 (incorporating the aural test), Paper 2, and CD*

Foundation Level Paper (incorporating the aural test) and CD

*common to Ordinary and Higher Level

The main changes to the sample examination papers are as follows:

- The aural test is no longer a stand-alone test but has been integrated into the Foundation Level Paper or Paper 1 at Ordinary and Higher Level
- The aural test will be run at the start of the Foundation Level Paper or Paper 1 at Ordinary and Higher Level
- The duration of both the aural test and written examinations has been reduced.

Teachers and students are reminded that information regarding the syllabus and recent modifications to it, as well as details of the assessment requirements, are to be found in the following documents, all of which can be accessed in the Examination Information Section of www.examinations.ie under the heading **An Scrúdú Gaeilge san Ardeistiméireacht ó 2012 ar aghaidh:**

- SEC Circular S.90/10: *The Irish Examination in the Leaving Certificate for 2012 onwards*
- DES Circular 0042/2007: *Changes to the Proportion of Marks for Oral Irish in the Certificate Examinations*
- DES Circular 20/2010: *Prescribed Prose and Texts for 2012, 2013 and 2014*
- DES Circular 71/2010: *Leaving Certificate Irish Syllabuses effective from 1.9.2010*

For ease of reference details of the changes to the proportion of marks to the written, oral and aural components of Irish in the Leaving Certificate is set out as an Appendix to this letter. Apart from the changes to the literature requirements announced in DES circular 20/2010 there is no change to

the syllabus. The syllabus as in place will continue to form the basis for teaching, learning and assessment.

Please ensure that this notice and the sample materials are brought to the attention of teachers and learners of Leaving Certificate Irish. The sample materials can also be accessed on our website www.examinations.ie.

Andrea Feeney
Director, Operations & IT Division
October 2011

Appendix

Changes to the Proportion of Marks for Irish in the Leaving Certificate Examinations from 2012 Onwards.

	OLD			NEW		
	Oral	Aural	Written	Oral	Aural	Written
Ordinary	20%	25%	55%	40%	10%	50%
Higher	25%	16.7%	58.9%	40%	10%	50%
Foundation	25%	30%	45%	40%	20%	40%