



Ireland

Help students prepare for their Cultural Byte with these supportive pre-talk activities

TEACHER INTRODUCTION

This series of online Cultural Byte videos and this support material have been produced with a specific online audience in mind, however, we want to make clear that teachers can choose to use these videos and their accompanying materials with other audiences and other levels of English proficiency, but they may need to provide extra help and guidance in cases where the students are younger or have a lower level of English.

The aim of these activities is to present and practice target vocabulary in a fun and engaging way which will later be used during the Cultural Byte video. Although their aim is to help with understanding prior to the video, they may be adapted to fit your classroom's specific needs for use at any time.

GAMES

Time Traveller

- Get students to imagine they have a time machine. Write a date and destination on the board e.g. Ireland 1900. Ask students what they expect to see and what activities they can do.
- Change the date and time on the board and play again.

What did you do this weekend?

- Tell students that you had a really interesting weekend. Students need to ask you questions to find out what you did. When they guess, invite a student to do the same role as you.
- Repeat as many times as you wish. You could also adjust the difficulty by limiting the amount of questions that students can ask before the answer is revealed.



Have you seen this?

- Get students to give you an imaginary place e.g. Ireland and write a list on the board of all the things you could see.
- Choose a certain word and encourage students to ask yes/no questions to find out what word you are looking at.
 - Teacher: Look at this!
 - Student: Is it a festival?
 - Teacher: Yes, it is.
 - Student: Is it indoors?
 - Teacher: No, it isn't.
 - Student: Is it the St.Patrick's Parade?
 - Teacher: Yes, it is.
- Take it in turns amongst the students.

Riddle me rhyme

- Divide the class into teams and choose one word from the vocabulary set to write on the board.
- Give the teams 20 seconds to write down as many words as they can think of that rhyme with that word.
- Continue with the rest of the words.
- Get students to add up how many words they have and give them one point for each correct answer.
- The team with the most points is the winner.

For better or worse

- Choose two nouns from the vocabulary set and write them on the board.
- Get students to give you an argument for why one is better/worse than the other.
- Repeat with other pairs of nouns.



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Improve your knowledge of British culture by doing these activities after watching the **Culture Byte** video

POST-TALK SPEAKING ACTIVITY

Plan a trip around Ireland!

Notes for the teacher

The objective of this task is that the students, in groups, plan a two day trip to Ireland. This activity is designed for students to communicate with each other and to agree on a way to convey their itinerary to the rest of the class; therefore, it should be done using English as much as possible. Students can use a dictionary or the internet if necessary and some of the information learned in the Oxford Cultural Talk.

Steps:

1. Divide the class in groups of 4 or 5.
2. Students have to plan a two day trip, thinking about where they are going to stay, how they are going to travel around, what sights they are going to visit... In the worksheet, they have different examples of things they might want to visit. (15-20 minutes)
3. Once they have planned the trip, students present their plan to the rest of the class.

If you prefer, you can set a budget for the trip, so that the students plan the things that they want to visit according to the money they have.

You can either use the worksheets as hand-outs, project them or upload them.



Worksheet

1. Welcome to Ireland! You have 20 minutes to plan a trip with your friends! Think about the following things, and, if you need to, search on the internet for information about Ireland:

- a. What do you want to see?
 - Museums (Guinness Storehouse, Old Bushmills Distillery...)
 - Sports (Gaelic football...)
 - Green rolling hills
 - Castles
 - St. Patrick's Day
- b. What would you like to eat?
 - Oyster
 - Colcannon
 - Irish stew
- c. How are you going to move around?
 - Public transport
 - Bike
 - Taxi
- d. Where are you going to stay?
 - Hostel
 - Hotel
 - Apartment

2. Create an itinerary for your trip including the information you found in step 1.

3. Now present your itinerary to the rest of your class in a short presentation! You could find some pictures online for your presentation... Be creative! Who has the best itinerary?



Teachers Notes

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These are some notes containing ideas of how to present or accompany the Ireland Cultural Byte video.

Activities for before the students watch the video

Students can be sent the pdf files containing the **pre-talk activities** BEFORE they are given access to the video. These activities include individual questions as well as group work and will help the students familiarise themselves with the topic in the video and the relevant vocabulary.

Additional multimedia that can be used by the teacher to give an online class or sent as links to the students for them to use in their projects or research around the subject.

Teachers who want to help their students engage with this topic can direct their students to these multimedia resources online, which will add colour and variety to the Cultural Byte Ireland video. You could also send them to your students to encourage them to investigate the culture in Ireland in more depth.

An introduction to Ireland: <https://youtu.be/JqkdB6nQJqI>

How to do an Irish accent video: <https://youtu.be/W2PHch4IPPO>

St. Patricks Day: <https://youtu.be/py3cvo1vqSE>

Old Bushmills Distillery: <https://youtu.be/qTeje9zaee8>



Guinness Storehouse: <https://youtu.be/WkrsEyLqQQ8>

Galway Oyster and Seafood Fair: https://youtu.be/scUxTW_Ag2U

Gaelic Football: <https://youtu.be/EjvUld0shh8>

Camogie: <https://youtu.be/70ePVvm1tU4>

Traditional Irish Music: <https://youtu.be/G0fYlnslxyQ>

Seamus Ennis – God of Uilleann Pipes: <https://youtu.be/aF3fW4Nox9U>

Riverdance: <https://youtu.be/FoHlrQScWl0>

Songs by Irish singers: There are possibilities of doing a gap fill with the lyrics of one of these songs.

Only time **Enya:** https://youtu.be/7wfYIMyS_dl

Hillbilly Girl **Lisa McHugh:** <https://youtu.be/XYIQL0np5ml>

Zombie **The Cranberries:** <https://youtu.be/6Ejga4kJUts>

Fairytale in New York **The Pogues:** <https://youtu.be/j9jbdgZidu8>

With or without you **U2:** <https://youtu.be/ujNeHlo7oTE>

Activities to be completed AFTER students watch the video

These are individual and group **post talk activities** which can be sent to the students in pdf format and which require them to reproduce information they have received in the video as well as extending and deepening their knowledge of the topic through projects