

Social change and the family

2014

(b) **Social change** has had a major impact on **family life** in Ireland today.

Discuss this statement in relation to:

- changing attitudes to marriage
- changes in traditional roles within the family
- the impact of modern communications technology. (30)

2011

(b) In Ireland, the last 30 years have seen dramatic social and economic changes.

- Discuss the impact of **social change on family life**. (20)
- Assess the effects of **decreasing employment opportunities** in Ireland today. (10)

2006

(b) 'Almost 60% of the Irish population now live in urban areas'.

- Discuss how changes in **settlement patterns** from rural to urban areas have impacted on **family life**. (18)
- Comment on the efforts being made by the Government to reverse this trend and **halt population decline** in rural areas. (12)

Education

2015

- Evaluate three **supports** that are available to improve the **accessibility of second level** education for all students
 - Explain, giving examples, how **education** prepares students for participation in employment.

2014

(a) The drive to promote lifelong learning, and create a learning society, is at the heart of education policy developments within the European Union.

- Describe the **provision** of education in Ireland today with regard to **adult and second chance education**. (20)
- Analyse the **considerations** that adults may take into account when deciding to **return to education**. (20)
- Name and give details of one contemporary **initiative** aimed at improving **equality of opportunity in education**. (10)

2013

(c) In relation to primary schools there has been much discussion about the inherited pattern of denominational school patronage and the rights of citizens in a more culturally and religiously diverse contemporary Irish society. (The Forum on Patronage and Pluralism in the Primary Sector, Report of the Forum's Advisory group 2012) Discuss **primary level education** in Ireland. Refer to:

- choice / types of primary school
- curriculum offered
- educational supports / resources
- provision for pupils with special needs (30)

2011

(a) 'Less than 15 percent of Leaving Certificate students in some poorer areas of Dublin are progressing to third level while most schools in south Dublin have a progression rate of 100 percent.' (The Irish Times, 16th November 2010)

- Analyse the principle factors that influence **educational achievement**. (24)
- Discuss four factors that contribute to the increasing demand for **adult and second chance education** in Ireland. (16)

(iii) Name and give details of one **contemporary initiative** that has improved **access for students to third level** education. (10)

2010

(c) 'Secondary education in Ireland aims to build on the foundation of primary education to provide a comprehensive, high quality learning environment to enable all students to live full lives and to realise their potential as individuals and citizens.' (www.educationireland.ie)

(i) Outline the **purpose of education** as a preparation for work. (10)

(ii) Discuss **equality of opportunity in education** with reference to each of the following:

- gender equity
- early school leavers (20)

2009

(b) A rapidly changing society makes new demands on the State to deliver a school that reflects the diversity of the community it serves.

(i) In relation to the above statement, analyse how the supports provided in **schools** accommodate the educational requirements of pupils with **special needs** and pupils from different **ethnic backgrounds**. (18)

(ii) Outline the **contribution of education** to the **socialisation** of young children. (12)

2008

(a) 'It would appear that an increasing number of parents in Ireland are now recognising the importance of early childhood education, with many looking to enrol their children in pre-schools and Montessori facilities.' (Press release, 2007)

(i) Discuss the **purpose of education** in relation to the physical, emotional, moral and intellectual development of the child. (24)

(ii) Comment on how **socio-economic status** impacts on **equality of opportunity** in education. (15)

(iii) Name and give an account of one national **initiative that improves access to education**. (11)

2006

(c) (i) Name and describe two **contemporary initiatives** which aim to improve the **accessibility of education**

(ii) Outline the measures taken to **alleviate gender inequity** in education. (12)

2005

(c) Education provision should accommodate students with different needs.

(i) Give an account of the supports provided in second-level schools for students with **special education needs**. (18)

(ii) Outline the benefits of **pre-school education**. (12)

2004

(a) In a post-industrial society increasing emphasis is placed on the ability to continuously acquire knowledge, skills and competencies in an environment of constant change. (Report of the Taskforce on Lifelong Learning, 2002).

(i) Discuss the factors that affect **educational achievement**. (12)

(ii) Name and give details of **two initiatives** that have improved access to **second chance education**. (14)

(iii) Analyse the possible reasons why many people return to education having concluded their initial education and / or training. (24)

Work

2015

(a) While the improvement in the Irish economy is creating more opportunities for people to find work, there remains significant challenges in terms of youth and long-term unemployment. (The Irish Times, November 2014)

- (i) Discuss how changes in the availability of **work** have affected individuals and families in Ireland. (20)
- (ii) Discuss, giving examples, how flexibility in working hours has impacted on **work/life balance** for many people. (20)
- (iii) Name and give details of one **statutory initiative aimed at creating employment**. (10)

2014

(c) Volunteering is the commitment of time and energy for the benefit of society and local communities.

- (i) Discuss, giving examples, the **role of voluntary work** in the community. (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the **benefits** to be gained from voluntary work by the volunteer. (12)

2013

(a) In an age of austerity, high unemployment and street protests that focus on the harsh economic realities of the present day, there's a sense that the world of secure employment and jobs with good benefits are a thing of the past.

- (i) Differentiate between paid **work** and unpaid work. (10)
- (ii) Discuss the impact of **social, economic and technological change** on patterns of work and work availability in Ireland. (25)
- (iii) Identify and elaborate on the factors that affect an **individual's attitude to work**. (15)

2012

(c) (i) Discuss the principle **factors** that can affect a families **requirements for childcare**. (12)

- (ii) Name and evaluate two **types of childcare** options that are available to parents. (18)

2011

(c) In 2007, two out of every three women were active in the Irish labour market. (A Woman's Place: Female Participation in the Irish Labour Market. ESRI, 2009)

- (i) Analyse the factors that have contributed to the **increased participation rate of women** in the Irish labour market. (20)
- (ii) Give two examples of how legislation protects the **rights of people in employment**. (10)

2010

(b) 'Having a work environment that is dynamic encourages people to share their views and be innovative.' (Irish Independent March 2009)

- (i) Assess how **intrinsic** and **extrinsic factors** affect attitudes to **work**. (10)
- (ii) Identify and discuss some of the changes in **patterns of work** and **work availability** in Ireland today. (20)

2008

(c) Requirements for **childcare** vary depending on family circumstances.

- (i) Summarise the factors that can affect a **family's requirements** for childcare. (12)
- (ii) Evaluate two **types of child care** options. (18)

2007

(a) The 1990s has seen significant changes in the **employment opportunities** available in Ireland.

- (i) Discuss how **patterns of work** and work availability have been affected by:

- developing **technology**
 - the decline in primary and secondary industries and the growth in service **industries**
 - increased **educational** requirements. (30)
- (ii) Explain how improved **working conditions** have allowed **women** to **participate more fully** in the workforce. (12)
- (iii) Write an informative note on the **Protection of Young Persons (Employment) Act (1996)**. (8)

2005

(a) **Volunteering is the commitment of time and energy for the benefit of society and the local community. It can empower people to fulfil their potential while contributing to social and environmental change.**

(Volunteering Ireland 2004)

- (i) Differentiate between (a) **voluntary work** and (b) **unpaid work**. (10)
- (ii) With reference to the above statement, discuss:
- (a) how voluntary work **empowers a person** to fulfil his/her potential
 - (b) how voluntary work contributes to **social and environmental change** in the local community. (24)
- (iii) Identify and explain the factors that affect **attitudes to work**. (16)

(b) Employment is expected to grow by 23,0000 while unemployment will average 5%. (Budget 2004)

- (i) Name and give details of one state initiative that encourages foreign investment thus creating **employment**. (10)
- (ii) Discuss the **impact of developing technology** on work and employment. (20)

2004

(b) "40% of parents with young children use childcare regularly" (CSO 2003).

- (i) (a) Name two **types of childcare** available in your locality.
- (b) Outline the **key considerations** a parent should take into account when **evaluating a childcare option**. (14)
- (ii) Discuss the **factors** that have contributed to the increased participation of **women in the workforce**. (16)

Unemployment

2012

(a) The high level of joblessness and the continuing threat of unemployment are among the biggest issues adversely affecting the Irish economy. Figures released by the Central Statistics Office show that the standardised jobless rate increased to 14.4% in October 2011. Among those signing on were 93,013 Jobseeker's Benefit claimants and 301,333 Jobseeker's Allowance claimants. (Seasonally adjusted standardised unemployment rates. Central Statistics Office)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Unemployment rates in Ireland	4.4%	4.5%	6.4%	11.8%	13.7%	14.2%

- (i) Having regard to the information provided above, discuss **unemployment** in Ireland. (20)
- (ii) Analyse how each of the following has impacted on current rates of unemployment:
- geographical location
 - the global economy
 - the level of demand for products and services (20)
- (iii) Name and give details of one **statutory response to creating employment**. (10)

2009

(a) 'Ireland is now facing the most severe economic downturn and unemployment crisis since the 1980's.'
(Irish Independent 8th March 2008)

- (i) Define **unemployment** and comment on the extent of unemployment in Ireland today. (14)
- (ii) Analyse the causes of unemployment. (24)
- (iii) Name and give details of one **statutory initiative aimed at creating employment**. (12)

2007

- (b) (i) Identify two **groups of people** who have difficulty in securing employment (18) and discuss reasons for **high unemployment** among each group named.
- (ii) Outline the **effects of unemployment on society**. (12)

Poverty

2013

- (b) (i) Discuss the extent and distribution of **poverty** in Ireland today. (20)
- (ii) Name and set out details of one **statutory response to eliminating poverty** in Ireland. (10)

2010

- (a) **The Irish economy has come to the end of a prolonged period of growth, this will increase the number of households vulnerable to poverty.**
- (i) Discuss the influence of each of the following as a contributory factor to **poverty** in Ireland today:
- the economic recession
 - social policy
 - the cycle of deprivation in families and geographical areas (30)
- (ii) Outline how the **state** has responded to **eliminating poverty**. (10)
- (iii) Write an informative note on one national **voluntary organisation** which works with individuals / families experiencing poverty. (10)

2008

- (b) **'Despite almost a decade of economic boom, Ireland still has a large proportion of people at risk of poverty.'** (CSO)
- (i) In relation to the above statement discuss the extent and distribution of **poverty** in Ireland today. In your answer include reference to the **cycle of deprivation** in families. (20)
- (ii) Name and give details of two **government schemes** that **reduce expenditure** for low-income families. (10)

2006

- (a) **While Ireland has become increasingly wealthy in recent years, it still has one of the highest levels of income inequality in the EU.**
- (i) Define each of the following: (10)
- (a) **Relative Poverty**
 - (b) **Absolute Poverty**
- (ii) Discuss the reasons why poverty continues to be a feature of modern society. In your answer include reference to the **cycle of poverty** and the influence of social policy on poverty. (24)
- (iii) Give an account of two **statutory initiatives** aimed specifically at **eliminating poverty** in Ireland. (16)
- (b) **'Almost 60% of the Irish population now live in urban areas'**.
- (i) Discuss how changes in **settlement patterns** from rural to urban areas have impacted on **family life**. (18)
- (ii) Comment on the efforts being made by the Government to reverse this trend and **halt population decline** in rural areas. (12)

Leisure

2015

(c) Although an individual's leisure can often be affected by numerous external factors such as age, race, income and gender, there is no denying the benefits of incorporating a small amount of leisure into a person's routine.

- (i) Discuss, giving examples, the **role of leisure activities** in personal development. Refer to the following factors:
- physical
 - social
 - emotional (18)
- (ii) Name and evaluate two leisure facilities popular with **retired people**. (12)

2012

(b) Using your leisure time wisely will have long term benefits.

- (i) Define leisure and discuss its **value** in today's society. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the **factors** that can influence a person's **choice** of leisure activities. (12)

2009

- (c) (i) Describe how (a) age and (b) gender impact on a person's choice of leisure activities.** (12)
- (ii) Name and evaluate two **leisure facilities available in your community**. Refer to:
- cost and value for money
 - the range of facilities offered. (18)

2007

- (c) (i) Discuss the function and value of leisure in today's society.** (15)
- (ii) Outline how **social and cultural influences** impact on a person's choice of leisure activities. (15)

2004

(c) Changing work patterns have led to increased leisure time.

- (i) State the factors that influence family **leisure patterns**. (12)
- (ii) (a) Name two **leisure activities available in your community** for teenagers.
- (b) Analyse how each activity named contributes to the **physical, social and emotional** well-being of teenagers. (18)