



Gaeilge Íofa ↔ Fluent Irish

céim ar chéim step by step



TEG: The European Certificate in Irish

Approximately 3,000 adult learners of Irish have gained certification in Irish via Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge (TEG) since its inception in 2006. TEG is a system of proficiency exams which clearly illustrates to learners what their language level is and allows them to progress accordingly. Examinations test the four language skills: speaking, writing, reading and listening.

Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge

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Syllabus/Exam		
A1	Bonnleibhéal 1	Absolute Beginners
A2	Bonnleibhéal 2	Beginners 2
B1	Meánleibhéal 1	Lower Intermediate
B2	Meánleibhéal 2	Upper Intermediate
C1	Ardleibhéal 1	Advanced 1
C2	Ardleibhéal 2	Advanced 2

Syllabuses, sample exam papers and teaching materials for levels A1, A2, B1, B2 and C1 are available on the website www.teg.ie.

New! Take the oral exam at any level for partial certification.

TEG in primary school teaching

TEG B2 provides an excellent basis for both professional and personal Irish use and is recognised by the Department of Education and Skills as an alternative to the Leaving Certificate Irish entry requirement for primary teacher training courses in all of the colleges of education.

If you are interested in applying for a teacher training course but don't have the Leaving Certificate Irish results necessary for your application, find out how TEG can prepare you for your career by visiting our website at www.teg.ie or by contacting us at teanga@nuim.ie. Preparatory courses are starting around the country now and exams will be held in centres at home and abroad in Spring/Summer 2014.

If you are already teaching and want to develop your language skills in a structured and visible way as well as boosting your CV, TEG provides a qualification that demonstrates real language skills.

Learn more at www.teg.ie or call us on (01) 708 3737.



LANGUAGE CENTRE

Ionad na dTeangacha



NUI MAYNOOTH

Ollscoil na hÉireann Mí Nuad

New! Updated teaching materials for A1 are now available

“...the designers set about creating relevant and engaging teaching materials which suit the needs of the many types of learners...”

As a support for teachers preparing students for TEG exams, NUI Maynooth Language Centre provides a broad range of sample teaching materials. Fresh for the 2013 – 2014 academic year, in association with University of Limerick’s *Aonad na Gaeilge*, we have updated TEG A1 teaching materials with engaging new content covering speaking, listening, reading and writing. The updated material includes language activities arranged by level of difficulty, self-assessment tools for learners and free classroom aids for teachers (including *MS Powerpoint™* presentations), all providing realistic contexts for language learning.

“After consulting with teachers and learners at this level, the designers set about creating relevant and engaging teaching materials which suit the needs of the many types of learners at this level, both Irish and foreign nationals. We are extremely grateful to Aonad na Gaeilge at the University of Limerick for funding this project. We hope that both teachers and learners will enjoy and reap the benefits of these new resources and we will be looking forward to feedback from all the parties involved.”

NUI Maynooth offers preparatory Irish classes for beginners and all other levels each academic year, with courses beginning in [other venues](#) around the country now.

TEG in the workplace

With an increasing emphasis on bilingual provision in public services, a number of public sector bodies have been awarded TEG qualifications. Several local authorities, voluntary organisations and government bodies are using TEG to promote high quality services through Irish to the public.

“We are more driven than ever to promote the Irish language within the ranks...”

Employers can learn more at www.teg.ie

Eimear Ní Cheallaigh, Irish language trainer in the Garda Training College, describes the benefits of TEG:

“It has always been the objective of An Garda Síochána to promote the use of Irish. We are more driven than ever to promote the Irish language within the ranks through our in-service programmes in Galway, Kerry and Donegal. TEG gives both teacher and learners a clear objective and is a recognized and independent learning and examination system. Materials are easily accessed online and are clearly structured.”



Members of An Garda Síochána who were awarded TEG certification in 2013

Irish language qualifications step by step with TEG

- TEG qualifications provide a pathway into rewarding careers in education and the public service
- Learners find that choosing to pursue a qualification is an important motivator
- TEG qualifications are recognised by employers worldwide as part of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and are approved by the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE)
- Learn via a graduated system at a pace that suits you
- Course content has been specifically developed for adults
- The TEG syllabus develops all four key language skills: speaking, aural comprehension, reading and writing
- TEG provides comprehensive and free resources for teachers and learners
- TEG is accessible worldwide with test centres in Ireland, USA, Czech Republic, France and Canada
- TEG has been awarded the European Language Label in recognition of quality and innovation in language teaching, learning and testing

TEG in pre-school education

Forbairt Naíonraí Teoranta (FNT) is the foremost provider of Irish language education and care services for pre-school age children, supporting the establishment, development and administration of crèches, *naíonraí*, after school services, summer camps and parent/guardian and toddler groups through Irish.

Along with the intensive training provided by FNT to service providers, its total immersion policy requires that *naíonraí* directors countrywide attain TEG B2 certification in spoken Irish in order to ensure the highest industry standards.

Laura Rawdon, FNT Development Officer, has overseen the implementation of the programme which is set to be widely rolled out in the coming years:

“ Total Irish language immersion is practised in our *naíonraí* (Irish language pre-schools) meaning that Irish is the sole language of communication. *Naíonraí* workers therefore must be confident and comfortable in their own everyday language skills. This is a great opportunity for the directors of *naíonraí* to gain a formal language qualification in their provision of high-quality services to parents and children in their locality. ”

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2013 FNT *naíonra* directors receive their TEG B2 certificates

Important dates for TEG 2013/14

Registration opens 1 December 2013

Registration deadline for TEG C1 9 January 2014

TEG C1 examination 24 – 25 January 2014

Registration deadline for schools 21 February 2014

Registration deadline for TEG A1 – B2 14 March 2014

TEG B2 exam 5 April 2014

TEG B1 exam 10 May 2014

TEG A2 exam 24 May 2014

TEG A1 exam 7 June 2014

TEG exam centres

Belfast · Castlebar · Cork · Gaoth
Dobhair · Kilkenny · Killarney · Ottawa ·
Letterkenny · Limerick · Maynooth · New
York · Paris · Prague · Spiddal

If you have 15 or more learners at any level, and are interested in setting up an exam centre, please call (01) 708 3737.

Our learners

Whether you are learning Irish in order to boost your CV, for an intellectual challenge, for cultural reasons or simply *grá don teanga*, join a growing group of Irish speakers at all levels who are stepping ahead with TEG.

Sheila Scott, a language professor at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute in Ottawa, sat a TEG exam for the first time last year:

“ As a learner of Irish in Canada, I find that opportunities to speak with fluent speakers can be very limited and it is always difficult to gauge my level of progress in speaking. The TEG oral exam provides you with a structured set of activities that are realistic and fun. It also provides you with critical feedback. I was over the moon with my result. I am now very motivated to continue working on my Irish language skills so that I am ready to do the next level next summer! ”

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Beginners to advanced (A1 – C2) start at www.teg.ie.

New! Prepare for the TEG C1 examination with an intensive course at NUI Maynooth

NUI Maynooth Language Centre is pleased to announce the first intensive preparatory C1 level TEG course in the country, due to growing demand. This challenging course will enable learners to conduct advanced communication through Irish in their personal and professional lives.

Ailish Bhreathnach, a native Irish speaker from Connemara, is an NUIM Language Centre TEG C1 tutor:

“This course is ideal for people who wish to master the intricacies of the Irish language, especially those who already work in the Irish language sector or who wish to attain an advanced level of language competence. TEG C1 focuses on enabling autonomous learning, improving grammatical accuracy through the introduction of more complicated grammatical rules in context, and improving range of linguistic expression to communicate complex concepts articulately and effectively.”

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Exam candidates at this advanced level who receive partial certificate can obtain full certification without resitting the oral exam if the written examination is passed within two years. Please contact the Language Centre directly or email teanga@nuim.ie for further information. The TEG C1 exam will be held on the 24 – 25 January 2014.

Register for TEG C1 by 9 January 2014 on www.teg.ie. Partial certification available.

TEG for second-level students

TEG examinations are taken each year by senior cycle second-level students in schools around the country, gaining experience of sitting a formal written paper and a level-appropriate oral exam based on a structured, communication-oriented programme of study before the Leaving Certificate. Second-level students can opt for either full certification (written/aural/oral exam) or partial certification (oral examination only).

“Because 40% of the marks in the Leaving Cert exam are now devoted to the oral exam, it’s a wonderful opportunity for the students to focus on this aspect of the language.”

Our website www.teg.ie provides syllabuses for each level A1 – C1, sample examinations and comprehensive teaching materials, giving both students and teachers a definite learning goal. Examinations are held in April and May each year in TEG centres around the country or, alternatively, in candidates’ schools subject to sufficient uptake.

Joanne Ní Choileáin, an Irish language teacher in Coláiste Ósagáin in Dublin, has been using TEG with her Transition Year students for four years:

“We began doing the exams in order to provide the students with a definite goal at the end of the year and also because there is a separate oral exam as part of the assessment. Because 40% of the marks in the Leaving Cert exam are now devoted to the oral exam, it’s a wonderful opportunity for the students to focus on this aspect of the language. As well as this, the other language skills are developed: reading comprehension, writing and listening comprehension.

TEG is internationally recognised and this adds to the status of the qualification for the students and their parents. It helps teachers to develop a formal structure for the year’s work and to encourage students to be active participants in their own learning. We strongly recommend TEG as an innovative, challenging and beneficial programme.



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Teachers, contact (01) 708 3737 for further information.