Irish Writers

1. Tell your group about a famous writer from your country.
2. Do you have an annual writers’ festival in your country?
3. Do you enjoy writing stories?
4. What type of stories do you prefer to write? Choose two and explain why....

- Crime
- Detective
- Comedy
- Tragedy
- Horror
- Drama
- Mystery
- Thriller
- Tragicomedy
- Romance
- Fantasy
- Adventure
- Black comedy
Oscar Wilde - Student A

Oscar Wilde (1854 – 1900) was born in Dublin. He was famous for his humorous wit, wisdom and lifestyle. While Wilde is best known for his plays, some of his most famous works include his comic plays – Lady Windermere’s Fan and The Importance of Being Ernest, his novel The Picture of Dorian Gray and his fairy tale The Happy Prince.

Many of Wilde’s literary works have been made into movies. His quotations are famous throughout the world and people use them today without even realizing they are quoting Oscar Wilde. He suffered a dramatic downfall and was imprisoned after being convicted for homosexual acts in 1895.

James Joyce - Student B

James Joyce was born on 2 February 1882. In June 1904, he met Nora Barnacle, the Galway woman who soon became his partner and later his wife. In 1904, they left Ireland for Croatia. In 1922, Joyce wrote his most ________ novel, Ulysses.

The ________ story is written around one Spring day in Dublin city. The main character, Leopold Bloom, wanders around the city, ________ his life and ________ the tastes, smells and sounds in ________ detail. Now, every year, people around the world celebrate ‘Bloomsday’ on 16th June and ________ Bloom’s walk through the city wearing historical costumes and ________ ________ plays, reproducing parts of the famous novel.
Oscar Wilde - Student B

Oscar Wilde (1854 – 1900) was born in Dublin. He was famous for his ________ wit, wisdom and ________. While Wilde is best known for his plays, some of his most famous works include his comic plays – Lady Windermere’s Fan and The Importance of Being Ernest, his novel The Picture of Dorian Gray and his fairy tale The Happy Prince.

Many of Wilde’s ________ works have been made into movies. His ________ are famous throughout the world and people use them today with even realizing they are quoting Oscar Wilde. He ________ a dramatic ________ and was imprisoned after being ________ for homosexual acts in 1895.

James Joyce - Student A

James Joyce was born on 2 February 1882. In June 1904, he met Nora Barnacle, the Galway woman who soon became his partner and later his wife. In 1904, they left Ireland for Croatia. In 1922, Joyce wrote his most well-known novel, Ulysses. The entire story is written around one Spring day in Dublin city.

The main character, Leopold Bloom, wanders around the city, contemplating his life and absorbing the tastes, smells and sounds in fascinating detail.

Now, every year, people around the world celebrate ‘Bloomsday’ on 16th June and recreate Bloom’s walk through the city wearing historical costumes and taking part in plays, reproducing parts of the famous novel.
**Teachers Notes:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level:</th>
<th>B1 – Intermediate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic:</td>
<td>Irish Writers – James Joyce and Oscar Wilde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Author:</td>
<td>Aoife McLoughlin</td>
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<td>Lesson Aim:</td>
<td>Introduce and familiarize students with James Joyce and Oscar Wilde through an information gap task. Develop spoken interaction: 1) In Pre-task as students discuss opening questions 2) In Post-task as students interact with all students during class mill task</td>
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<td>CEFR Student Learning Outcomes:</td>
<td><strong>Reading:</strong> I can understand the main points in straightforward factual texts on subjects of personal interest well enough to talk about them afterwards. <strong>Spoken Interaction:</strong> I can give or seek personal opinions in an informal discussion with friends, agreeing and disagreeing politely. <strong>Spoken Production:</strong> I can relate the main content of short texts I have read. <strong>Quality of Language:</strong> I know enough vocabulary to talk about my hobbies and interests.</td>
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<td>Lexical Aim:</td>
<td><strong>lexical items:</strong> humorous, lifestyle, literary, quotations, suffered, downfall, convicted, well-known, entire, contemplating, absorbing, fascinating, re-create, taking part in.</td>
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<td>Interaction Patterns:</td>
<td>Group work Pair work Class mill</td>
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<td>Preparation:</td>
<td>Photocopy materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task Time:</td>
<td>90 minutes</td>
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Lead-In Task:

*On the whiteboard, do one of the following:*

1) Write the titles of three novels/plays/poems by a famous writer and instruct students in pairs to work out who the author/poet/scriptwriter is.

2) Show an image of a writer and ask students to discuss who it might be and to think of one of their famous works.

Speaking Task:

In groups, students read and answer the questions together. Question 5 asks students to choose two of the genres and explain to their group. Before students start this activity, ask them to first work together to ensure all students in the group understand all of the genres – encourage students to explain the lexical items to each other.

Reading and Listening Task:

Give each student a letter (A or B) - place an A student and a B student together and hand out the *Oscar Wilde and James Joyce worksheets.*

First, student A reads the text on Oscar Wilde while student B listens. Second, student A again reads the same text but this time, student B completes their information gap text while listening. (Encourage students not to worry about spelling for the moment). Once student B has completed their text, they change roles. Now, student B reads his/her text for student A.

After both students have completed this task, focus their attention on the vocabulary which is bolded in the text and encourage them to deduce the meaning of the lexical items from context, discussing the meaning of each word. Get feedback on vocabulary, nominating students from each pair to give you an item of vocabulary with its meaning.

*Ensure students now get a chance to use some of this new language in a speaking activity.*

*Write the following on the board:* Name, age, nationality, I’m famous for...., I have written..

Ask students to imagine they are famous writers and have been invited to an event to meet other writers from different countries. In pairs students create new characters for themselves, before asking students to stand and role play the event.

Don’t forget to tell students they must use three of the new words they’ve learned today.