



Rewarding Learning

# IRISH STUDENT STUDY CARD #10

## READING – STEPS TO SUCCESS

### Introduction

The reading element [Section B] of the AS Unit 2 consists of one written passage and you answer in Irish [followed by a translation from Irish into English].

The reading element [Section B] of the A2 Unit 2 examination consists of:

- Question 1: a gap filling exercise in Irish;
- Question 2: one passage with a set of question in Irish to be answered in Irish;
- Question 3: a passage in Irish to be summarised in English using approximately 100 words; and
- Question 4: a passage in English to be translated into Irish.

The examination lasts 2 hours.

### Assessment

At AS and A2 level, Reading comprehension is assessed according to the A02 criterion.





## Assessment Objective/s

You will be assessed according to the following criterion:

- A02: understand and respond to written language drawn from a variety of sources.

Look at the mark scheme to familiarise yourself with the requirements of the criterion and guidance on how to achieve the top bands.

You should be able to should be able to:

- understand, infer meaning and draw conclusions from a variety of spoken sources covering different contexts, registers, styles and genres.

## Skills

Here are some suggestions to help you prepare for this skills area.

- At AS read the passage carefully for overall gist.
- Now look at the questions, remembering that they are in order according to the passage.
- If there are any questions whose answers you are sure of straight away, get them out of the way. This will make your task will less daunting and you may also be able to locate potential answers more accurately in the text.
- At AS, you should spend time initially on the reading question. Remember that it will take you several minutes to read the passage. It is possible that you will have time at the end to review some answers, but you cannot be sure.
- You will be writing your answers on your paper. Some candidates like to do the elements of the paper which they feel are the most challenging first. Remember, it is up to you what order you choose but you must be extremely mindful of the time you allocate to each.
- Some people are more confident doing the questions they feel they are best at first, so that they feel they have control of the time left over for the more challenging questions. Be careful, however, not to rush through ANY element of the exam - a point for translation has exactly the same value as a point for reading.
- You should know in advance which strategy suits you best, if at all. You can find out by doing practice papers.
- Make sure you read the question **very** carefully.



- You must take careful heed of which question form is used, and of common verbal commands such as **luaigh, ainmnigh, mínigh (i do chuid focal féin)** etc. which direct you to the answer. Also note the number of marks available.
- You are assessed at A02, which means that you must spell accurately, but you are not marked for manipulation of language. You should use as much of the language in the passage as you can but do not copy anything from the passage inaccurately.
- At A2, for advice on the gap-filling exercise see **Student Study Card 14**.
- You will have to deduce and infer more than at AS level.
- Taking the sample papers as a guide, “**ní shílím go mbeidh an glacadh céanna leis na spéaclaí seo**” is the element of the passage which directs the candidate to the answer to the question “**Cad chuige ,de réir an ailt, nach mbeidh ráchairt ar na spéaclaí seo?**” (Question 2 (h)). There is much work for the candidate to do to recognise that the answer has been cued up in this way.
- Match the marks available to the number of points you make, especially where **rud amháin** or **dhá rud** are specified.
- Remember that you can locate the answer you need by answering the questions on either side of it (because the answers required follow the order of the passage).
- Remember to read all the questions before you answer, because it will help you to isolate the information pertinent to each question. You are always directed to the correct information by the question - make sure you use every piece of direction that you are given.