



Leabharlann
Náisiúnta
na hÉireann

National Library
of Ireland

LITERATURE CENSORSHIP IN IRELAND

Teacher's Guide

This resource uses items from the National Library collection to explore the history of censorship in Ireland from 1929 in various forms of literature such as magazines, newspapers and books.



Junior Cycle History

Curriculum Links

SOL 9: Understand origins and impact of social, economic and environmental aspects of the world	
SOL 18: Observe and evaluate empirical events and processes and draws valid conclusions and deductions	Explore the discipline of history, including working with evidence and making historical judgements based on an interrogation of evidence

Learning Outcomes

Developing historical consciousness	1.2 consider contentious/controversial issues in history from more than one perspective and discuss the historical roots of a contentious or controversial issue or theme in the contemporary world
	1.4 demonstrate awareness of historical concepts (source and evidence; fact and opinion; viewpoint and objectivity; cause and consequence; change and continuity; time and space)
Working with evidence	1.5 investigate the job of the historian, including how s/he finds and uses evidence to form historical judgements which may be revised and reinterpreted in the light of new evidence
	1.8 investigate a repository of historical evidence (museum, library, heritage centre, digital or other archive or exhibition)

Leaving Cert History

Learning Outcomes

Working with Evidence	Varieties and repositories of historical evidence Nature of historical evidence and changing dynamics
Documents Based Study	Varieties of historical evidence How to interrogate

Topics

Late Modern Ireland - Topic 3: The pursuit of sovereignty and the impact of partition, 1912-1949	State and Culture
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Junior Cycle English

Learning Outcomes

Communicating	Use a wide range of reading comprehension strategies appropriate to texts, including digital texts: to retrieve information; to link to previous knowledge, follow a process or argument, summarise, link main ideas; to monitor their own understanding; to question, analyse, synthesise and evaluate
Exploring Language	Respond imaginatively in writing to their texts showing a critical appreciation of language, style and content, choice of words, language patterns, tone, images

Relevant Books

Animal Farm, George Orwell
The Catcher and the Rye, J.D. Salinger
The Country Girls Trilogy, Edna O'Brien

Leaving Cert English

Curriculum Aims

3.3 An awareness of the value of literature in its diverse forms for enriching their perceptions, for enhancing their sense of cultural identity, and for creating experiences of aesthetic pleasure	
3.4.1 Concepts and Processes	the ability to think, reason, discriminate and evaluate in a wide variety of linguistic contexts, personal, social, vocational and cultural

Helpful Links and Articles

- “Irish Censorship in Context,” Peter Martin. In *Studies: An Irish Quarterly Review* – [Article Link](#)
- How to Teach Black Out Poetry – [Beginner's Guide](#)
- Censorship of Publications Act, 1929 – [Irish Statute Book](#)

Answer Guide: Matching Activity

1. “Brave New World,” Aldous Huxley
2. “The Catcher in the Rye,” J.D. Salinger
3. “The Well of Loneliness,” Radclyffe Hall
4. “Animal Farm,” George Orwell
5. “The Country Girls Trilogy,” Edna O’Brien
6. “The House of Gold,” Liam O’Flaherty



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