



Movements for Political and Social Reform

History Past Exam Questions

Ordinary Level

2013

Section 1 – Question 2

Ireland; Topic 2
Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This is an edited extract from a letter (dated 13/9/1913) in which Capt. V.M. Vallance, a cavalry officer, comments on the situation in Dublin during the strike and lockout. Study it and answer the questions that follow.

The strikes here do not seem to be coming to a head, though the magistrates say that the trouble will not begin until next week, when the strike pay runs out and they begin to feel the pinch, and loot shops.

The methods of the DMP (Dublin Metropolitan Police) have been criticised as overly severe, but, on the other hand, they prevented looting and the military being called out.

In this place the danger is not from the strikers but from the thousands of looting roughs. There is no other city on earth, I believe, where there is less industry. Guinness's brewery and the Tramway Company are the only employment in the town.

1. According to the magistrates, when would trouble begin?
2. What trouble was expected?
3. What defence of the DMP is offered?
4. How does the writer account for Dublin's high rate of unemployment?
5. What part did William Martin Murphy play in the 1913 strike and lockout?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. The GAA between 1884 and 1891.
2. The Gaelic League.
3. The Belfast shipyards.
4. The first Sinn Féin party.

(40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What part did Charles Stewart Parnell play in both the land and Home Rule movements?
2. How did Isabella Tod and/or Hanna Sheehy-Skeffington seek improvements for women?
3. Why did Edward Carson oppose Home Rule for Ireland and how did he campaign against it?
4. What did W.B. Yeats contribute to Irish affairs?

2012

Section 2 – Question 2

Ireland: Topic 2

Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

In this edited extract the journalist Frank Harris sketches the scene in the House of Commons, London, 8 April, 1886, when the First Home Rule Bill was introduced. Read it and answer the questions that follow.

The House was so crowded that members sat about on the steps and even on the arms of benches and on each other's knees. Every diplomat in London seemed to be present.

Bishops, in their black, sat next to Indian princes by the dozen who, blazing with diamonds, lent a rich Oriental flavour to the scene.

1. What Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on 8 April, 1886?
2. How does the writer show that the House was crowded?
3. What colour did the bishops wear?
4. Were there many Indian princes present? Give a reason for your answer.
5. What evidence does the extract offer that other countries might have been interested in the proceedings?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Isabella Tod.
2. The Co-operative Movement.
3. The Belfast shipyards.
4. W.B. Yeats.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What did Michael Davitt contribute to land agitation and land reform?
2. What problems did the GAA encounter between 1884 and 1891?
3. How did James Connolly and/or James Larkin seek improvements for workers?
4. What part did Edward Carson play in defending unionism in Ireland?

2011

Section 2-Question 2

Ireland: Topic 2
Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This edited extract discusses the first GAA All-Ireland hurling final. Read it and answer the questions which follow.

Five teams contested the first All-Ireland hurling championship of 1887 – Galway, Wexford, Clare, Tipperary and Kilkenny. After a long delay, the final took place at Birr on Easter Sunday, 1 April 1888. The teams lined out twenty one a side. The hurlers played in their stocking feet. Birr was chosen for the venue because it was both central and neutral for both Meelick and Thurles, the champion hurling teams from Galway and Tipperary respectively.

The final score read: Tipperary one goal and one point, Galway nil. Tommy Healy from Two-Mile-Borris scored the goal – the first goal ever in an All-Ireland championship – and wrote himself into the record books.

1. Where and when did the first All-Ireland hurling final take place?
2. What was unusual about the dress of the players on that day?
3. What hurling teams represented Galway and Tipperary respectively?
4. What record did Tommy Healy establish on that day?
5. What did Michael Cusack contribute to the GAA?

Source: Brendan Fulham, *Hurling Giants*, Wolfhound Press, Dublin, 1994.

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Michael Davitt.
2. The Gaelic League.
3. Educational reforms: schools and universities.
4. John Redmond.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What was the importance of the 1885 and the 1886 elections?
2. How did Isabella Tod and/or Hanna Sheehy-Skeffington seek improvements for women?
3. What did W.B. Yeats contribute to the cultural revival?
4. What were the causes of the Dublin 1913 strike and lockout and how did it come to an end?

2009

Section 2 – Question 2

Ireland: Topic 2

Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914

A (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This edited extract from the *Freeman's Journal* is an account of the All-Ireland hurling final between Meelick (Co. Galway) and Thurles (Co. Tipperary) which took place on Easter Sunday, 1888. Study it and answer the questions which follow.

From the time the Thurles and Meelick men met, their relations were characterised by the utmost good feeling and good humour, and the defeat of the latter did not in the least change that.

After a short delay, the members of both teams dressed themselves in the Gaelic costume. They were then marshalled by Captain Lynam, Meelick, who, in military fashion, ordered them into line, the Tipperary men in front and the Galway men behind. He then gave "right about", and they were formed two deep, every Tipp man standing shoulder to shoulder with a Galway man.

In this order they marched through the town of Birr to the field. Arrived there, they found several thousand people awaiting them.

1. What event is described and where did it take place?
2. Which team won?
3. Was the event well attended? Explain your answer.
4. What, briefly, did Captain Lynam do?
5. How did Archbishop Croke of Cashel contribute to the GAA?

B (30 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. Michael Davitt.
2. James Connolly.
3. Edward Carson.
4. The first Sinn Féin party.

C (40 marks)

Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. What part did Charles Stewart Parnell play in the Home Rule movement?
2. How did Isabella Tod and/or Hanna Sheehy-Skeffington seek improvements for women?
3. Was the Dublin strike and lockout of 1913 a success or a failure? Argue your case.
4. What did Douglas Hyde and/or W.B. Yeats contribute to cultural life in Ireland?

2008

Section 2-Question 2

Ireland: Topic 2
Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914

A (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

This chart shows the results of the 1886 general election, which you have studied as part of your Case Study. Study it and answer the questions which follow.

The Results of the 1886 General Election

Home Rulers	85 seats
Irish Unionists	19 seats
Conservatives	299 seats
Liberals	191 seats
Liberal Unionists	76 seats

1. Did all Irish voters vote for Home Rule? Give a reason for your answer.
2. Which political party won the highest number of seats?
3. Which British party, the Conservatives or the Liberals, were the Irish Unionists more likely to support? Give a reason for your answer.
4. Which British party supported the cause of Home Rule?
5. Following the defeat of the First Home Rule Bill in 1886, why was the Second Home Rule Bill not introduced until 1892?

B (30 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 10 minutes

Write a short paragraph on **one** of the following:

1. The Gaelic League.
2. The Co-operative Movement.
3. The Belfast Shipyards.
4. The Irish Volunteers.

C (40 marks)
Recommended maximum time: 15 minutes

Answer **one** of the following:

1. How important was Michael Davitt in the history of land agitation and land reform?
2. Why did Charles Stewart Parnell and/or John Redmond fail to achieve Home Rule for Ireland?
3. How successful was the GAA in promoting Gaelic games and Irish nationalism between 1884 and 1891?
4. What part did James Larkin play in the strike and lock-out in Dublin in 1913?

