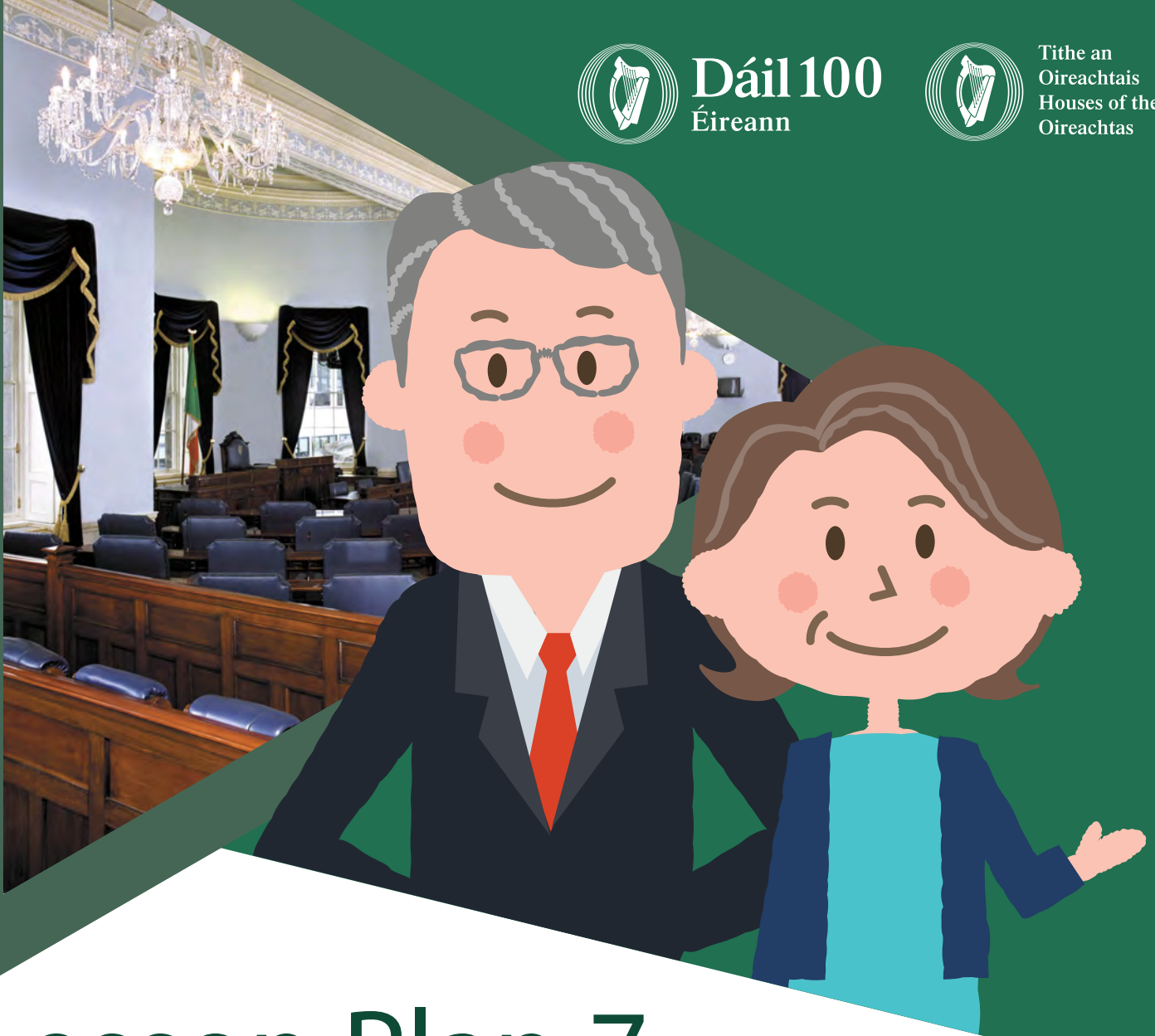




Dáil 100
Éireann

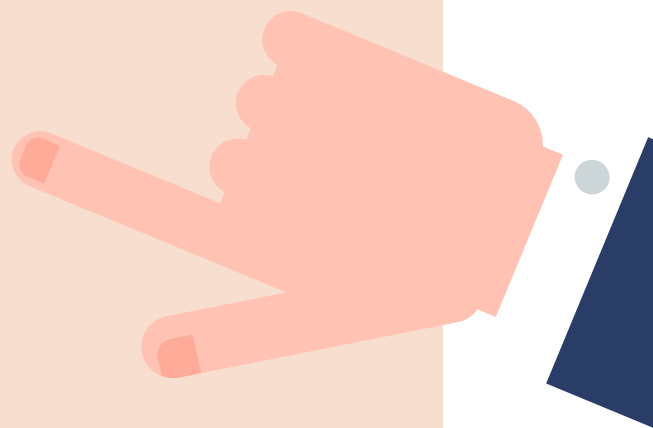


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Oireachtas



Lesson Plan 7: Dáil 100 Legacy

Junior Cert/Cycle CSPE, History:
Democracy (CSPE) Developing
historical consciousness, working with
evidence, acquiring the 'big picture'
(History Strand 1) Recognising key
change, exploring people, culture and
ideas, applying historical thinking
(History Strand 2)



Lesson Plan 7: Dáil 100 Legacy

Learning Intentions

At the end of this lesson students will

1. Appreciate the legacy of the First Dáil
2. Begin to think critically and creatively about the importance of an effective parliamentary democracy

Key Skills

Communicating, Working With Others, Managing Information and Thinking.

Resources

<https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/lifein1916irelandstoriesfromstatistics/acenturyofchange1916-2016infographic/>

<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-1916/1916irl/people/population/#d.en.94294>

<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-1916/1916irl/people/emigration/>

<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-1916/1916irl/society/education/>

Learning Intentions:

At the end of this lesson students will

1. Appreciate the legacy of the first Dáil
2. Begin to think critically and creatively about the importance of an effective parliamentary democracy

This lesson is designed to ensure that students appreciate the legacy of the first Dáil as we celebrate its 100th anniversary and could extend over two classes. Ask students what they think the first members would think of the Ireland of 2019. Would they be happy to see an effective parliament or would they make any changes?

Introduction

Begin by asking the class what they think the importance of the first Dáil was. Why did the first members want to have their own parliament? What did they hope to achieve? What risks were they taking? Would you have done it? Collate the answers and see if particular themes or trends are emerging.

Development

Divide the students into groups of 4 (3 writers and one reporter) They are now going to write the speeches that a member of the first Dáil would give if they had the ability to see what Ireland is like nearly 100 years into the future. The headings they will be writing the speech under are

- A. A Parliament for the people: Why do you think it is important that citizens in general and young people in particular are involved in parliament? Why do you think it's important given the changes in population overall, where most of the population is and what this means for young people engaging with parliament (Use Resource 2)
- B. Parliament for a new Ireland: Focus in particular on the emigration and immigration aspects here. What will your speech say about your plans for Irish people who have left and people from other countries who now call Ireland home? How will you cater for them? (Resource 3)
- C. An educated young population: Here focus on the charts showing the numbers of students sitting the different state examinations (2.17-2.19) What do you think that means for the future of democracy in Ireland (Resource 4)

Conclusion

Have the students write their speeches onto large sheets/cardboard which can be displayed around the classroom. Ask each reporter to sum up their speech. Then using [Dotmocracy](#) ask students to vote on the speech which they think best reflects the ideals and values of the first members of the Irish Parliament.