

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 4: Proceedings

## **Learning Intentions**

At the end of this lesson students will

- 1. Understand the procedures and roles of different people on the first meeting,
- 2. Be able to describe the importance of the documents and people involved on the first day.

## **Key Skills**

Communicating, Working With Others, Managing Information and Thinking.

#### **Resources:**

https://www.dail100.ie/en/debates/1919-01-21

https://www.rte.ie/archives/exhibitions/920-first-dail-eireann-1919/289502-the-first-dail-seannunan-dail-clerk/

https://www.rte.ie/archives/exhibitions/920-first-dail-eireann-1919/289523-an-chead-dail-1919/

#### Introduction

To help introduce students to the upcoming activity recap the lesson On the day and in particular focus on the people who are needed to ensure the smooth running of the meeting: what are their roles and how do they carry them out.

### Development

Look at the agenda for the day. The first step was to appoint the Ceann Comhairle. Remember the role of the Ceann Comhairle from the lesson Imagining the First Dáil. Who was elected? Why do you think this was the first step? Listen to the speaker on the clip "Fé Ghlas ag Gallaibh". What was the Clerks' function and how many were there? Did he get much notice of his new job? What was his role on the day? Go back to the agenda and click into the roll (item 3) See if there was anyone from your area present, absent,

deported or in prison in England (i láthair, as láthair, ar díbirt and fé ghlas ag Gallaibh)

There were three documents read on the day. What were they? We are going to focus on the Democratic Programme. Listen to the clip "First Democratic Programme". Name the three people who were responsible for writing this document. What was this document about? What party wrote the text for the Democratic Programme? What part did they play in the 1918 general election and why did they do so? According to the speaker was it ahead or behind other democracies in terms of what it was looking for?

#### Conclusion

As a concluding activity get the students to imagine that they are a reporter from an overseas newspaper who has been sent to cover the first meeting. Ask them to write the report they would send back. Include the following in your answer: who was there and what did they do, what actually happened, what was the mood like in Dublin.

