

The Gaelic Revival

Answer these questions to see how much you have learnt about the Gaelic revival.

1. When did the Great Irish Famine occur?

2. What effects did the Famine have on the population of Ireland?

3. Why did people learn English instead of Irish?

4. What was the Gaelic revival?

5. Name the three people who played an important role in the Gaelic revival.

6. What changes did these people want to see in Ireland?

7. Who was Michael Cusack and what was his contribution to the Gaelic revival?

8. What is Croke Park and when did it become connected to the Gaelic Athletics Association?

9. What was the Gaelic League and who established it?

10. Why was the Abbey Theatre so important during the Gaelic revival?

The Gaelic Revival - Answers

1. When did the Great Irish Famine occur?
The Great Irish Famine occurred between 1845 and 1850.
2. What effects did the Famine have on the population of Ireland?
The Great Irish Famine caused a huge decrease in the population of Ireland because many people died or emigrated.
3. Why did people learn English instead of Irish?
During this time, children were not taught the Irish language or Irish history. Children were taught only in English. In addition, many people decided it would be better to speak English rather than Irish so they would be able to find work in England, Australia and America.
4. What was the Gaelic revival?
Some people decided that something had to be done in order to protect the traditions and customs of Ireland.
5. Name the three people who played an important role in the Gaelic revival.
Michael Cusack, Maurice Davin and Dr Douglas Hyde played an important role in the Gaelic revival.
6. What changes did these people want to see in Ireland?
They wanted the Irish language, music, dance, stories, writing and games to be revived.
7. Who was Michael Cusack and what was his contribution to the Gaelic revival?
Michael Cusack loved the traditions and customs in Ireland. He decided to set up an organisation that would encourage people to become involved with Irish sports. While working as a teacher in Dublin, he was shocked to see how many children were not interested in Irish games. Together with Maurice Davin, he founded an organisation called 'The Gaelic Athletic Association' (the GAA).
8. What is Croke Park and when did it become connected to the Gaelic Athletics Association?
In 1913, the GAA bought a plot in Dublin, which would become Croke Park, where hurling and football matches and finals would be played.
9. What was the Gaelic League and who established it?
The Gaelic League was founded in 1893 to promote the Irish language. Dr Douglas Hyde, Eoin MacNeill and five other men met in Dublin to discuss how the Irish language could be preserved and encouraged.
10. Why was the Abbey Theatre so important during the Gaelic revival?
The Abbey Theatre in Dublin was a performance theatre, where people could come to watch Irish plays.