

# Train Journeys

## Introduction



The worksheets in this chapter are based on the following areas:

- trains in Ireland,
- timetables,
- the 12 and 24-hour clocks,
- making telephone calls,
- speaking timetables and
- learning spellings.

For help with the worksheets, you can:

- call the NALA Freephone support line at 1800 20 20 65 on Monday to Friday between 10am and 4pm, or
- check out the Really Useful Guide to Words and Numbers Web site on [www.rug.ie](http://www.rug.ie)

# Reading: trains in Ireland

## Trains in Ireland

Córas Iompair Éireann, or CIÉ, was set up in 1945, and now runs most rail and bus services in Ireland.

Iarnród Éireann was started on 1 February 1987, as a separate company within CIÉ. The words 'Iarnród Éireann' are Irish and translate into English as 'iron road', but this is taken as the Irish for 'railway'.

Iarnród Éireann runs intercity trains between major urban areas such as Dublin and Galway. These trains are diesel trains. New carriages and engines for these trains were bought in 2006.

It also operates suburban and commuter railway services. These are smaller diesel trains, but there is also an electrical system in operation along the coast in Dublin. The Dublin Area Rapid Transit, or DART for short, runs from Howth in the north of Dublin to Bray in the south of Dublin.

Dublin's newest train system, the LUAS, runs on two lines. But this electrical tram system is not run by Iarnród Éireann. It is operated by a private company, Veolia Transport Ireland. The Green Line runs from Sandyford to Stephen's Green and the Red Line runs from Tallaght to Connolly station.

TIP: Passengers who travel daily on a train, bus or car are known as 'commuters'.

# Reading: trains in Ireland

Put a tick ✓ beside each statement to indicate if you think it's true or false. The first one has been done for you.

- |  | True                                | False                    |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Iarnród Éireann is part of CIE.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The LUAS is run by Iarnród Éireann.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. DART stands for 'Dublin Area Reliable Transport'.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The LUAS Red Line runs from Sandyford to Stephen's Green and the Red Line runs from Tallaght to Connolly station. | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Most Intercity trains are electrical.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The DART runs from Howth to Bray.   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |



# Reading: timetables

Dublin-Cork-Direct Services – Monday - Saturday								
		MON TO SAT	FRI & SAT ONLY	MON TO SAT	MON TO SAT	FRI ONLY	MON TO SAT	MON TO SAT
<b>DUBLIN</b>	<b>Dep</b>	9:00	10:40	11:00	13:00	16:00	18:30	21:00
<b>Heuston</b>								
<b>Kildare</b>	<b>Dep</b>	9:28						21:28
<b>Portlaoise</b>	<b>Dep</b>	9:29			13:50	16:56		21:53
<b>Thurles</b>	<b>Dep</b>	10:21		12:21	14:19		19:48	
<b>Mallow</b>	<b>Dep</b>	11:27	12:46	13:16	15:16	18:33	20:44	23:16
<b>CORK</b>	<b>Arr</b>	11:55	13:15	13:45	15:50	19:01		23:50

Train timetables can look very complicated, but with a little practice, you'll soon get the hang of them. Because timetables contain a lot of information and are often quite small, some words are always abbreviated. This means they are shortened. Here is a list of common abbreviations from timetables:

<b>Word</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>
Monday	Mon
Tuesday	Tues
Wednesday	Wed
Thursday	Thurs
Friday	Fri
Saturday	Sat
Sunday	Sun
Departs	Dep
Arrives	Arr

# Reading: timetables

To find information on a timetable, you need to look across and down the table. For example, let's say you want to go from Dublin Heuston to Cork and you want to leave at around 9 am. You first find Dublin Heuston and then look across until you see 9:00. Now, if you look down below this number to Cork, you'll see the time 11:55. This means that the train leaving Dublin at 9 am gets to Cork for 11:55.

**Look at the timetable again, and see if you can answer the following questions. The first one is done for you.**

1. A Cork train leaves Dublin at 10:40 am on Mondays. What time does it arrive in Cork? 13:15
2. Does the 11:00 Cork train stop at Kildare? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Is there a 10:40 train to Mallow on Tuesday? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the latest train you can get from Dublin Heuston to Cork from Monday to Saturday? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What time does this train arrive in Cork? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What time does the 09:29 train from Portlaoise arrive in Mallow?  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Reading: time

There are 24 hours in one full day. Times can be given in either 12-hour or 24-hour times.

## 12-hour Clock

When using the 12 hour clock, it's important to know whether the time is in the morning, in the afternoon, in the evening or at night. 9 o'clock for example could be 9 o'clock in the morning or 9 o'clock at night. To show the difference, we use the abbreviation 'am' for anytime before midnight noon and 'pm' for anytime between noon and midnight.

TIP: **am** is an abbreviation for the Latin phrase 'Ante Meridiem', which literally means 'before noon'. **pm** is an abbreviation for the Latin phrase 'Post Meridiem', which means 'after noon'.

**Look at the clocks below and write in the time beside them using am or pm. The first one is done for you.**

1. Nine o'clock in the morning      9 am
2. Eleven o'clock at night      \_\_\_\_\_
3. One o'clock in the morning      \_\_\_\_\_
4. Four o'clock in the afternoon      \_\_\_\_\_
5. Two o'clock in the night      \_\_\_\_\_

# Reading: the 24-hour clock

There are 24 hours in a day. The 24-hour clock uses the numbers from 1 to 24 for each hour. The table below shows the times of the day in 12 and 24-hour formats.

<b>12-hour clock</b>	<b>24-hour clock</b>
12 am (midnight)	00:00
1 am	01:00
2 am	02:00
3 am	03:00
4 am	04:00
5 am	05:00
6 am	06:00
7 am	07:00
8 am	08:00
9 am	09:00
10 am	10:00
11 am	11:00
12 pm (noon)	12:00
1 pm	13:00
2 pm	14:00
3 pm	15:00
4 pm	16:00
5 pm	17:00
6 pm	18:00
7 pm	19:00
8 pm	20:00
9 pm	21:00
10 pm	22:00
11 pm	23:00

# Numeracy: time

Look at the times below and see if you can fill in the missing times.  
The first one is done for you.

TIP: To change a 24 hour time into 12 hour time,  
you need to take away 12.

12 - hour clock	24 - hour clock
1 am	01:00
	09:00
11 pm	
9:30 pm	
	08:15
	14:45
4 pm	
	04:30
12 pm	
	00:00

# Listening: answering machines

Jim lives in Cork and is going to a concert in Dublin. He calls the Iarnród Éireann (Irish Rail) Speaking Timetable on 1890 778899 to find out the train times from Cork to Dublin.

Speaking timetables are automatic – this means that you are listening to an answering machine and not a real person. A voice reads out a list of options. You need to say a word in order to get more information on that subject.

This is what Jim heard when he called.

**Welcome to Iarnród Éireann customer information line.**

**For **timetable inquiries** please say the name of the station you are travelling from, for example Dublin**

**Then say your **destination**. Your destination is the place you are going.**

**Then say on what **day** you wish to travel.**

**Then say at what time you wish to **arrive**.**

**For all other inquiries please say other **inquiry**.**

**You can also say **help** at any time.**

**When you have completed your inquiry just hang up.**

**Should you wish to speak to an **agent**, say agent.**

# Speaking: speaking timetables

You can see from the example that you need to know exactly what you're looking for before making a telephone call to a speaking timetable. You will need to know:

- the station from which you are **departing**,
- your **destination**, and
- the **day** and **time** you wish to **depart** and **arrive**.

Jim is departing from **Mallow** station. His destination is **Dublin** on **Saturday**. He wants to arrive by 18:00.

**Fill in the blanks on the speaking timetable conversation.**

**Speaking Timetable:** Please say the name of the station you are travelling from, for example Dublin.

1. **Jim:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Speaking Timetable:** On what day would you like to travel?

2. **Jim:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Speaking Timetable:** Now tell me your destination.

3. **Jim:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Speaking Timetable:** Now tell me at what time you would like to arrive.

4. **Jim:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Speaking Timetable:** A train departs Mallow at 15:00 and arrives in Dublin at 17:30.

# Spelling: learning new spellings

There are many ways to learn a spelling. In this chapter we came across the word **departure**. Some people find this difficult to spell.

The **look – trace – say – cover – write - check** method is one way to learn a spelling. It is useful because it can help people with different learning styles.

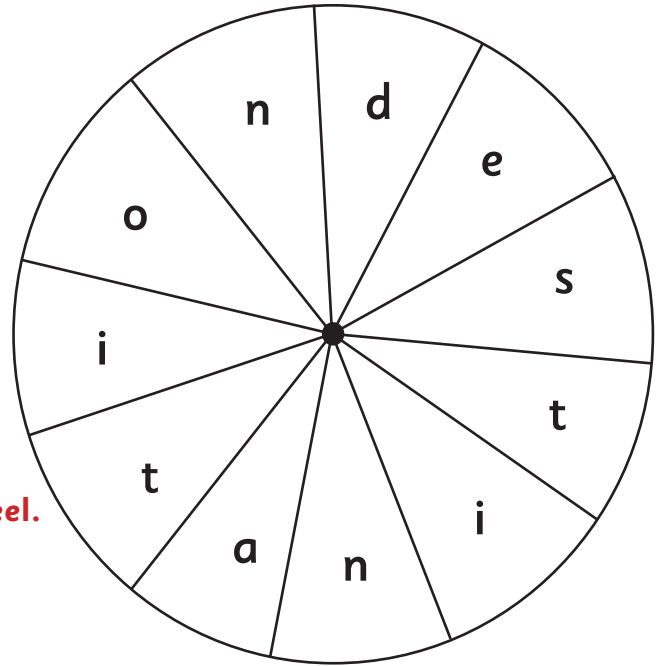
1. First, write down the word 'departure'. Check it to make sure it's correct.
2. Now, **look** at it. Does the word look the way it sounds? Use a highlighter pen for the part of the word that looks as if it might give you trouble to spell. The last four letters in the word 'departure' might give you trouble. These letters are -ture.)
3. **Trace** it with your finger saying the word as you trace.
4. **Say** it to yourself.
5. Next **cover** the word.
6. **Write** the word again.
7. Now look at it and **check** to see if it looks correct. If it does, then check it against the word you covered.

Try this whenever you come across words you think will be difficult to spell. It might take a little time, but by using this method, you'll soon be learning and remembering lots of new words.

# Wordwheels

The word in the wheel is DESTINATION

TIP: The numbers after each clue tell you how many letters are in the answer.



Find these words made up from the letters in the wordwheel. The first one is done for you.

1. A place where birds live. (4) nest
2. Your \_\_\_\_\_ of birth. (4) \_\_\_\_\_
3. A feeling or flavour in your mouth. (5) \_\_\_\_\_
4. A dirty mark on clothes. (5) \_\_\_\_\_
5. A place from where trains leave. (7) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Something you get on you skin on a sun holiday. (3) \_\_\_\_\_