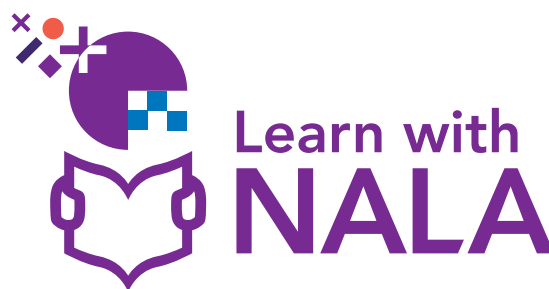


That's Interesting!



A worksheet for adults to practise reading, writing, spelling and numbers

An Garda Siochána is 100 years old

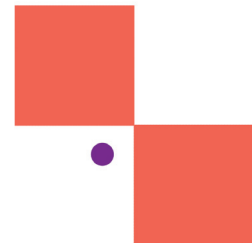


In February 1922 the first Irish police force was set up by the new Irish Free State. At first, they were called the “Civic Guards”, but this was changed to An Garda Siochána a year later. Before this a police force known as the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) was in charge of law and order in Ireland.

Because they worked closely with the British government, members of the RIC were not popular in many parts of Ireland. So, one of the first tasks of the new Irish government was to set up their own police force.

The new members of the force were men only and had to be unmarried and not smaller than five feet nine inches in height. Women were not allowed to join until 1959 and had to be at least five feet five inches in height. The height rule remained up until 2001.

In 1960 the Garda Dog Unit was set up. This involved the special training of dogs and specialist Garda dog handlers. The dogs are trained in the detection of drugs, firearms, bombs and in searching for missing persons. The most common breeds of dog used by the Garda Dog Unit are German Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Labradors and Springer Spaniels.



The Garda Mounted Unit was set up in 1998. This involves the gardai performing their duties on horseback. The horses and their riders are fully trained and the horses are all well used to being around people. The garda riders are high up and this gives them a better view especially when trying to manage large crowds.



The Garda Mounted Support Unit

Image source: D464-Darren Hall, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons

In 2006 the Garda Reserve was set up allowing members of the public to volunteer to assist the gardai at times when extra help is needed. They are not paid for this work but they are given training. The Garda Reserves will work alongside a full-time member of the force when required to help out. All of these reserves live in the community in which they volunteer. At present there are about 600 Garda reserves across the country.

Today there are over 14,000 members in An Garda Síochána. All new recruits today attend training in the Garda Training College in Templemore in Co. Tipperary. The headquarters of An Garda Síochána is in the Phoenix Park in Dublin. The minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform is the minister responsible for the Gardai and the current head of the force is Garda Commissioner Drew Harris.

Irish Women's Soccer Team qualify for World Cup 2023



History was made this month when the Republic of Ireland Women's Soccer Team beat Scotland to qualify for the first time ever for the FIFA Women's World Cup which will be held in New Zealand and Australia next July.

It was a tight game which saw both teams scoreless at half time. In the second half however substitute Amber Barrett found the back of the net to score the winning goal of the game for Ireland. After scoring, Amber who comes from Donegal, fell to her knees and pointed to her black arm band that all the Irish team wore as a mark of respect for the victims of the tragic Creeslough explosion in her home county

It is a huge occasion for all women who are involved in sport in Ireland. Republic of Ireland manager Vera Pauw, praised the hard work, discipline and determination put in by everyone on the panel and said "It's not only the game here, it's for all women in Ireland. If you really want something and you put all your effort in it together as a group, then anything is possible."



Republic of Ireland players and staff celebrate after the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Play-off match between Scotland and Republic of Ireland

Image source: Photo by Stephen McCarthy/
Sportsfile courtesy Independent.ie

Plurals



Plural means more than one of something.

1. For most plurals, you just add s

Examples: 1 dog/ 2 dogs 1 toy/ 2 toys 1 tree/ 2 trees

2. For words ending in s, ss, x, ch, sh, you add es

Examples: bus/buses glass/glasses box/boxes
lunch/lunches brush/brushes

3. For words ending in f or fe, you change the f or fe to ves

Examples: calf/calves knife/knives life/lives

Note: For some words ending in f just add s examples: chef/chefs roof/roofs cliff/cliffs
chief/chiefs

4. For words ending in y

- If there **is a vowel before the y in the word**, just add s
(vowels are a, e, i, o, u)

Examples: toy/toys play/plays key/keys

- If there **is a consonant before the y**, change y to ies.

Examples: pony/ponies lorry/lorries lolly/lollies

5. For words ending in o

- If there is a vowel before the o, just add s

Examples: radio/radios video/videos

- If there is a consonant before the o add es

Examples: tomato/tomatoes hero/heroes echo/echoes

6. Some words do not change at all

Examples: fish, deer, sheep, money, cheese, rice.

7. Some words change completely

Examples: child/children mouse/mice man/men tooth/teeth

Plurals



Write the plural of each of these words:

(The first one is done for you.)

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------|----------|-------|
| • child | <u>children</u> | • toy | _____ |
| • brush | _____ | • boss | _____ |
| • woman | _____ | • mouse | _____ |
| • tax | _____ | • berry | _____ |
| • toy | _____ | • lady | _____ |
| • tooth | _____ | • branch | _____ |
| • army | _____ | • echo | _____ |
| • hero | _____ | • thief | _____ |
| • pony | _____ | • shelf | _____ |
| • cliff | _____ | • roof | _____ |
| • fish | _____ | • sheep | _____ |
| • lorry | _____ | • family | _____ |
| • box | _____ | • dress | _____ |
| • party | _____ | • tomato | _____ |
| • calf | _____ | • cherry | _____ |



A percentage means a part of something and is written as %

A quick way to work out a % is to use a calculator

Example:

There is a sale on in my local electrical shop. There is 20% off everything today only.

I want to buy a new TV. The price of the TV is € 450.

I need to find what is 20% of €450, to see how much

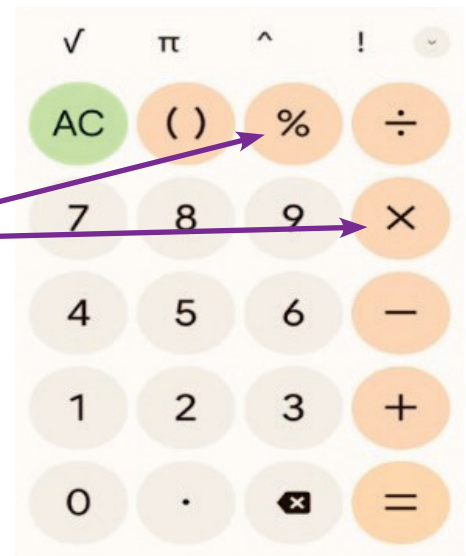
I will save if I buy the TV today.

Using my calculator:

Press **450 x 20**,

then **press the % button**,

my answer is €90.



There is €90 off the price of the TV

The new price will be €360

Try these using your calculator

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. 20% of 1200 = _____ | 6. 5% of 200 = _____ |
| 2. 10% of 50 = _____ | 7. 12% of 500 = _____ |
| 3. 25% of 560 = _____ | 8. 30% of 90 = _____ |
| 4. 15% of 500 = _____ | 9. 13% of 800 = _____ |
| 5. 21% of 1000 = _____ | 10. 50% of 12,000 = _____ |

Answers

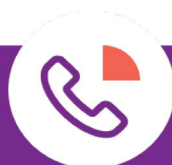
q1, 240 q2, 5 q3, 140 q4, 75 q5, 210
q6, 10 q7, 60 q8, 27 q9, 104 q10, 6000

Notes



Further help is available

If you need help with these worksheets, or with reading, writing, maths or digital skills, you can contact NALA.



Call us on Freephone **1 800 20 20 65**
or text **LEARN** to **50050**

You can study online on our Learn with NALA website www.learnwithnala.ie or with a tutor over the phone or we can give details of your local centre.

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