

# That's Interesting!



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

## President Joe Biden to Visit Ireland



It has been confirmed that the US president, Joe Biden, will pay a five day visit to Ireland in April. It is believed that the president will spend some time in Ballina in County Mayo and Carlingford in County Louth where his ancestors came from. This is his first visit to Ireland since becoming president.



**United States  
President Joe  
Biden**

Image source:  
[whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov)

As part of his visit, President Biden will attend a ceremony in Belfast to mark the 25th anniversary of the Northern Ireland Peace Agreement. This agreement, which is also known as the Good Friday agreement, was signed on Good Friday in 1998.

It was reached after many months of talks between all the political parties in Northern Ireland as well as the Irish and British governments, to end the troubles in the north and set up a shared government which would be run by members of all the parties in the north.

Ahead of the president's visit, a major security operation is already being planned between the Irish army, the Gardai and the American secret service.

# Ireland win the Grand Slam

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It certainly does not get much better for the Irish men's Rugby team than beating England on a score line of 29 – 16, to win the Grand Slam in a packed Aviva Stadium in Dublin on St Patricks Weekend. Although they have won the Grand Slam four times this was their first time winning it on home ground in Dublin.



**Captain Johnny Sexton and the Irish team celebrate**

Image source: REUTERS / Alamy  
Stock Photo

The Grand Slam is won by the team that wins all their matches against the other teams taking part in the Six Nations Cup.

The countries taking part in this are Ireland, England, Wales, Scotland, France and Italy. Ireland, led by captain Johnny Sexton, won all of their games and in doing so win the Grand Slam, the Six Nations Cup and the Triple Crown, which is the prize given for beating England, Wales and Scotland

Ireland's head coach is the former England rugby player, Andy Farrell. It was a strange event for him as his son, Owen Farrell, is the captain of the England team that lost out to Ireland.

Ireland now turn their attention to preparing for the World Cup which takes place in France in September.

# Dermot Morgan remembered

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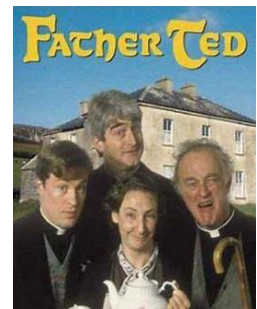


25 years ago, in February 1998, just a day after filming the very last episode of the TV series, Father Ted, the main actor, Dermot Morgan, who played the part of Father Ted Crilly, died suddenly at his home, he was just 45.

Morgan began his acting career on RTÉ but it was his role in Father Ted which he became most famous for. The comedy show followed the everyday lives of three priests and their housekeeper living in a rundown house on an island, known as “Craggy Island“. Although the studio scenes were filmed in England, the outdoor scenes were all filmed in County Clare and on the Aran Islands. The house featured in the series is still a very popular tourist attraction with visitors to County Clare.

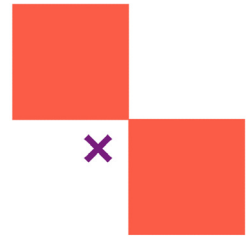
The show is as popular today as it was 25 years ago and the characters, Ted, Dougal, Father Jack and the ever-popular Mrs. Doyle, are as well known today as they were in 1998. It is also hard to believe that there were only 25 episodes made in total.

The actor, Frank Kelly, who played the role of Father Jack, has also since passed away.



**Dermot Morgan  
and the cast of  
Father Ted**

Image source:  
pinterest.com



# Adding “ed” to words that end in y

When we want to use an action word in the past tense we usually add the letters **ed** to the word

Example: I **play** the guitar now. Years ago, I **played** the piano.

## When you want to add “ed” to words ending in y

**Step 1 : Check to see what letter comes before y in the word**

**Step 2 : If the letter before y in the word is a vowel, then just add “ed” with no change**

(vowels are a e i o u, all the other letters are called consonants)

**Example 1** in the word “play”, there **is a vowel** before the y

For words with a vowel before the “y” just add “ed”

play/played enjoy/enjoyed

**Example 2** in the word “cry”, r is the letter before y and it is NOT a vowel .

Here **we take away y** and put in **ied**

cry/cried marry/married reply/replied

Exception Say pay lay These words ending in y are different.

Here **we take away y** and put in **id** instead

Say/said pay/paid lay/laid

## Add ed to the following words (The first one is done for you)

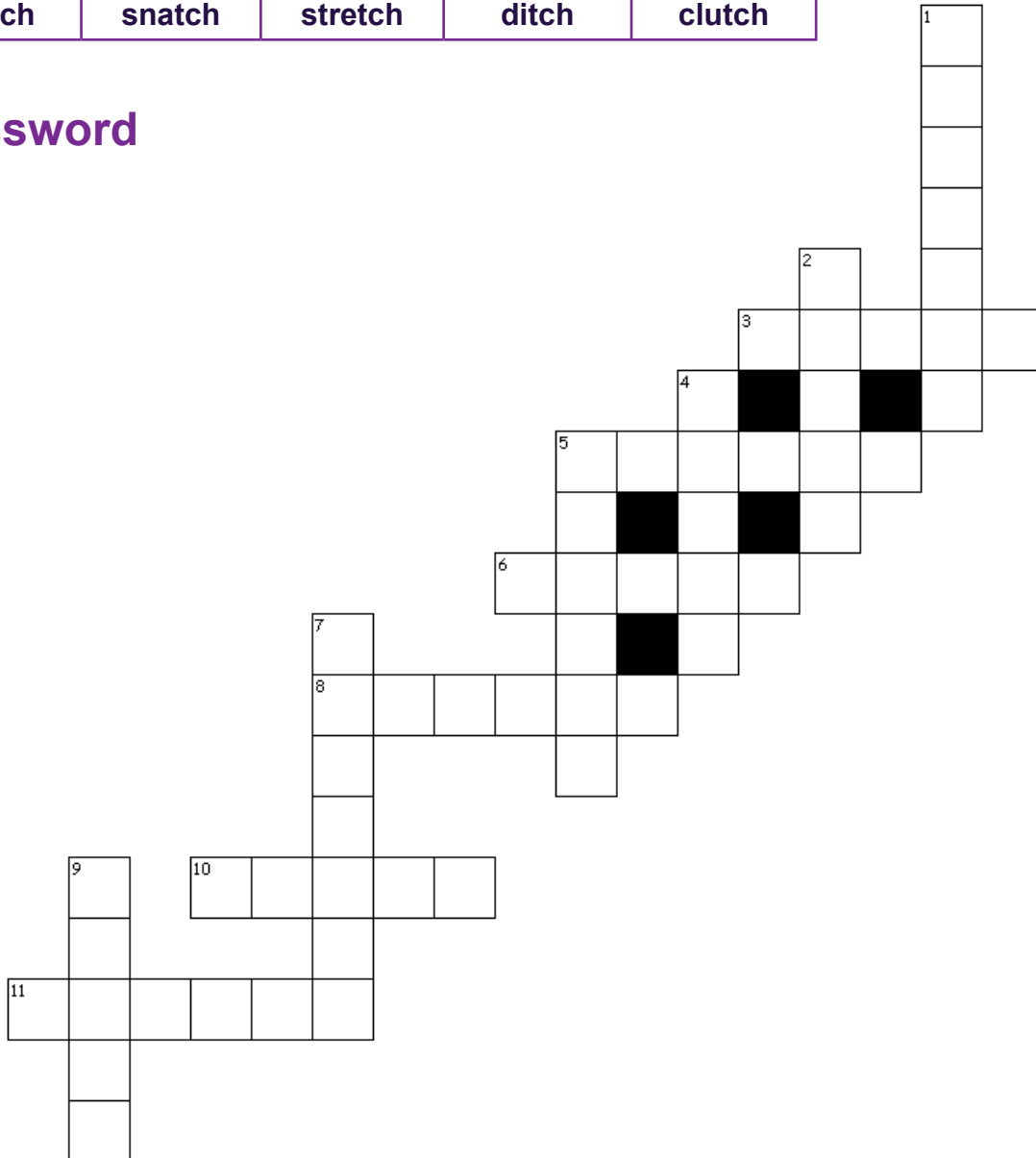
- **(reply)** I reply all my letters. Yesterday I **replied** to the invitation.
- **(stay)** I like to stay in hotels. Last year I \_\_\_\_\_ in an apartment.
- **(rely)** We rely on each other. When I was young, I \_\_\_\_\_ on my mother.
- **(tidy)** I always tidy my room. Last week I \_\_\_\_\_ the bathroom.
- **(employ)** I employ a lot of people. Last year I only \_\_\_\_\_ ten people.
- **(delay)** Please do not delay in paying that. Last week our plane was \_\_\_\_\_.
- **(hurry)** I do not like to hurry. Yesterday I \_\_\_\_\_ to the shop before it closed.
- **(marry)** They plan to marry soon. Last week my two friends got \_\_\_\_\_.
- **(dry)** I like to dry my washing outdoors. I \_\_\_\_\_ my hands with a towel.
- **(pay)** I like to pay my bills every month. Last week I \_\_\_\_\_ my phone bill.

# Words ending in tch



catch	patch	scratch	itch	stitch
hatch	watch	fetch	bitch	switch
match	snatch	stretch	ditch	clutch

## Crossword



### Clues

#### Across

- 3. When the egg does this, a chick will appear (5)
- 5. The thief tried to \_\_\_\_\_ my handbag. (6)
- 6. This is at the side of every road (5)
- 8. Helps to change gears in the car (6)
- 10. A female dog (5)
- 11. You sew this with a needle and thread (6)

#### Down

- 1. You might do this after getting out of bed in the morning (7)
- 2. This tells you the time (5)
- 4. If I throw the ball will you \_\_\_\_\_ it? (5)
- 5. Use this to turn on the light (6)
- 7. You need to do this if you have an itch (4)
- 9. A game played between two teams (5)



<p><b>Q 1.</b></p> <p>If I save €25 every week, how much will I have saved</p> <p>a. After 1 year? _____</p> <p>b. After 3 years? _____</p>	<p><b>Q 2.</b></p> <p>a. How many minutes in 5 hours? _____</p> <p>b. How many minutes in 2 ½ hours? _____</p> <p>c. How many minutes in ¼ of an hour? _____</p>
<p><b>Q 3.</b></p> <p>If a car travels 100 km in 1 hour, how far should it travel in</p> <p>a. 2 hours? _____</p> <p>b. 15 minutes? _____</p> <p>c. 30 minutes? _____</p> <p>d.. 45 minutes? _____</p>	<p><b>Q 4.</b></p> <p>Paul is 3 times older than Ann. Ann is half Jean's age. Jean is half Tom's age In 10 years time, Tom will be 90.</p> <p>What is the current age of :</p> <p>a Paul ? _____</p> <p>b. Ann ? _____</p> <p>c. Jean ? _____</p> <p>d. Tom ? _____</p>
<p><b>Q 5.</b> A restaurant has 18 tables.</p> <p>4 of the tables can seat 8 people, 6 of the tables can seat 6 people and all the other tables can only seat 2 people each.</p> <p>a. When the restaurant is full, how many people are seated? _____</p> <p>b. If each person seated spends €20, how much money will they make when the restaurant is full? _____</p>	

# Notes



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## Answers to the Maths questions on page 6

Q1 a, €1300, b, €3900, Q2 a, 300mins b, 150 mins, c, 15 mins  
Q3 a 200km, b 25km, c, 50km, d 75km  
Q4 a 60, b 20, c, 40, d 80  
Q5 a 84, b €1680

## 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](http://www.learnwithnala.ie) or with a tutor over the phone or we can give details of your local centre.

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