

That's Interesting!



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



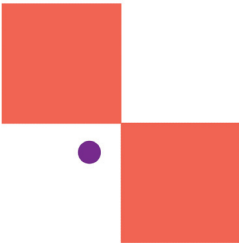
This month we are celebrating 10 years of our monthly worksheet!

We thought it would be a nice idea to look back at some of the major events that happened over the last 10 years.

In May 2015, Ireland became the first country to officially and legally recognise same sex marriage. This followed the Marriage Equality referendum in which the majority of people voted to change the Irish constitution which before this only recognised marriage between a man and a woman.



In October 2018, the Irish people once again voted in a referendum to change the constitution and following a majority vote, abortion services became available in Ireland. Before this, abortion in Ireland was only allowed in certain circumstances.



In April 2021, jockey Rachael Blackmore from Tipperary made sporting history by becoming the first female jockey to win the English Grand National on her horse Minella Times at Aintree in England. The Aintree Grand National is said to be one of the most difficult races in the world.



Rachael Blackmore
Associated Press /
Alamy Stock Photo

The following year she made history again when she became the first woman to win the Cheltenham Gold Cup.



Katie Taylor:
The Sportsman.com

Boxer Katie Taylor turned professional in 2016 . She made history when she became the first woman boxer to fight in a sell out match in Madison Square Garden in New York in 2022.

She remained unbeaten until earlier this year when she suffered her first defeat. Katie will fight later this year again in Dublin at a sell-out event.

Dublin boxer Kellie Harrington won gold in the 2021 Olympic games.

Dublin senior Footballers made history in 2019 when they became the first team ever to win five All Ireland titles in a row. It was also a golden era for Limerick senior hurlers as they won five All Ireland titles between 2018 and 2023. The Irish Women's Soccer team qualified for the first time ever for the World Cup which was held in Australia earlier this year.

In America there was a shock result in the 2017 Presidential election when Donald Trump beat Hilary Clinton to become American President. In 2019 Mr Trump paid a visit to Ireland where he stayed in his luxury hotel and golf course which he owns in County Clare.



President Joe Biden

whitehouse.gov

Donald Trump

[Wikipedia](#)

[Commons](#)

In the 2021 election, Mr Trump was defeated by Joe Biden. However, Trump and his supporters still do not accept that he won the election.

In 2023, current President Joe Biden paid a visit to Ireland. Mr Biden's ancestors came from Mayo and Louth. Large crowds turned out to greet him.

In August 2018, Pope Francis came to Ireland. During his visit Pope Francis visited Knock Shrine in Co Mayo. He apologised to people who had been victims of abuse at the hands of the church and met with some of them privately. This was only the second time a pope has come to Ireland, the other visit was by Pope John Paul in 1979.



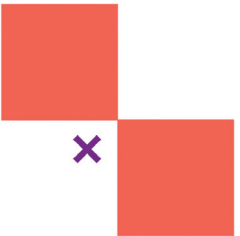
Dolores O Riordan

Eva Rinaldi

CC BY-SA 2.0

In 2018, the country was shocked to learn of the sudden death of Dolores O Riordan, lead singer with the band the Cranberries. Limerick born Dolores was famous for her haunting voice. Her songs were known all over the world.

Today her legacy still lives on as her songs can be heard sung by sports supporters at matches. Recently the Irish Rugby supporters attending the world Cup matches could be heard singing her song, Zombie, while supporters of the Limerick hurling team sing her song, Dreams, around Croke Park following their wins.



Singer Sinead O Connor, also died suddenly in 2023, One of Ireland's finest singers since the 1990's she performed all over the world and had many hit songs.

The well-known and popular broadcaster, Gay Byrne passed away in 2019 at the age of 85.



Gay Byrne
RollingNews.ie / Alamy
Stock Photo

He will be remembered as the longest ever host of the Late Late Show which he presented for 37 years and for his morning radio show.



Vicky Phelan
RollingNews.ie / Alamy
Stock Photo

In 2014, Vicky Phelan, after being told she had cervical cancer, found out that three years earlier she had been told that she was cancer free following a mis diagnosis.

It was then discovered that several other women had also been given wrong results in their smear tests which led to a delay in receiving lifesaving treatment.

From then until her death in 2022, Vicky, while fighting her own illness, fought tirelessly for the rights of women's health and for compensation for those women affected.

Vicky also worked closely with us here in NALA on behalf of adult literacy when she worked with Waterford Institute of Technology (now South East Technological University).



In 2021, Russia invaded their neighbours Ukraine in what has been said to be the worst invasion since World War 2. As the war continues, it is believed that more than 6 million people in Ukraine have been forced to leave their country. Here in Ireland we have welcomed more than 80,000 people from Ukraine.

Changes to our climate continues to cause changes to our weather. The last five years have been the warmest on record. As a result, we have had heatwaves and very high temperatures across the world in summer as well as flooding and storms in winter.

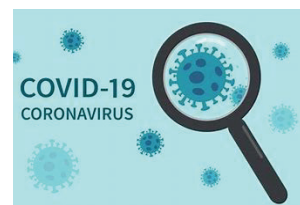


Here in Ireland we have had some severe storms. 2013 and 2014 saw a year in which we had the most storms here in Ireland. It was also around this time that the Met Office began giving a colour warning on weather alerts.

In the past 10 years we have had quite a few storms which had a red warning including Storm Desmond in 2015, Storm Ophelia in 2017 and “The Beast from the East” in 2018 which saw the country under a blanket of snow for most of a week.

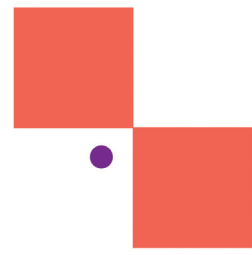
Without doubt the biggest crisis the world faced in the past 10 years was the spread of the Coronavirus . A virus that posed a risk of death was first reported in China in 2019, and within months had spread to every corner of the world, causing a worldwide lockdown.

All travel stopped. Schools and workplaces all closed and we could no longer mix with people outside our own household. We were ordered to stay within a 2 km distance of our homes and masks had to be worn in all public places. Older people in particular were advised to “cocoon” which meant not going out.



A vaccine was soon developed which was offered to everyone and life gradually got back to normal after more than two years.

A look back over 10 years quiz



1. Name the famous RTE broadcaster who died in 2019.

2. Who was the first woman to win the English Grand National in 2021?

3. Give the names of the two popes to visit Ireland.

4. Name the two American Presidents to visit Ireland since 2019.

5. What was the name of the woman who fought on behalf of women's health?

6. Name the lead singer with The Cranberries who died in 2018.

7. Give the name of any of her songs that sports supporters sing at matches.

8. Name the popular Irish female singer who died earlier this year.



9. What is the only county to win five All Ireland Football titles in a row.

10. In what year did Katie Taylor turn professional?

11. Where in New York did she fight in a sell out event last year?

12. Name the female boxer who won gold in the last Olympic Games.

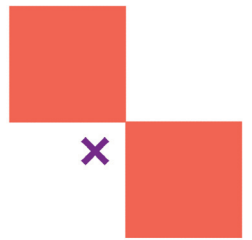
13. What was legally recognised in Ireland in 2015 after a referendum.

14. Give the name of any of the storms in Ireland since 2013.

15. What country declared war on Ukraine in 2022?

Answers

the East, 15. Russia
Madison Square Garden, 12 Kellie Harrington, 13. Same Sex Marriage 14. Desmond, Ophelia, Beast from
5 Vicky Phelan, 6. Dolores O'Riordan, 7. Zombie, Dreams, 8. Sinead O'Connor, 9. Dublin 10. 2016, 11.
Gay Byrne, 2 Rachael Blackmore, 3 Pope Francis, Pope John Paul, 4. President Joe Biden, Donald Trump,



Dear Reader,

To celebrate 10 years of our monthly worksheet, we would like to invite you to enter a competition.

Competition



If you would like to be in with a chance to win a **€50 One for All voucher** please answer this question:

Who is the President of Ireland?

Please send answer and your name:

by Text to **087 198 4228**
or
by email to **edonnellan@nala.ie**
or
by post to **Competition
freepost
NALA
Sandford Lodge
Ranelagh, Dublin 6**

Closing date is 8 December 2023.

Good Luck!



National Adult Literacy Agency
Áisíneacht Náisiúnta Litearthachta do Aosaigh

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That's Interesting! are not
necessarily the views of NALA.