

Lesson activities for Leaving Certificate History, Dictionary of Irish Biography

Early Modern field of study: Irish history, 1494-1815

| Biography | Curriculum area | Activity description |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| <u>Nagle, Nano (Honora)</u> | The end of the Irish kingdom and the establishment of the Union, 1770-1815 | <p>Nano Nagle is a key personality for the topic 'The end of the Irish kingdom and the establishment of the Union, 1770-1815'. This biographical entry will be of interest to students studying this topic and in particular for those examining the development of Catholic education during this period.</p> <p>Students could read the biography and answer/discuss the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Based on the evidence in the first two paragraphs, what can you tell about the social status of Nano Nagle's family?- Based on your knowledge of this period, why do you think Nagle travelled abroad for her education?- Find evidence in the third paragraph that suggests there was a demand for education among the poor in Cork in the 1700s.- Based on your reading of paragraph four, why would Nagle find difficulty with the vow of enclosure taken by the Ursuline order?- Find two pieces of evidence in the biography to show that Nagle was a devout Catholic. |

Later Modern field of study: Irish history, 1815-1993

| Biography | Curriculum area | Activity description |
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| <u>Tod, Isabella</u> <u>Skeffington, Hanna Sheehy-</u> | Movements for political and social reform, 1870-1914 | <p>Isabella Tod and Hannah Sheehy-Skeffington are key personalities for the topic 'Movements for social and political reform, 1870-1914'. These biographical entries will be of interest to students studying this topic and in particular for those examining the suffrage movement during this period.</p> <p>Although Tod and Sheehy-Skeffington are not exact contemporaries but it may be of value and interest to students to compare and contrast their contributions to the feminist movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. One half of the class could read the entry for Tod and the other the entry for Sheehy-Skeffington. Each group could present their information to the class. This could be followed by a class discussion where students compare the national, social and cultural backgrounds of each woman and their contribution to the feminist movement.</p> |

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| <u>Croker, Richard Welsted</u> (‘Boss’) <u>Mannix, Daniel</u> | The Irish Diaspora, 1840-1966 | <p>Boss Croker and Archbishop Daniel Mannix are key personalities for the topic ‘The Irish Diaspora, 1840-1966’. Both men were born in Ireland and made contributions to public life in countries outside Ireland: Mannix as Archbishop of Melbourne and Boss Croker, a key figure in the Democratic party in New York City in the late 19th century.</p> <p>Students could compare and contrast the experiences of Croker and Mannix abroad. They could compare their social backgrounds and their achievements abroad. One half of the class could read the entry for Croker and the other the entry for Mannix. Each group could present their information to the class.</p> |