

# Lesson Plan:

## - Critical Thinking and AI generated Arthur Griffith PowerPoint



Level: Secondary Education 15-18 years old

Subject: History, Information Technology, Media Literacy

Duration: 40 minutes

### Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will understand how to use AI tools like Gamma to create PowerPoint presentations.

2. Students will develop critical thinking skills by analysing and verifying AI-generated PowerPoint slides.
3. Students will enhance their ability to critique digital content, fostering a cautious approach to AI-generated presentations.
4. Students will learn what Gamma AI is and understand that while it can produce impressive presentations, its output is not perfect and still requires human input and critical thinking.
5. Students will recognize the importance of fact-checking and verifying information in AI-generated content.

### **Relevant Junior Cycle History Learning Outcomes:**

6. 1.5: Investigate the job of the historian, including how s/he finds and uses evidence to form historical judgements which may be revised and reinterpreted in the light of new evidence.
7. 1.6: Debate the usefulness and limitations of different types of primary and secondary sources of historical evidence, such as written, visual, aural, oral and tactile evidence; and appreciate the contribution of archaeology and new technology to historical enquiry.
8. 1.7: Develop historical judgements based on evidence about personalities, issues and events in the past, showing awareness of historical significance

### **Materials Needed:**

- Computer with internet access and projection capability.
- Textbooks, library, or online access to verified academic resources.
- Junior Cycle Key Skills Poster.
- Chromebooks or iPads for each student.

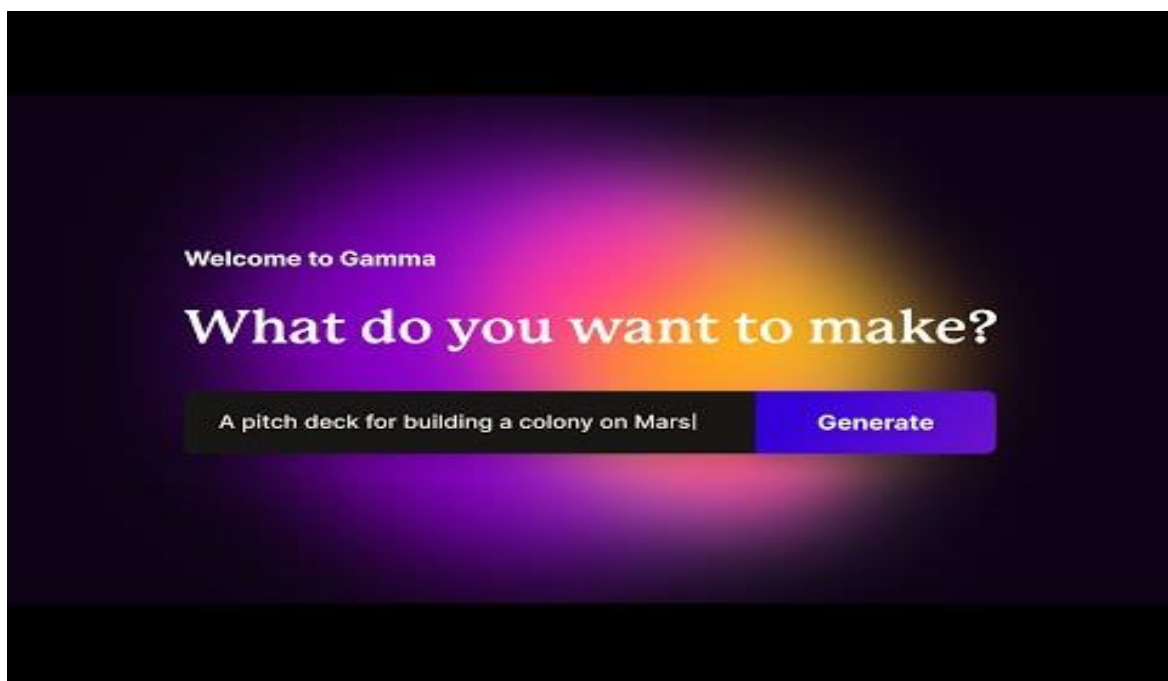
- Printed copies of the AI-generated PowerPoint presentation. (see Appendix)

## **Lesson Structure:**

### **1. Introduction 5 minutes**

- Show an introductory video about AI PowerPoint creation tools e.g., a tutorial on using Gamma.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9VOYJM6nZc>



- Discuss the potential of AI in creating presentations, its limitations, and why critical thinking is crucial.
- Emphasise the importance of being analytical and sceptical of AI-generated presentations, comparing AI to a creative tool that sometimes produces inaccurate or biased results.

### **2. Activity Setup 5 minutes**

- Introduction to Gamma AI and its capabilities.

- Demonstrate how to use Gamma AI to create a simple PowerPoint presentation. For example, input a prompt like: "Create a PowerPoint presentation on the life and achievements of Arthur Griffith."
- Explain that students will be given a copy of an AI-generated presentation to proofread and fact-check.

### **Optional teacher Script:**

"Good morning, class. Today, we're going to explore something exciting and potentially revolutionary in the world of technology and education: AI-powered presentation tools like Gamma AI.

These tools are changing the way we create content. With just a few prompts, they can generate entire PowerPoint presentations in minutes. It's like having a digital assistant that can quickly pull together information and visuals on any topic. Sounds amazing, right?

But here's the catch – while these AI tools are impressive, they're far from perfect. They might produce sleek, professional-looking slides, but the content isn't always accurate or trustworthy.

That's where you come in. As historians and critical thinkers, your role is crucial. These AI tools are just that – tools. They're not replacements for human knowledge, judgement, and fact-checking.

Today, we're going to look at a presentation on Arthur Griffith created by Gamma AI. It might look polished and authoritative, but don't be fooled. Your job is to approach it with a healthy dose of scepticism. Question everything. Verify facts. Spot inconsistencies.

Remember, in history – and in life – it's not just about having information, but understanding where it comes from and how reliable it is. AI can help us gather and present information quickly, but it's up to us to ensure that information is accurate and meaningful.

So, let's dive in and see what Gamma AI has created, and more importantly, let's see how well you can spot where it might have gone wrong. This isn't just about critiquing AI – it's about sharpening your skills as historians and critical thinkers in a world where not everything is as it seems."

### **3. AI Interaction and Analysis 15 minutes**

- Distribute printed copies of the AI-generated PowerPoint presentation on Arthur Griffith to each student.
- Provide students with Chromebooks or iPads to access online resources for fact-checking.
- Instruct students to work individually or in pairs to identify and highlight any errors, inaccuracies, or hallucinations in the presentation.
- Teacher monitors the session, ready to assist students and provide guidance on effective fact-checking methods.

### **4. Cross-Referencing Activity 10 minutes**

- Discuss the content and design of the presentation, highlighting any impressive aspects.
- Highlight any biases or inaccuracies in the AI-generated slides and discuss their implications.

### **5. Group Discussion and Reflection 5 minutes**

- Recap what was learned about using AI PowerPoint creation tools and the importance of critical analysis.
- Reflect on the session's key takeaway: the necessity of fact-checking and critical thinking when dealing with ALL AI-generated content.

### **Additional Resources:**

- Video on AI Hallucinations

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLbaUhEAx5c>



- Videos on Arthur Griffith and the Anglo-Irish Treaty

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRVzX9cTFWo>



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9Hqw2GcDTY>



# Appendix:

## Hints for Students ahead of investigating the Presentation on Arthur Griffith

List of Potential Inaccuracies in the AI-Generated PowerPoint on Arthur Griffith that students may encounter:

1. Historical Inaccuracies: The presentation may contain incorrect dates, events, or figures related to Arthur Griffith's life and achievements.
2. Misleading Visuals: Images and graphics used in the presentation may not accurately represent the content or context.
3. Biased Information: The AI might present information with a certain bias, omitting important perspectives or data.
4. Formatting Errors: The layout and design of the slides may be inconsistent or not aligned with standard presentation practices.



## Specific Errors in the AI-Generated PowerPoint on Arthur Griffith:

### 1. Early Life and Political Beginnings:

- "Arthur Griffith was born in 1872 in Dublin, the son of a watchmaker." – The text incorrectly states that Arthur Griffith was born in 1872. He was actually born on March 31, 1871.
- He did not co-found the "United Irish League"

### 2. Role in the Irish Republican Brotherhood IRB:

- "Griffith was a core member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood IRB" – Griffith was associated with the IRB but was not considered a core member; he was more aligned with constitutional nationalism.
- "He helped organize the IRB's military wing, the Irish Volunteers" – This is misleading. While Griffith supported the formation of the Irish Volunteers, he did not organise them. The Volunteers were primarily founded by Eoin MacNeill.

### 3. Involvement in the Easter Rising:

- "In 1916, Griffith played a significant role in the Easter Rising" – Griffith was not a direct participant in the Easter Rising; his role was more in the ideological background.
- "Though he did not participate directly in the armed conflict, Griffith's influence and tactical expertise were instrumental in the planning and execution of the uprising" – Overstates Griffith's involvement. He did not play a direct tactical role in the Rising.

### 4. Arrest and Imprisonment:

- "He was held in English prisons, including Mountjoy and Gloucester" – Mountjoy Prison is in Dublin, Ireland, not England.

#### 5. Negotiating the Anglo-Irish Treaty:

- "Griffith led the Irish delegation to negotiate the Anglo-Irish Treaty" – This is accurate, but the document should also mention Michael Collins, who played a key role alongside Griffith.

#### 6. Conflict with Michael Collins and the Civil War:

- "This led to the Irish Civil War, with Griffith supporting the new Irish Free State and Collins leading anti-Treaty forces" – Michael Collins supported the Treaty and led the pro-Treaty forces. The anti-Treaty forces were led by Éamon de Valera and others.

#### 7. Griffith died before Collins.

# Early Life and Political Beginnings



## Humble Origins

Arthur Griffith was born in 1872 in Dublin, the son of a watchmaker. His early life was marked by poverty, but he showed an unwavering determination to better himself through self-education and political activism.



## Journalism and Activism

As a young man, Griffith worked as a printer and journalist, using his writing to champion Irish nationalism and criticise British rule. He was a co-founder of the United Irish League, which campaigned for Irish land reform.



## Founding Sinn Féin

In 1905, Griffith founded the political party Sinn Féin, which advocated for Irish independence through passive resistance and the establishment of an Irish parliament. This marked the beginning of his influential role in the Irish nationalist movement.

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# Role in the Irish Republican Brotherhood

## 1 Secret Meetings

Griffith was a core member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB), attending secret meetings to plan revolutionary activities against British rule in Ireland.

## 2 Military Organization

He helped organize the IRB's military wing, the Irish Volunteers, which would later play a key role in the Easter Rising against the British.

## 3 Radical Ideology

Griffith embraced the IRB's radical republican ideology, which sought complete independence for Ireland through both political and physical force.

## 4 Mentorship Role

Griffith mentored younger revolutionaries, including Michael Collins, who would go on to become central figures in the Irish independence movement.

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# Founding of Sinn Féin and the Irish Volunteers

## Sinn Féin Established

In 1905, Arthur Griffith founded the Sinn Féin political party, which advocated for Irish independence from the United Kingdom. The party's name translates to "Ourselves Alone" in English, reflecting its nationalist and separatist ideology.

## The Irish Volunteers

In 1913, Griffith helped establish the Irish Volunteers, a military organisation committed to securing Irish self-governance. The Volunteers grew rapidly, attracting tens of thousands of members who underwent paramilitary training.

## Radical Transformation

Under Griffith's leadership, Sinn Féin evolved from a modest political movement into a powerful force for Irish republicanism. The party's alliance with the Irish Volunteers marked a significant radicalisation of Griffith's initially peaceful constitutional approach.

## Growing Influence

By the outbreak of World War I in 1914, Sinn Féin and the Irish Volunteers had become central to the Irish independence struggle, posing a serious challenge to the dominance of the more moderate Irish Parliamentary Party.

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# Involvement in the Easter Rising

In 1916, Griffith played a significant role in the Easter Rising, the rebellion against British rule in Ireland. He served as a political strategist, providing guidance and support to the Irish Republican Brotherhood behind the scenes.

Though he did not participate directly in the armed conflict, Griffith's influence and tactical expertise were instrumental in the planning and execution of the uprising, which marked a pivotal moment in Ireland's march towards independence.



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# Arrest and Imprisonment

1

## Arrest in 1916

Arthur Griffith was arrested and imprisoned following his involvement in the Easter Rising against British rule in Ireland in 1916.

2

## Imprisonment in England

He was held in English prisons, including Mountjoy and Gloucester, where he continued his efforts to advance the cause of Irish independence.

3

## Solidarity with Comrades

During his incarceration, Griffith maintained solidarity with his republican comrades, planning future strategies for the Irish freedom movement.



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# Negotiating the Anglo-Irish Treaty

1

## Representing Ireland

Griffith led the Irish delegation to negotiate the Anglo-Irish Treaty with the British government.

2

## Compromise Discussions

The negotiations involved difficult compromises on the status of Ireland and its relationship to the British Empire.

3

## Historic Agreement

After months of tense negotiations, the Anglo-Irish Treaty was signed in 1921, paving the way for the establishment of the Irish Free State.

Arthur Griffith played a crucial role in the negotiations that led to the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921. As the head of the Irish delegation, Griffith navigated complex political waters, balancing Irish demands for independence with the need to reach a compromise with the British government. The final treaty, while imperfect, represented a historic step towards Irish self-governance and the creation of the Irish Free State.

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# Establishment of the Irish Free State

In 1922, the Anglo-Irish Treaty was ratified, paving the way for the creation of the Irish Free State. This new dominion within the British Commonwealth replaced the old Irish Republic, with Arthur Griffith serving as its first President until his untimely death later that year.

Griffith's vision of an independent, self-governing Ireland was finally realised, though the country's relationship with the United Kingdom remained complex. The foundations were laid for the eventual establishment of a fully sovereign and democratic Irish Republic.



## Conflict with Michael Collins and the Civil War



### Diverging Visions

Griffith and Collins clashed over the terms of the Anglo-Irish Treaty, with Collins seeking a more complete break from the UK.



### Armed Conflict

This led to the Irish Civil War, with Griffith supporting the new Irish Free State and Collins leading anti-Treaty forces.



### Tragic Outcome

The conflict was devastating, resulting in the death of Collins and ultimately Griffith himself, who died just days after Collins.

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## Legacy and Impact on Irish Independence

### Lasting Influence

Griffith's political vision and founding of Sinn Féin laid the groundwork for Irish republicanism, paving the way for the achievement of Irish independence in the decades that followed.

### Divisive Figure

Griffith's support for the Anglo-Irish Treaty and his subsequent clashes with Michael Collins contributed to the Irish Civil War, highlighting the complexities and tensions within the independence movement.

### Symbolic Significance

As a key architect of Ireland's path to self-governance, Griffith's legacy continues to be celebrated and debated, solidifying his place as a pivotal figure in the long struggle for Irish freedom.