

## CPI2 IRELAND *ONCE VISITED, NEVER FORGOTTEN*

Match these definitions to the words in the box below. Then use the words to complete the gaps in the text.

- a) A plant or animal group with similar general features
- b) Plants and trees
- c) The number of people living in an area
- d) The work or business of farming
- e) The money used in a particular country
- f) Important, serious, large or great
- g) Written in, or speaking two languages
- h) Often changes
- i) The production of goods in factories
- j) Famous

|            |               |         |          |              |            |           |            |
|------------|---------------|---------|----------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| major      | agricultural  | species | currency | widely known | population | bilingual | industries |
| vegetation | unpredictable |         |          |              |            |           |            |

**Ireland, or Eire**, is the third largest island in Europe, located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Irish Sea, and is about 84,000 square kilometres. Five sixths of the island is known officially as the Republic of Ireland, the capital city being Dublin and the \_\_\_\_\_(1) being the euro. The other sixth is Northern Ireland, part of the United Kingdom, which is unofficially known as 'the North', or 'Ulster', with Belfast as its capital. The country is bisected by the river Shannon, at 386 kilometres the longest river in Ireland. The official language of Ireland is English, but it is a \_\_\_\_\_(2) country, since Irish (Gaelic) is also spoken. The \_\_\_\_\_(3) is around 5 million.

Ireland is known as the 'Emerald Island' because of its lush \_\_\_\_\_(4), including forests, woodland and open farmland. The west coast is particularly mountainous, green and beautiful. The reason that Ireland is so green is that its climate is mild but \_\_\_\_\_(5), with lots of frequent but soft rainfall.

Ireland's major \_\_\_\_\_(6), apart from tourism, are steel and lead, brewing, food products, textiles, chemicals, machinery and glass. Turnips, barley, potatoes, sugar beets, wheat, beef and dairy products are among its \_\_\_\_\_(7) products.

Ireland is home to hundreds of plant \_\_\_\_\_(8). Some animals, such as the red fox, hedgehog, stoat and badger are very common, and Ireland is also home to about 400 species of birds, including golden eagles.

Gaelic football and hurling are the national sports in Ireland, and are very popular. Golfing tourism is also a \_\_\_\_\_(9) industry there. Boxing, rugby and cricket are all-island sports, which means that teams include players from north and south.

The Irish tradition of folk music and dance is also \_\_\_\_\_(10). U2, Enya, The Corrs, The Cranberries, Boyzone and Westlife are amongst the Irish artists known all over the world.

### TEAM QUIZ

Form three teams. The first team sends one of its members to the front of the class. This member must draw a question at random and ask it to his team members. If they answer correctly, the team gets a point; if not, the other team may try to answer. Repeat the procedure for each team in turn. **NB: DO NOT SHOUT OUT THE ANSWERS, please raise your hand. Only the first answer given by a team will be considered, so think before you speak! Only answers stated in the article will be accepted.**

