

Citizenship Language Pack For Migrants in Europe - Extended

English

Multimedia Course in Language and Culture for Migrants

A2 Level

To aid communication in everyday English in Ireland

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Module 9:

School



Introduction

Now we have a mother phoning the school where her son, Alan, attends. She needs to explain to them that Alan will not be attending classes this week. She offers the teacher, Mr Hayes, a suggestion. We hear words and terms relating to schooling such as mathematics, textbook etc.

Dialogue 22 – Phoning a School

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAHmRvsK0yq3eKIr35DOT7-5M2f7ynI4m>

		<p>Situation: Phoning a school</p> <p>Characters: Mrs Flaherty and Niall Hayes</p>
Niall Hayes	Mrs Flaherty	

Niall Hayes- Good morning, Niall Hayes speaking.

Mrs Flaherty- Good morning. I just wanted to inform you that my son, Alan, will be absent from school this week.

Niall Hayes- I hope everything is OK.

Mrs Flaherty- He has got a little cold, but I think after this week he will be able to attend classes again.

Niall Hayes- Oh, that's fine. I hope he gets better soon. Give him my regards as well as from the rest of the class as well.

Mrs Flaherty- Yes, thank you, Mr Hayes. I just have one more question. Are there any important lessons you are teaching this week? If there are, Alan and I can have a look over them and I can try and help him with them at home.

Niall Hayes- Yes, there are actually. Take a look at maths book chapter four and the Irish language textbook chapter three. There are some exercises in those chapters that you can do with Alan as well.

Mrs Flaherty- Thank you. We will certainly have a look at those. I will get in touch with you if we have any questions.

Niall Hayes- OK. Well, call me Wednesday morning and let me know how you're getting on and if you really need I can call out to the house if you like.

Mrs Flaherty- Thank you very much. I'll call you on Wednesday morning.

Niall Hayes- OK. Goodbye then. Goodbye.

Mrs Flaherty- Goodbye.

Oral Comprehension

Answer the following questions. The correct answers can be found in the key on the last page.

Exercise 1:

Why is Alan off school?

- a. He has flu
- b. He has a cold
- c. He has chicken pox

Exercise 2:

How long will Alan be absent for?

- a. Two weeks
- b. Until Wednesday
- c. One week

Exercise 3:

What chapter does Mr Hayes say to look at in the maths book?

- a. Chapter three
- b. Chapter five
- c. Chapter four

Exercise 4:

What chapter does Mr Hayes say to look at in the Irish language textbook?

- a. Chapter five
- b. Chapter three
- c. Chapter one

Exercise 5:

What does Mr Hayes say he can do if Mrs Flaherty and Alan really need him to?

- a. Send him more homework exercises and activities
- b. Visit them at home to help
- c. Do extra work with him in school the next week

Grammar

“To have/to have got”

“Have got” and “have” have similar meanings and uses in spoken and informal written English. We can use “have got” in the following four situations:

- To refer to something we own
- To talk about family and relationships
- To describe people
- To talk about illness

Examples:

He has got a little cold

Links:

http://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/grammar/have_have_got.htm

<http://www.englishteachermelanie.com/grammar-have-or-have-got/>

<http://www.quickanddirtytips.com/education/grammar/is-have-got-acceptable-english>

<http://www.ecenglish.com/learnenglish/using-have-and-has/>

In Ireland

Most children in Ireland go to primary school at the age of four or five. They begin in Junior Infants, also known as 'Baby Infants', where they start learning the basics of reading and writing. They then move on to Senior Infants and then First Class. They move up through the classes until they reach Sixth Class, which is the final year of primary school. They are usually around age twelve when they finish sixth class. The core study subjects in primary school are maths, Irish and English. Children who don't start attending school in Ireland until the latter half of their primary school education are often exempt from learning Irish but, other than those few exceptions, it is compulsory. As they go through their years at primary school the amount of subjects they study will grow and often includes history, geography, physical education, art, religion, and some science.

Vocabulary

Inform	Son	Absent
School	Everything	Attend
House	Better	Regards
Lesson	Chapter	Textbook
Exercises	Certainly	Morning

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/>

Key

After you have completed the exercises, check your answers here.

Exercise 1 - b

Exercise 2 - c

Exercise 3 - c

Exercise 4 - b

Exercise 5 - b