

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 7:

Authorities




Introduction

Now we have Mr Powell, a gardener, contacting the new Quality and Qualifications Ireland office. Mr Powell speaks with an official, David. Mr Powell hopes to attend a suitable course to improve his qualifications and maybe earn more money. We learn of the different types of gardeners that operate in Ireland. We also learn a few words relating to gardening tasks as well as some Irish town names.

Dialogue 18 – Upgrading of Trade Certificates

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

	<p>Situation: On the telephone</p> <p>Characters: David (from the Quality and Qualifications Ireland office) and Frank Powell.</p>
David	Frank Powell

David- Hello, David speaking

Frank- Eh, hello, David. Good morning. Is this the Quality and Qualifications Office?

David- Yes. Can I help you?

Frank- I was told there are some professional courses for gardeners. Is this true? I would like to get some information.

David- Good. Actually there are courses for gardeners and park operators.

Frank- What's the difference?

David- Well, a gardener plans and directs the works of the entire garden. He has to know the plants, climate, soils – all these types of things. He basically plans out the entire landscape and also everything that goes into it.

Frank- And what about the park operator?

David- Well, a park operator is not the same. He merely works within the parameters of the park. He's there to take care of the park: the public parks, meaning that he looks after plants, keeps things tidy, but he has no involvement whatsoever in planning.

Frank- Oh, I see... But is there an official certificate given at the end of the courses?

David- Yes, of course, to be a gardener or park operator you must take part in a course. There are one and two year courses to get the level of expertise you need. There would be further information at the SOLAS office. SOLAS used to be called FÁS.

Frank- Are there other options?

David- Yes another option is to work directly in a nursery. There you'll learn "on the job", getting experience. It may be the best option. You need about 7 years experience minimum to be considered of professional standard.

Frank- Yes, thank you, I know that. I already have some experience because I worked for a company in park care for two years. Now, you see, I am starting a new job and I would like to upgrade my qualifications. And I'd like to get official recognition for them too.

David- Hmm...I understand. Yes, there are some three year courses offered in some universities. There's a three year course offered here in Cork. There are also courses in DCU and in the University of Coleraine.

Frank- Fine, thank you very much for the information. I live here in Athlone, so I will go to the regional office in Athlone and find out more about the courses. Bye bye.

David- Bye bye. Thank you for calling and good luck with the new job.

Oral Comprehension

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

Exercise 1-4:

State whether the following sentences are true or false:

- There are only courses for park operators, not gardeners.
- A park operator works within the parameters of the park.
- A gardener has more control over planning and decision making than a park operator.
- There are courses in Cork, DCU and the University of Maynooth.

Exercise 5:

Fill in the gaps:

Frank- Are there other _____?

David- Yes another _____ is to work directly in a _____. There you'll learn "on the job", getting _____. It may be the best _____. You need about _____ years experience _____ to be considered of _____ standard.

Frank- Yes, thank you, I know that. I already have some _____ because I worked for a _____ in park care for _____ years. Now, you see, I am starting a new job and I would like to upgrade my _____. And I'd like to get official _____ for them too.

Grammar

Present simple tense (third person singular):

The present simple tense is used to express habits, true actions and repeated actions.

Normally in the present simple tense an "s" is added to the end of the verb when the verb is used with singular nouns or pronouns (He, She, It), for example:

He takes care of private and public parks.

He takes care of the cultivation of plants

Links:

<http://www.edufind.com/english-grammar/simple-present-tense/>

http://www.myenglishpages.com/site_php_files/grammar-lesson-simple-present.php#.VFjC6vmsWs0

http://www.grammar.cl/Present/Verbs_Third_Person.htm

In Ireland

Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) is a state agency established by the Quality Assurance and Qualifications (Education and Training) Act 2012. They manage the ten level National Framework for Qualifications and validate education and training programmes, among many other things. They also authorise education and training programmes for international students, including English language training, through the International Education Mark (IEM). To find out more about the QQI and how they can help you, visit their website by following the link below:

<http://www.qqi.ie/Pages/Home.aspx>

Vocabulary

Quality	Qualifications	Courses
Operators	Difference	Plants
Climate	Soil	Basically
Landscape	Parameter	Tidy
Involvement	Official	Expertise
Option	Minimum	Standard
Upgrade	Regional	University

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

Key

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

Exercise 1 – 4:

- a. False
- b. True
- c. True
- d. False

Exercise 5

Frank- Are there other **options**?

David- Yes another **option** is to work directly in a **nursery**. There you'll learn "on the job", getting **experience**. It may be the best **option**. You need about **7** years experience **minimum** to be considered of **professional** standard.

Frank- Yes, thank you, I know that. I already have some **experience** because I worked for a **company** in park care for **two** years. Now, you see, I am starting a new job and I would like to upgrade my **qualifications**. And I'd like to get official **recognition** for them too.