



Law Society of Ireland

Blackhall Place, Dublin 7, tel 01 672 4802, fax 01 672 4803
DX: 79 Dublin E-mail: lawschool@lawsociety.ie Website: www.lawsociety.ie
From the Law School

SECOND IRISH EXAMINATION SYLLABUS

All apprentices who were under the age of fifteen years on the first day of October 1929 must pass this examination. The Second Examination in Irish shall be so prescribed as to ensure that persons who pass such examination have a competent knowledge of the Irish language. The expression 'competent knowledge of the Irish language' is defined as 'such a degree of oral and written proficiency in the use of the language as is sufficient to enable a legal practitioner efficiently to receive instructions, to advise clients, to examine witnesses and to follow proceedings in the Irish language'. A knowledge of basic legal terminology in Irish is desirable.

Pursuant to Section 40(3) of the Solicitors' Act 1954 (as amended) no person to whom the Act applies shall be admitted as a Solicitor unless he has obtained from the Law Society a certificate of having passed a Second Examination in Irish within *two years before the expiration of the term of apprenticeship or within two years before admission as a solicitor*.

The examination is held in January and July of each year. The Second Irish Examination consists of a written examination in the Irish language and of an oral examination.

THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION:

- (i) Candidates will be required to translate from (a) Irish into English and (b) English into Irish, short excerpts from one of the following texts:-

An tOileánach (Thomas Ó Criomhtháin) published by Helicon Teoranta. Pages **1 – 65 only**.

OR

Seacht mBua an Eirí Amach (Pádraic Ó Conaire) published by Sairseal agus Dill, the following stories:-
Ceoltóirí;
Beirt Bhan Misniúil;
M'Fhile Caol Dubh.

OR

Fiche Bliain Ag Fás (Muiris Ó Suilleabháin) published by An Sagart. Pages **54 – 114 only**.

OR

Seanchas Annie Bhán: The lore of Annie Bhán: (Gordon MacLennan), the following stories & pages:
Cruachán agus Cráchán pp. **120-143**
Jackie na Luaithe Buí pp. **144-161**
A'Fear a bhí le cur 'un báis pp. **196-205**

Candidates must be prepared to write in Irish on one subject matter of the aforementioned books. This means that in addition to the special study of the Sections specified, one of the books must be read entirely. A thorough study implies a full and accurate knowledge of the works, grammatical forms (proper use of various forms of verbs, use of prepositions, cases, genders etc.) and idiomatic expressions occurring in the text selected.

- (ii) Candidates will be required to write a **short essay** on everyday topics.

THE ORAL EXAMINATION

Particular importance will be attached to proficiency in spoken Irish.

[4/02/03]