

**Lárionad na Gaeilge: Taighde, Teagasc agus Tástáil
Ollscoil Mhá Nuad**



**Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge
Bonnleibhéal 1 (A1)**

**Oral exam
Sample materials**



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht



Note

In this document you'll find sample examination materials (as Gaeilge), including sample role-play cards and sample pictures for the picture description section. For examination guidelines and a detailed description of the examination format, please see [Syllabus and Guidelines for Candidates](#).



The oral exam

General information

1. 40% of the total exam marks are allocated to the oral exam.
2. Candidates are tested individually. There are two examiners, one who acts as interlocutor and handles all communications with the candidate. The other examiner focuses entirely on candidate performance and does not participate in the conversation.
3. All exams are recorded for quality assurance and monitoring. Anonymised recordings may also be used for training and research purposes.
4. The following is the layout of *Scrúdú Bhonnleibhéal 1 (A1)*.

There are three sections in the exam:

| | |
|--|---|
| SECTION 1 General conversation 3-4 minutes | The candidate is asked some questions about his/her daily life (home, family, hobbies, holidays, travel etc.) |
| SECTION 2 Role-play 2-3 minutes | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 minutes before the examination begins, the candidate receives a card with key words relating to a specific topic: night classes, a restaurant, renting a house, etc. The candidate prepares for questions posed by the examiner about date / time / place / price / contact details, etc. Candidates are not allowed to use any notes or dictionaries or to write on the card.• During the exam, the candidate answers questions posed by the examiner about date / time / place / price / contact details etc.• Then the candidate asks the examiner questions about a place or event similar to that shown on the role-card. (See sample role-plays below). |
| SECTION 3 Describing a picture 2-3 minutes | Candidates are given a picture and have one minute to study it. They are then asked to describe what is happening in the picture. The picture shows people involved in ordinary daily activities – for example shopping / taking a bus / watching television / working etc. |

Bonnleibhéal 1 (A1) Oral exam: sample materials

| | |
|--|---|
| | The examiner may ask the candidate some extra questions if more information is required, e.g. 'What is X doing?' or 'Where is Y?' |
|--|---|

Marking

- Candidates will be assessed on a sustained performance over the three sections of the exam and not on individual tasks.
- Candidates will be assessed on the following in the A1 oral exam: Grammatical accuracy, Vocabulary, Pronunciation and Communication.

It is expected that candidates will be able to use single words and simple sentences while taking part in a conversation based on topics and general information that relate to everyday life. For example, they will be able to give a very basic description of themselves, where they live, their work, and their daily routine. They will be able to ask basic questions.

Candidates should be able to handle the limited range of questions that are asked at A1 level. They should be able to deal with comprehension difficulties by using strategies like the following: seek clarification (*Cad é sin?*), ask someone to repeat something (*Abair arís é, le do thoil*), or say they don't understand something (*Ní thuigim*).

Candidates will be able to understand simple speech delivered in a slow, carefully articulated but natural manner. They will rely heavily on others for assistance in their efforts to carry on communication.

Candidates should have a good knowledge of the main grammar points in the [Syllabus and guidelines for candidates](#) so that they can handle basic communication. The syllabus also contains most of the vocabulary that candidates need in order to give simple descriptions of their daily lives.

It is expected at this level that candidates will have some difficulties with Irish pronunciation and that they will be influenced by their mother tongue. However, candidates will only lose marks if these pronunciation difficulties impede communication.

Basic sociolinguistic competence is also assessed at this level. Candidates should be able to use simple phrases for social communication e.g. greet someone, say goodbye, ask permission, thank someone or apologise.

All oral examiners receive comprehensive training and their work is the subject of moderation and standardisation to ensure consistency in the application of the marking scheme.

SECTION 1: General conversation

This section of the exam will be approximately 3-4 minutes.

- **Introductions** (no marks awarded)

The examiner will ask candidates some very basic questions to put them at their ease at the beginning of the exam.

Below are some examples of the kind of questions that could be asked:

Dia duit / Dia is Muire duit.

Cad é mar tá tú? / Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú? / Conas tá tú?

An bhfuil tú go maith?

Cad is ainm duit? / Cá hainm atá ort? / Cén t-ainm atá ort?

Tá sé go deas bualadh leat.

- **Exam questions**

The examiner will ask questions on some of the topics laid out in the syllabus e.g. background and homeplace, the family, work, pastimes, holidays and travel.

Below are some examples of the kind of questions that could be asked:

Cá bhfuil tú i do chónaí?

Cén obair a dhéanann tú?

Cén áit a bhfuil tú ag obair?

An imríonn tú aon spórt?

An dtéann tú go dtí an phictiúrlann?

An raibh tú ar laethanta saoire an bhliain seo caite?

SECTION 2: Role-play

Sample role-play 1: A concert

Examiner's material

- Míniú ón scrúdaitheoir:
Chonaic tú fógra faoi cheolchoirm. Tá an fógra ar an gcárta agat ansin. Anois, cuirfidh mise cúpla ceist ort faoin gceolchoirm.
- Cuirfidh an scrúdaitheoir ceistanna ar an iarrthóir ar dtús. Féach an comhrá samplach thíos.
- Nuair a bheidh an méid sin déanta, beidh ar an iarrthóir ceistanna a chur ar an scrúdaitheoir mar gheall ar cheolchoirm eile.

Cárta an iarrthóra

Óstán na Farraige
An Spidéal
Co. na Gaillimhe

Ceolchoirm mhór
Ceoltóirí áitiúla
Amháin ó Chonamara & Maigh Eo

Oíche Aoine, 4 Iúil
8.30pm
Ticéid €20 (€10 páistí)
Gach eolas: 091 764964

Cárta an scrúdaitheora

Anois, tá cárta eile agamsa, cárta faoi cheolchoirm eile. Anois, cuir tusa ceistanna ormsa faoin gceolchoirm sin.

Óstán an Ghleanna
An Bóthar Ard, Trá Lí,
Co. Chiarraí

Ceolchoirm mhór
Ceoltóirí ón mbunscoil agus ón meánscoil
Amháin agus píosaí ceoil ón gcontae

Beidh an cheolchoirm ar siúl oíche
Shathairn, 5 Lúnasa ag tosú ag 7.30pm
Ticéid €10 (€5 páistí)
Gach eolas: 066 321456

Comhrá samplach

S: Cá bhfuil an cheolchoirm ar siúl?

I: In Óstán na Farraige.

S: Agus cén áit a bhfuil sé sin?

I: Ar an Spidéal i nGaillimh.

S: Cén oíche a bheidh sé ar siúl?

I: Oíche Aoine, an ceathrú lá de mhí Iúil.

S: Cén t-am a bheidh sé ag tosú?

I: Ag leathuair tar éis a hocht.

S: Agus cé mhéad atá ar na ticéid?

I: Fíche euro nó deich euro do pháistí.

S: Cén áit ar féidir tuilleadh eolais a fháil?

I: Is féidir glaach ar an uimhir 091 764 964.

S: Go raibh míle maith agat.

Sample role-play 2: An Irish course Examiner's material

- Míniú ón scrúdaitheoir:
Chonaic tú fógra faoi chúrsa Gaeilge. Tá an fógra ar an gcárta agat ansin. Anois, cuirfidh mise cúpla ceist ort faoin gcúrsa.
- Cuirfidh an scrúdaitheoir ceistanna ar an iarrthóir ar dtús. Féach an comhrá samplach thíos.
- Nuair a bheidh an méid sin déanta, beidh ar an iarrthóir ceistanna a chur ar an scrúdaitheoir mar gheall ar chúrsa eile Gaeilge.

Cárta an iarrthóra

Cúrsa Gaeilge

Ar mhaith leat Gaeilge a fhoghlaim?

Tá cúrsa nua ag tosú!
Áit: Scoil an Phobail
Am: Gach Luan 7.00-8.30pm
Dáta: 02.09 go dtí 3.12
Costas: €90
Gach eolas: (054) 820190

Cárta an scrúdaitheora

Anois, tá cárta eile agamsa, cárta faoi chúrsa eile. Anois, cuir tusa ceistanna ormsa faoin gcúrsa sin.

Cúrsa Gaeilge

Áit: Bunscoil na Carraige
Am: Gach Déardaoin 7.30–9.00pm
Dáta: 03.09 go dtí 02.11
Costas: €100

Gach eolas: (021) 543786

Comhrá samplach

S: *Cá mbeidh an cúrsa ar siúl?*

I: I Scoil an Phobail.

S: *Cén oíche a bheidh sé ar siúl?*

I: Gach oíche Luain. Beidh an cúrsa ag tosú ar an dara lá de Mheán Fómhair agus beidh sé ag críochnú ar an tríú lá de mhí na Nollag.

S: *Cén t-am a bheidh an rang ar siúl gach oíche?*

I: Idir a seacht agus leathuair tar éis a hocht.

S: *Cé mhéad a chosnaíonn an cúrsa?*

I: Nócha euro.

S: *Cén áit ar féidir tuilleadh eolais a fháil?*

I: Is féidir gaoch ar an uimhir (054) 820190.

S: *Go raibh míle maith agat.*

Sample role-play 3: A book club Examiner's material

- Míniú ón scrúdaitheoir:
Chonaic tú fógra faoi chlub leabhar. Tá an fógra ar an gcárta agat ansin. Anois, cuirfidh mise cúpla ceist ort faoin gclub.
- Cuirfidh an scrúdaitheoir ceistanna ar an iarrthóir ar dtús. Féach an comhrá samplach thíos.
- Nuair a bheidh an méid sin déanta, beidh ar an iarrthóir ceistanna a chur ar an scrúdaitheoir mar gheall ar chlub leabhar eile.

Candidate's card

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Club leabhar! | |
| Ag tosú go luath. Bí linn! | |
| Áit: | Caifé Mháire, Sráid na Gréine, Baile Átha Cliath |
| Lá: | Dé Máirt, 5 Márta |
| Am: | 8.30pm |
| Costas: | €5 |
| Gach eolas: | 01 584 3107 |

Examiner's card

Anois, tá cárta eile agamsa, cárta faoi chlub leabhar eile. Anois, cuir tusa ceistanna ormsa faoin gclub sin.

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Club leabhar! | |
| Áit: | Teach tábhairne Uí Shé Corcaigh |
| Lá: | Déardaoin, 2 Feabhra |
| Am: | 5.30pm |
| Costas: | Saor in aisce |
| Gach eolas: | 021 468 9081 |

Sample conversation

S: Cén áit a mbeidh an club leabhar?

I: I gcaifé Mháire.

S: Agus cá bhfuil sé sin?

I: Sráid na Gréine, i mBaile Átha Cliath.

S: Cén lá a bheidh an club leabhar ar siúl?

I. Dé Máirt, an cúigiú Márta.

S: Cén t-am a bheidh an club leabhar ar siúl?

I: Ag leathuair tar éis/i ndiaidh a hocht.

S: Cén costas atá air? / An bhfuil costas air?

I: Dhá euro.

S: Cén uimhir theileafóin atá ag an gclub?

I: 01 584 3107

S: Go raibh míle maith agat.

Sample role-play 4: A play Examiner's material

- Míniú ón scrúdaitheoir:
Chonaic tú fógra faoi dhráma. Tá an fógra ar an gcárta agat ansin. Anois, cuirfidh mise cúpla ceist ort faoin dráma.
- Cuirfidh an scrúdaitheoir ceistanna ar an iarrthóir ar dtús. Féach an comhrá samplach thíos.
- Nuair a bheidh an méid sin déanta, beidh ar an iarrthóir ceistanna a chur ar an scrúdaitheoir mar gheall ar dhráma eile.

Candidate's card

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| A play | |
| 'Saoire sa Spáinn' | |
| Áit: | An Amharclann Bheag Sráid na Trá, Corcaigh |
| Lá: | Dé Sathairn, 3 Bealtaine |
| Am: | 7.30pm |
| Ticéad: | €20 |
| Gach eolas: (021) 329 8075 | |

Examiner's card

Anois, tá cárta eile agamsa, cárta faoi dhráma eile. Anois, cuir tusa ceistanna ormsa faoin dráma sin.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A play | |
| 'Oíche faoin tuath' | |
| Áit: | Halla an Phobail Baile an tSléibhe |
| Am: | Dé hAoine 8.30pm |
| Ticéad: | €25 |
| Gach eolas: (074) 215 908 | |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Sample conversation | |
| S: | Cén t-ainm atá ar an dráma nua? |
| I: | Saoire sa Spáinn. |
| S: | Cén áit a mbeidh an dráma ar siúl? |
| I: | San Amharclann Bheag. |
| S: | Agus cén áit a bhfuil sé sin? |
| I: | Sráid na Trá, i gCorcaigh. |
| S: | Cén lá a bheidh an dráma ar siúl? |
| I: | Dé Sathairn, an tríú Bealtaine. |
| S: | Cén t-am a bheidh an dráma ar siúl? |
| I: | Ag leathuair tar éis / i ndiaidh a seacht. |
| S: | Cén costas/cé mhéad atá ar na ticéid? |
| I: | Fiche euro. |
| S: | Cén uimhir theileafóin atá ag an amharclann? |
| I: | 021 329 8075. |
| S: | Go raibh míle maith agat. |

SECTION 2: Role-play
Sample 1: A concert
The candidate's card

Section 2A

Chonaic tú fógra faoi cheolchoirm.

- Freagair na ceistanna a chuirfidh an scrúdaitheoir ort.

Óstán na Farraiqe
An Spidéal
Co. na Gaillimhe

Ceolchoirm mhór
Ceoltóirí áitiúla
Amháin ó Chonamara & Maigh Eo

Oíche Aoine, 4 Iúil
8.30pm
Ticéid €20 (€10 páistí)
Gach eolas: 091 764964

Cuid 2B

- Tá cárta eile ag an scrúdaitheoir faoi cheolchoirm eile.
- Cuir tusa ceistanna air/uirthi anois faoin gceolchoirm sin.



SECTION 2: Role-play
Sample 2: An Irish course
Candidate's card

Section 2A

Chonaic tú fógra faoi chúrsa Gaeilge.

- Freagair na ceistanna a chuirfidh an scrúdaitheoir ort.

Cúrsa Gaeilge

Ar mhaith leat Gaeilge a fhoghlaim?

Tá cúrsa nua ag tosú!

Áit: Scoil an Phobail
Am: Gach Luan 7.00-8.30pm
Dáta: 02.09 go dtí 3.12
Costas: €90
Gach eolas: (054) 820190

Cuid 2B

- Tá cárta eile ag an scrúdaitheoir faoi chúrsa eile.
- Cuir tusa ceistanna air/uirthi anois faoin gcúrsa sin.

SECTION 2: Role-play
Sample 3: A book club
Candidate's card

Cuid 2A

Chonaic tú fógra faoi chlub leabhar.

- Freagair na ceisteanna a chuirfidh an scrúdaitheoir ort.

Club leabhar!
Ag tosú go luath. Bí linn!

Áit: Caifé Mháire, Sráid na Gréine, Baile Átha Cliath
Lá: Dé Máirt, 5 Márta
Am: 8.30pm
Costas: €5
Gach eolas: 01 584 3107

Cuid 2B

- Tá cárta eile ag an scrúdaitheoir faoi chlub leabhar eile.
- Cuir tusa ceisteanna air/uirthi anois faoin gclub sin.



SECTION 2: Role-play
Sample 4: A play
Candidate's card

Cuid 2A

Chonaic tú fógra faoi dhráma.

- Freagair na ceisteanna a chuirfidh an scrúdaitheoir ort.

Dráma
'Saoire sa Spáinn'

Áit: An Amharclann Bheag
Sráid na Trá, Corcaigh
Lá: Dé Sathairn, 3 Bealtaine
Am: 7.30pm
Ticéad: €20

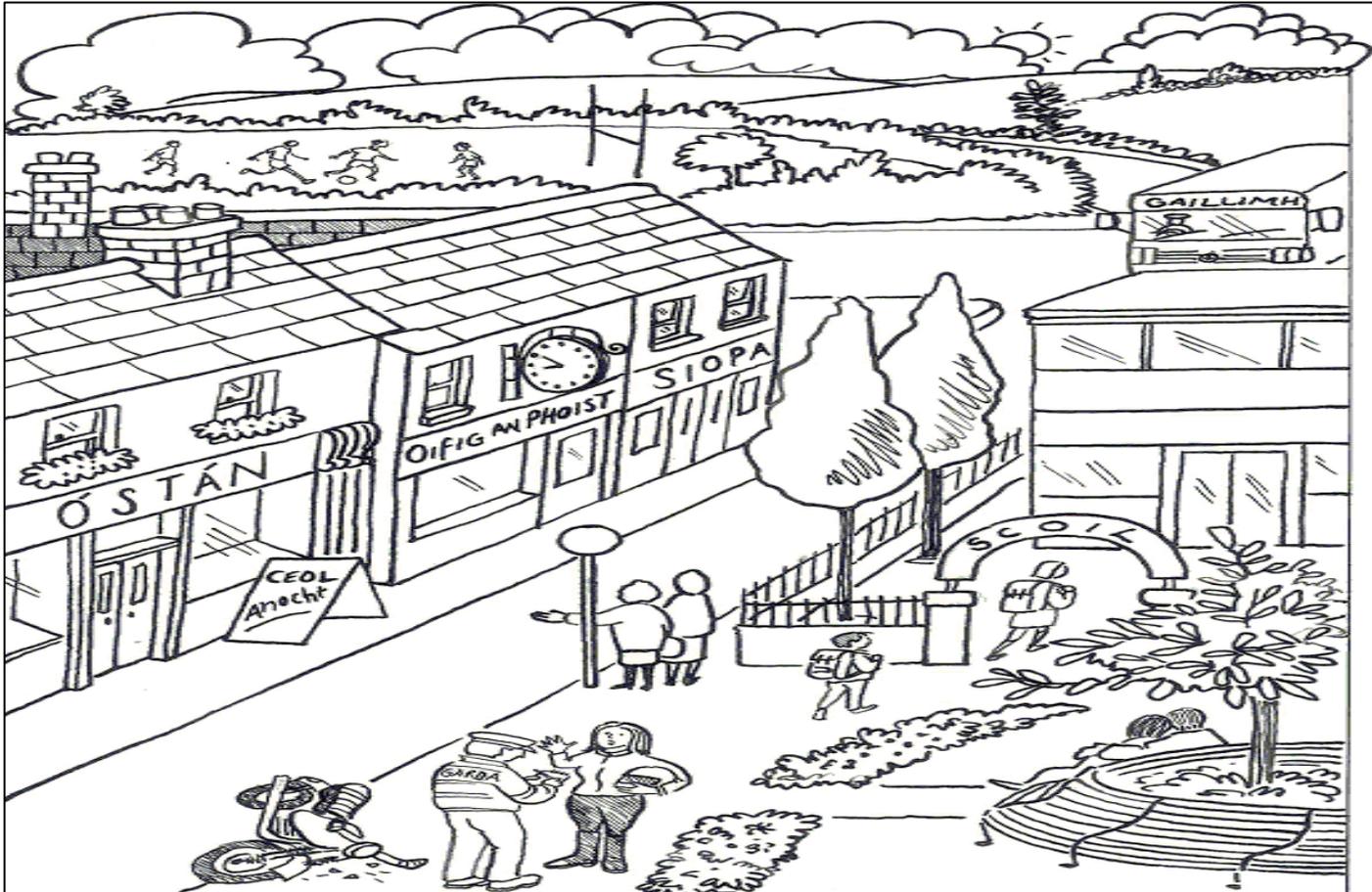
Gach eolas: (021) 329 8075

Cuid 2B

- Tá cárta eile ag an scrúdaitheoir faoi dhráma eile.
- Cuir tusa ceisteanna air/uirthi anois faoin dráma sin.

Section 3: Describing a picture Sample 1

Tá nóiméad amháin agat le breathnú ar an bpictiúr thíos. Ansin, inis don scrúdaitheoir faoi na rudaí atá le feiceáil sa phictiúr.



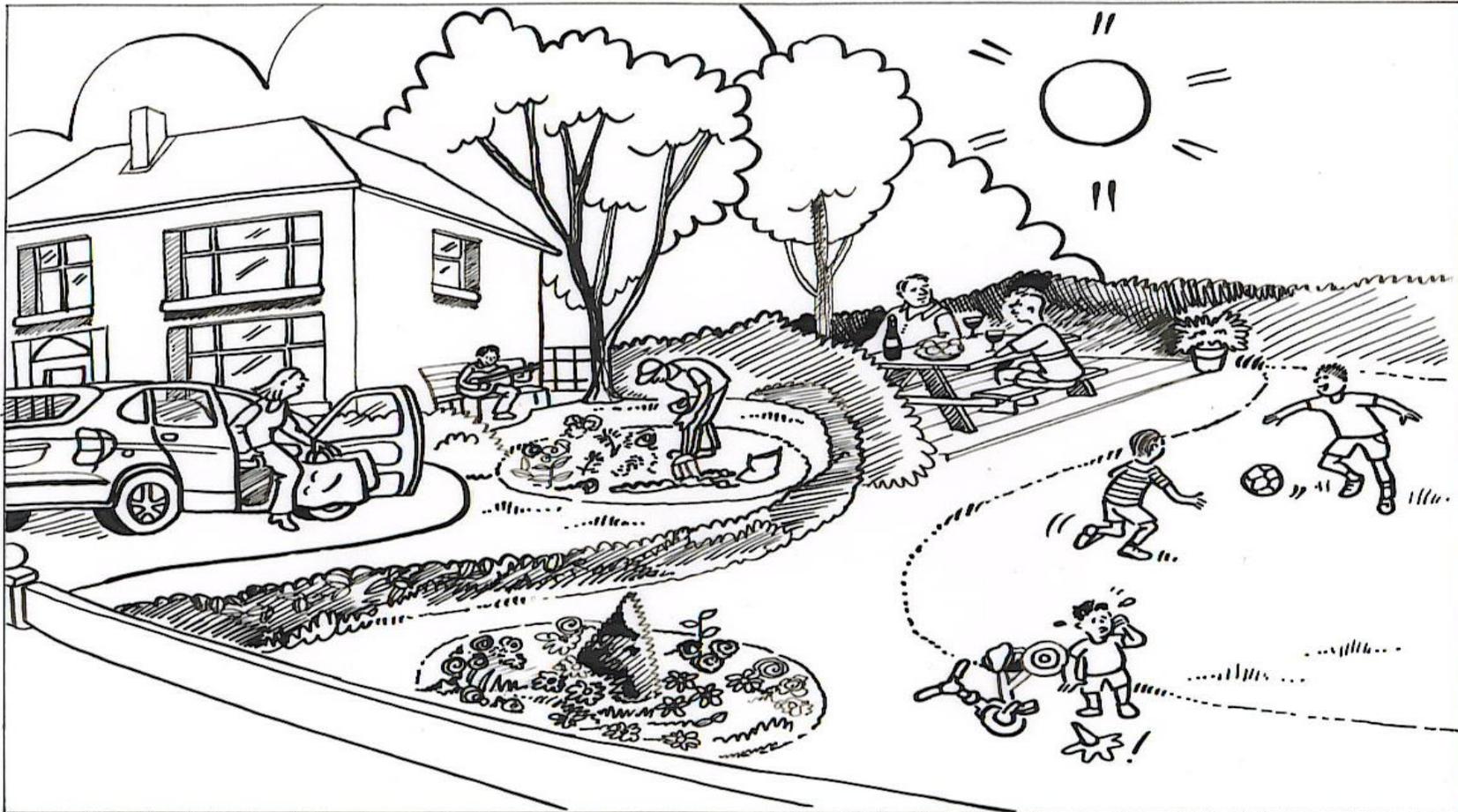
Section 3: Describing a picture Sample 2

Tá nóiméad amháin agat le breathnú ar an bpictiúr thíos. Ansin, inis don scrúdaitheoir faoi na rudaí atá le feiceáil sa phictiúr.



Section 3: Describing a picture
Sample 3

Tá nóiméad amháin agat le breathnú ar an bpictiúr thíos. Ansin, inis don scrúdaitheoir faoi na rudaí atá le feiceáil sa phictiúr.



Section 3: Describing a picture Sample 4

Tá nóiméad amháin agat le breathnú ar an bpictiúr thíos. Ansin, inis don scrúdaitheoir faoi na rudáí atá le feiceáil sa phictiúr.

