

# Classroom Pack

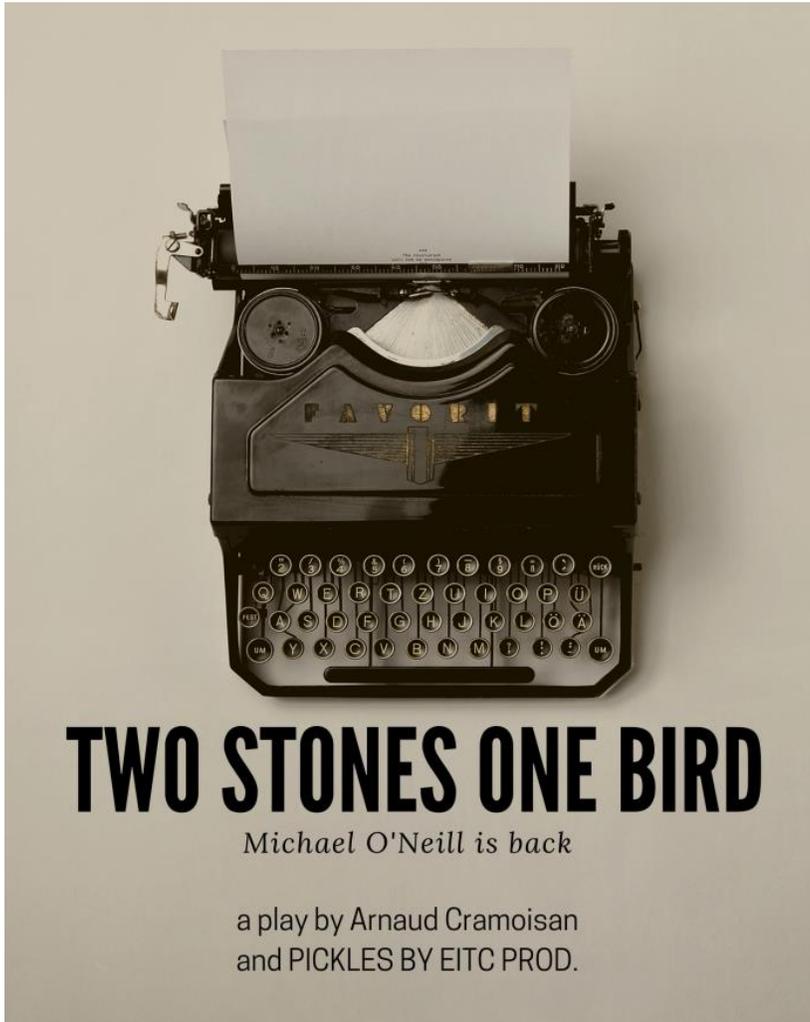


Michael O'Neill is back



# TWO STONES ONE BIRD

a play by Arnaud Cramoisan  
and PICKLES BY EITC PROD.



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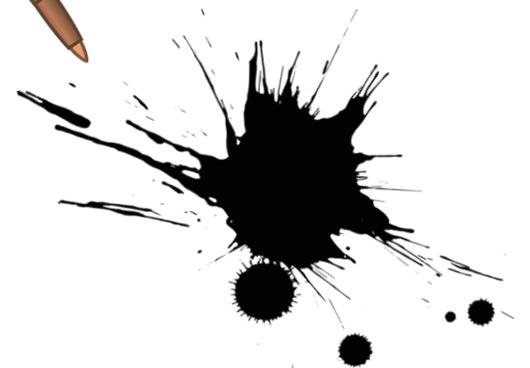
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# multiple choice

**Description:** You have now discovered the plot of the play "*One Bird, Two Stones*" and its different protagonists. Let's see what you remember.

**1. Jacky is down to earth**

- True
- False

**2. Simon became a star**

- when acting in Ireland
- when he starred in American movies

**3. Britney Adams is believed to be a drug addict**

- True
- False

**4. Jenny O'Donoghue**

- has always been very successful in her professional life as a model and actress
- has lived in Simon's shadow since he became famous

**Task:** Read the sentences and mark the correct answer.

**5. Simon seems to have died**

- from a drug overdose
- from a hit on the head

**6. Gray wanted to see Simon dead and Britney arrested**

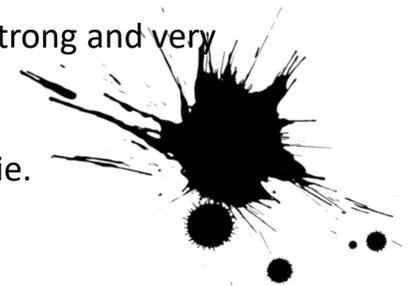
- True
- False

**7. Chief Parker**

- needs the help of journalists to have information about the murder.
- can't stand rumours and fake leads journalists are fond of.

**8. Mike O'Neill is**

- the typical hero of police forces: efficient, strong and very perceptive.
- enthusiastic and hardworking but he sometimes forgets he is not acting in a movie.



# oral expression

**Description:** The terrible news is spreading across Ireland: Mrs Sullivan has been murdered. Police officers are said to have arrested a suspect, but no official statement has been made so far.

**Task:** Work in pairs

**Student A:** You are a police officer. You are alone with the suspect and you try to make him/ her confess. You have overwhelming evidence to prove his/her guilt. Explain the facts and why you're convinced that he/she is the culprit. With the help of the worksheet, prepare questions and try to reveal the truth about Mrs Sullivan's tragic murder. Fill in the frames with extra elements.  
You start the conversation.

**Student B:** You have been asked to come to the police station to testify about Mrs Sullivan's murder. You know nothing about it and wonder how you could be useful to the investigation. With the help of the worksheet, prepare your answers and try to be convincing in order to be out as soon as possible. Fill in the frames with extra elements

POLICE OFFICER

THE SUSPECT



**STUDENT A:**

**POLICE OFFICER**

# oral expression

**STUDENT B:**

**THE SUSPECT**

Name	Superintendent ...
Personality	Mike O'Neill is your role model: offbeat but efficient
	You are very stubborn and suspicious but stay fair
	...
Facts about the murder	Mrs Sullivan, 56 years old, was stabbed on Wednesday around 10 pm
	She used to be a writer but stopped working when she won the lottery 2 years before her murder
	She didn't speak to her neighbours except to shout at them or complain
	She was going blind
	...
Testimony of B's neighbour	B was seen getting out of Mrs Sullivan's house every night which was strange given that ....
	B was said to need money because ...
	...
	...
Other clues	
Questions to ask B about	his / her relationship with Mrs Sullivan
	his / her motive
	His / her alibi
	Causes of financial problems and sudden improvement of situation
Final decision	You have now doubts about B's guilt
	You need to interview B's neighbour again

Name	
Personal facts	You are passionate and lose your calm very easily. Still, you are really anxious to be questioned at the police station.
	You are much younger than the majority of your neighbours.
	You plead innocent!
Facts	Mrs Sullivan, 56 years old, was stabbed on Wednesday around 10 pm
	She used to be a writer but stopped working when she won the lottery 2 years before her murder
	She didn't speak to her neighbours except to shout at them or complain
	She was going blind and spent now much time alone listening to music
Link with Mrs Sullivan	You had lost quite a bit of money at the casino and needed extra money because ...
	...
	You proposed to help your neighbours for different tasks in exchange of a little money. Mrs Sullivan contacted you secretly to ask you to ...
	...
Motive	since then you had a great relationship and saw each other very regularly, mostly at night when nobody could see you.
	You had legal problems in the past because...
	... but you are now a model citizen.
Alibi	You really liked Mrs Sullivan and you had no interest of seeing her dead, on the contrary!
	You love running at night and were doing so in the nearby forest when poor Mrs Sullivan was murdered
Reactions to your neighbour's testimony	You are really surprised by your neighbour's claim
	He / she is a weird person who can't stand noises or loud music and loves gossiping.
	You know he / she has always been jealous of your relationship with Mrs Sullivan because...
	...
	You wonder what was your neighbour's interest in lying to the police ....

# written expression

**Description:** You have recently attended the performance of *One Bird, Two Stones* by the Pickles Theatre Company. The editors of your school magazine are planning to organize a ceremony to spotlight the best comedian, the most hilarious moment, ... (just like Simon O'Donoghue was awarded with a prize just before his tragic death) or, were there things that could be improved in the performance? The editors need to know what you thought about the play!

**Task:** Write a critical review in which you explain what you particularly (dis)liked in the performance of *One Bird, Two Stones*.

**Focus** on the strengths and/or weaknesses of the play and illustrate your points.

Try to be as analytical as possible: ask yourself why you felt in such a way at that moment, ...

You would like to join the editing team of the school magazine so make sure to pay attention to the following points to impress them:

- **The plot:** summary, who, what, where, when, events, ...
- **The cast:** who are the main actors, what roles do they play, are they convincing or not, why, ... Who impressed you the most? Why?
- **The production:** rhythm, lighting, costumes, music, ...
- **Genre:** comedy, drama, different acting techniques (mime, ...), ...
- **The target audience:** who are the people targeted and who are the people who will like the play? Why? Is it an interesting project for English learners? Why? Are audience members involved in the performance?
- **The title:** is it relevant? What is the link between the plot and the title?
- ...

If you lack inspiration have a look at the video reviewing the movie "In Bruges" in the culture part of the classroom pack.



# culture

An insight into Dublin and the Irish artistic world.  
*Are you ready for the trip?*

**Description:** Dublin is where everything started for Simon O'Donoghue: his meeting with his wife and his best friend, his first remarkable acting performances at the Gaiety Acting School, the Irish Film Centre prize celebrating his whole career, .... but it's also where everything stopped. Despite Simon's tragic end, Dublin is a lovely place to visit and has been the birthplace of many amazing movies. Are you ready for the trip?

**Task:** An Irish tourist has been travelling around Ireland and has spent a few days in Dublin. He regularly publishes information on his Facebook page about the places he particularly liked and the interesting things he learned about the English-speaking world. As a fan of crime literature and Irish movies he shares some of his favourite. Have a look at the different documents with your team, take some notes if necessary and be ready to answer your teacher's questions.



# culture

## A. Reading comprehension and video watching: Dublin

**Task:** Read the text and watch the video to discover Dublin and its varied activities

**Description:** You have now discovered the plot of the play "*One Bird, Two Stones*" and its different protagonists. Let's see what you remember.

### TEN THINGS TO DO IN DUBLIN

Watch the video and take down notes about the most interesting places in the Irish Capital

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuCNh8U4G1I>

**Dublin** is the capital and largest city of Ireland. Situated on a bay on the east coast, it is also a great place to discover. After landing in Dublin, you will have to carefully choose the activities you are interested in if you only have a few days to spend in the city.

### Dublin's districts: Architecture, economy and arts

Dublin is divided into a number of "districts" where you will realise there's something for everyone. In the 'Medieval Quarter' you will visit Dublin Castle, Christ Church and St Patrick's Cathedral and the old city walls



# culture

In the '**Georgian Quarter**' fans of architecture and history will be delighted with the **Merrion Square** and **Trinity College** .

Walk through the '**Docklands Quarter**' and come across the European headquarters of high-tech companies such as **Google, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn** and startups then wander in the '**Creative Quarter**', the historical area of design and artisan boutiques.

## Temple Bar

Temple Bar is identified as Dublin's '**cultural quarter**' and is one of the best known tourist destinations in the capital. Because of this concentration of travellers, it is sometimes said that the area has lost a bit of its authenticity. However, visiting Dublin without spending time in Temple Bar is unthinkable.

Dive into this artistic world. Experience the magic of the street performers and concerts on streets and in the many pubs of the neighbourhood. Dublin has seen the performances of musicians such as **U2, The Dubliners, Sinéad O'Connor** etc.

Book lovers? Make sure to have a look at the treasures sold at **The Temple Bar Book Market** on Saturdays and Sundays in Temple Bar Square.

If you prefer movies, pop over to **Meetinghouse Square** where outdoor film-screenings are organised in the summer months.

Still in Temple Bar you can have a look at the **Irish Film Institute's** programme. This national cultural institution for film provides audiences with a variety of movies of the Irish and international cinema. At the Irish Film Institute (IFI) you will have the opportunity to watch Irish films which are not released anywhere else. This ensures the visibility of Irish original movies dealing with a variety of themes and protects the heritage of the national film making.

The IFI also introduces young audiences to cinema culture and inspiring movies and proposes specific programmes in different languages for schools and young people. It has therefore a very educative role to play as well.

What would the Film industry be without directors and actors?

Temple Bar is also home to the **Gaiety School of Acting**.

The school has existed since 1986 and was founded by actor and director Joe Dowling, worried about the lack of full-time actor training available in Ireland at the time.

The school's objective is to train actors for theatre, film and television. It offers part or full-time trainings, 10 weeks courses or weekend workshops and addresses adults or under 18s.

The school has been providing professional actor training for over 30 years and graduates include **Colin Farrell** (*In Bruges, Dumbo*), Olivia Wilde (*House*), Colin O'Donoghue (*Once Upon A Time*), Aidan Turner (*The Hobbit*), Eva Birthistle (*The Last Kingdom*) and Cillian Murphy (*Peaky Blinders*).

If you are interested in meeting stars, don't hesitate to travel to **Dalkey**, the Irish "*Côte d'Azur*", a seaside resort southeast of the city where you may come across some celebrities.



Trinity College



## B. Reading comprehension and video watching: Irish people and the cinema

As you have read, many prestigious actors and actresses have graduated in Dublin at the **Gaiety School of Acting**.

The Irish cinema has no cause to be envious of the American industry and blockbusters! Indeed, over time, many films, actors and filmmakers, Irish or of Irish origin, have been recognized as brilliant and were awarded prizes such as the prestigious Oscars.

An Irish and American actress who is rising to fame is **Saoirse Ronan**. The young lady of 25 has been nominated for different awards since the beginning of her career at a very young age. Lately she was nominated at different award ceremonies for her role in *Brooklyn* (2015). She finally won the **Golden Globe Award** for her leading role in *Lady Bird* (2017).

### LADY BIRD

Watch the trailer and explain what the plot seems to be about.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNi\\_HC839Wo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNi_HC839Wo)

Saoirse Ronan in Brooklyn



Saoirse Ronan in Lady Bird



Irish actors, screenwriters and directors seem to be also interested in relating the History of Ireland. Among some cult movies, let's remember **Ken Loach's** *The Wind That Shakes The Barley* (2006) that is set during the Irish War of Independence and the Irish Civil War and Steve McQueen's *Hunger* (2008) about the Irish Hunger Strike in 1981.

**Cillian Murphy** was one of the actors performing in *The Wind That Shakes The Barley* (2006) and is one of the rising Irish stars. He also acted in *Batman* Films as the character of Scarecrow and in *Inception* (2010).

He starred in the crime drama television series *Peaky Blinders* for which he was acknowledged as Best Actor by the Irish Film and Television Awards in 2017 and 2018 for his role as Tommy Shelby, the Peaky Blinders gang leader.

*Peaky Blinders* is a gangster family epic set in Birmingham, England in 1919. The gang comes to the attention of Chief Inspector Major Chester Campbell, a detective in the Royal Irish Constabulary. Campbell had been in charge of getting rid of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), communists, gangs and other criminals present in Belfast. He is now in Birmingham to restore order. Season 5 is about to be released!

## Video watching: Irish crime comedies

**Task:** Read the text and watch the video to discover Dublin and its varied activities

**Description:** You have now discovered the plot of the play "*One Bird, Two Stones*" and its different protagonists. Let's see what you remember.

Movie review:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYZ1-H0174o>



# culture

## C. Reading comprehension: English and Irish crime literature

If you think about detective novels of the English-speaking world you necessarily think of two major British authors: **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle** (1859-1930) and **Mrs Agatha Christie** (1890-1976).

These two writers are well-known for their emblematic heroes: respectively **Sherlock Holmes** and **Dr Watson** and **Hercule Poirot** and **Miss Marple**.

Their novels are still very popular today and many have been adapted for the screen. **Robert Downey Jr.** and **Jude Law** as Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson in *Sherlock Holmes* (2009).

When talking about crime fiction Irish writers are not left out.

Irish crime novels, like movies, seem to be inspired by Irish History and novels belonging to the new trend of historical crime fiction have recently been acclaimed.

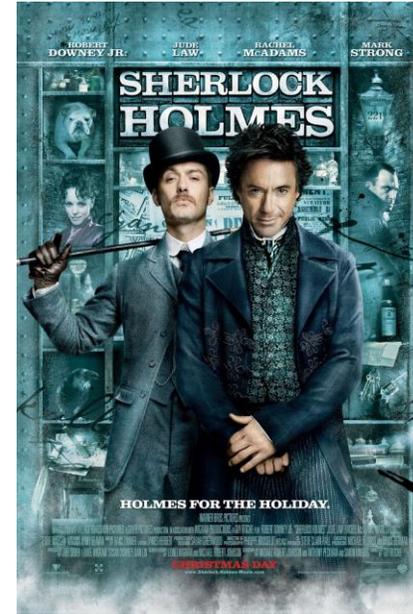
Among them, let's remember **Joseph O'Connor's *Star of the Sea*** edited in 2004. It was awarded many prizes and sold more than 800,000 copies in a year. The novel is set in 1847 at the time of the Irish famine and the important immigration of Irish people to the USA.

At the time potato crops were destroyed by a potato blight leading, from 1845 to 1849, to starvation and diseases. About one million people died and a million more emigrated from Ireland. This event left its mark on the Irish population.

The narrator of O'Connor's bestseller is one of the passengers, **G. Grantley Dixon**, a New York Times reporter. He tells the story of this 26-day journey and give an account of who were his fellow "travellers". Past and present intertwine with flashbacks relating the horrendous living conditions of Irish people during the famine.

*The Star of the Sea* from the title is the name of the ship making the journey from Ireland to New York. On board are hundreds of refugees and among them...

... a murderer.



**Robert Downey Jr.** and **Jude Law** as Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson in *Sherlock Holmes* (2009).

**Joseph O'Connor's *Star of the Sea*** edited in (2004).

