The Irish musical tradition

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English&Language – Dublin 2016

Where do you think this type of music comes from?

Thig crioch air saoghai, ach mairidih gaol is céol





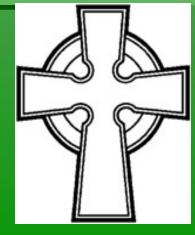




When did it originate?









THE CELTS

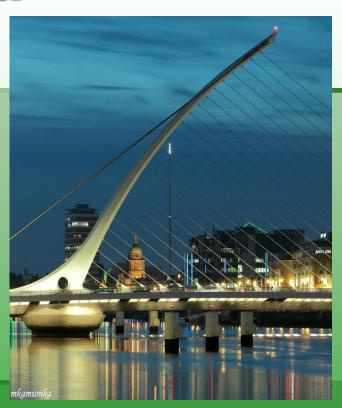


- They were tribes tied by a similar language, religion and culture that lived in several parts of Europe during the Iron Age and during the Middle Ages
- They were warriors but they also loved music
- These tribes migrated because they were being attacked by Julius Caesar and by Germanic tribes and settled down in places like Ireland
- Irish traditional music originated from the Celts about 2000 years ago

The harp - a Symbol of Ireland

Coat of arms of **Ireland**





THE HARP

- An ancient type of harp appears in documents written by Irish monks in the 8th century.
- · It was also shown in coins made during the 1500s.
- · The harp was also used as a symbol in the Irish Rebellion of 1798
- · It is the oldest official symbol of Ireland.
- Nowadays, It appears on Irish coins. The harp became the trademark of Guinness, the Irish most famous beer, in 1862.









Traditional Irish Musical Instruments



Fiddle (violin)

Whistle (flute)



Uilleann pipes

Harp





Concertina (accordion)



Banjo

Bodhrán



Bouzouki (mandolin)

Ukulele





Harmonica

Music on the street













do they play it

WHERE?

can you learn it





Follow up activity: discussion

1. Imagine you are in Ireland. Where can you go if you want to listen to traditional Irish music? Name 3 places.

2. Where would you go if you wanted to learn to play a traditional Irish instrument?

3. Would you like to learn to play traditional Irish music? Which instrument? Why?





Irish traditional music and Rock&Roll from Dubliners, Thin Lizzy, the Pogues to Metallica and Dexys



Traditional Irish song: Cerrickfergus

Answer (orally):

- What does the first line "I wish I was in Cerrickfergus" suggest?
- Where is the singer? What lies behind him and Carrickfergus?
- When was he last there?
- When will he be there again?
- Is this an epic or a lyric poem?
- What kind of feelings does the poem convey?
 happines /sadness, loneliness/ togetherness, feelings of friendship, love or regret ?

Language analysis:

- Read the poem again and find some nouns for places, e.g.: ocean
- Find some nouns with adjectives which describe them, e.g.: deepest ocean ...
- Find the words which mean the same as:



- The act of reflecting, serious thinking
- Connection of people by blood or marriage ___ __ __ __ __
- Wandering, moving from place to place ___ __ __ __

What is a sentimental poem of folk origin adapted for singing, called: a) sonnet b) ballad c) epic