

# TIME BOUND

*Time Bound Newsletter*

## Hot topic - Get exam fit!

The 'decade of centenaries' continues in 2018. The two key events this year concern both Ireland and Europe as a whole.

- 1918 is mostly remembered as the year the Great War came to an end.
- The resulting British general election had profound ramifications for Ireland. The Irish Parliamentary Party was wiped out as Sinn Féin replaced them with a radical plan of separation and republicanism.

These two issues are crucial to understanding the various topics that will underscore a very difficult period between the two countries. Irish veterans of the war returned home to find the country changed beyond recognition.

In addition to mastering the main facts and chronology of each topic, it is crucial to recognise the ripple effect that each event produced:

- The Treaty of Versailles → the resultant radicalisation of politics in mainland Europe
- The 1918 election → the radicalisation of politics at home (the call for Sinn Féin MPs to ignore Westminster and set up an Irish 'Dáil')

The genesis of the War of Independence is found within the election of 1918. So too is partition. All these angles and topics make for a myriad of possibilities for exam takers this year.

## Helpful links for the 1918-2018 centenary

RTÉ has provided some wonderful **first-hand commentary** for what life was like for the Irish fighting in World War I. Also, the **BBC** provides its own insight into the Irish who went to war between 1914 and 1918.

The **Imperial War Museum** has, as you would expect, a wealth of resources focusing on the Great War, while **here** you can find a series of maps that provide a visual representation of the entire conflict.

Tom Kettle, Home Rule MP and talented poet, was 36 when he was killed in action in the Battle of the Somme in 1916. He was one of 35,000 Irishmen to die in the war. A bust of Kettle can be seen in St Stephen's Green, Dublin.



## Other syllabus hints

**Strand 2: World War II and Ireland** is a great comparative tool. Known as the 'Emergency', the war raised moral and economic arguments for and against neutrality. This is an excellent interactive timeline link to other informative sites.

**Strand 3:** The Revolutionary period, covering America and France, is excellent for **examining the effects on Ireland** of external events. It is also excellent for debating issues and ideologies such as democracy, sovereignty, monarchies and republics.



Civilians sheltering in a London tube station during the Blitz



Rationing in Ireland during World War II



An American tank during the Battle of the Bulge, 1944

## Classroom challenge

A table quiz between two large groups in the class is always a fun way for students to revise and familiarise themselves with material. Picture rounds, speech identification rounds and straight historical questions are always keenly and competitively attacked. Classrooms with whiteboard technology are particularly good for these quizzes. Visuals are always a great way to demystify history and make the 'boring' criticisms redundant.

The multiple-choice quizzes available for each chapter of *Time Bound* on FolensOnline.ie make a great source for these questions.

FolensOnline.ie  
Your complete teaching resource hub



## Study tips for students

- **Minimise distractions:** Remove your phone, laptop or tablet from the room. If you need your device for studying, install 'AppBlock – Stay Focused' or 'ClearLock' to prevent social media notifications.
- **Planning:** Use a wall-planner to keep track of progress. Ensure you have all necessary notes, books and equipment.
- **Approach:** Tackle difficult topics first. Set realistic goals.
- **Wellbeing:** Keep your study area neat, stay hydrated, and take breaks to stretch. Download **headspace app** for a mindfulness tool to stay mentally fit.