

Sample Talks

- *You have been asked to give a short talk to your classmates, in which you welcome two new students from Eastern Europe into your class. Write out the text of the talk you would give.*

Fellow classmates, good morning. Mr. Burn's, our esteemed History teacher, has invited me to speak to you briefly on what is a very special occasion for St. Michael's school, here in Caherwhite.

This morning, we are delighted to welcome into our school community, two new students who have travelled hundreds of miles to be with us today. Anna, on my left, and Luca, on my right, embarked on a journey with their families from their homeland in Latvia almost three months ago. Since then, they have, I trust, been excited by our unique culture and enjoyed the hospitality for which we in Ireland are renowned.

All of us in this class appreciate how difficult it must be for both Anna and Luca to begin school surrounded by unfamiliar faces and having to tackle new subject areas in a language that even we find hard to master. However, let me assure you that each of us in this history class will do all we can to make your stay a happy and successful one.

Before I finish, may I just mention briefly our own history, the history of our people. We are all aware of the millions of Irish people who have travelled the globe in search of opportunity, in search of new beginnings, in search of hope through the centuries. You, Anna and Luca, have arrived at our shores. May you find a harbour of hope, a harbour of opportunity, a harbour of new and exciting possibilities in our country and indeed in our school.

To Anna and Luca, cead mile failte, one hundred thousand welcomes!

Thank you.

- *Imagine you are the captain of your school team which has just won a Provincial title. You have been asked to give a talk, at a gathering later that day, to team members and their families. Write out the text of the talk you would give.*

Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you very much for your applause and for turning out here in such huge numbers tonight. I wish I was as good on the microphone as I am shouting at my team mates on the field, but don't worry, I won't be too long!

Can I begin by just saying how delighted and proud I am to stand here this evening with this magnificent cup in my hands. I know, and you all know, about the blood, sweat and tears that many people gave to win this Leinster Senior Football Title. In particular, I want to thank our team manager, Mr. Casey, who stayed back after school on many dark and wet winter evenings to train our team and put some shape on us. Without his determination, his words of advice and his fairness in dealing with each player on the panel, we would not be here tonight celebrating today's marvellous victory.

My thanks also go to our Principal, Miss O'Meara for her support of the team during the year and for permitting us to decorate the school with flags and bunting over the last week or so. We are also very grateful to our Year Head, Mr. Kavanagh and all of our tutors who were fantastic in their support and encouragement to the team throughout the year. I think you'll agree, they all deserve a big round of applause.

Finally, to you our parents, friends and supporters, myself and all of the team say a big thank you for all your cheering, singing, and excited laughter today. You were brilliant! Our parents drove us half way around the country to matches while we nearly drove them up the wall. Our friends didn't abandon us, even when we lost interest in their Bebo sites and preferred to talk football instead!

Today was a great day, a day that will live in our memories and in our hearts for years to come. Today we finally did it! It's time to celebrate. Hip-Hip...Hooray

Thank you very much.