

Cost of Living – class discussion

The cost of living in Ireland is high. How do the prices here compare with other countries where you have lived?

- A.** Tick (✓) under the correct heading: more expensive, the same or less expensive.

	More Expensive	The Same	Less Expensive
Houses			
Cars			
Clothes			
Shoes			
Transport			
Food			
Household / Electrical Appliances			
Car Tax			
Petrol			
Telephone			
Electricity / Gas / Heating			
Other:			

B. Work with your partner. Prepare the vocabulary you need to discuss **one** of the following topics: Childcare, Housing or Food.

1. Childcare

- Is childcare too expensive in Ireland? Why do you think that is?
- Should the government provide free childcare?
- Is the child benefit allowance in Ireland fair? Should it be means-tested?
- Should workers pay more income tax to finance child care services?

2. Housing

- Why do you think houses in Ireland are among the most expensive in the world?
- What should the government do to help people buy homes?
- Do more people in Ireland try to buy their homes than in other countries?

3. Food

- Are food items overpriced in Ireland?
- What shops/supermarkets/ street markets offer the best value for money?
- How much do you think a household with two adults and three children will spend each week on food?
- Suggest ways to economise on food bills

C. Present your opinions to the class and be prepared to respond to comments and / or questions.

D. Listen to your classmates' presentations and be prepared to make comments or ask questions about what they say.