

Numbers dictation

This dictation can be used as a stand alone activity or as a follow up to the worksheets 'Numbers and Figures' and 'Reading Large Numbers'.

Read this excerpt from the *Irish Times* and have the learners write down what they hear, then give them a copy (next page) to check they were able to copy down the numbers correctly.

The number of visits by Irish citizens to the United States last year is estimated at more than 500,000 putting Ireland among the top 10 countries in the world in terms of visitor numbers.

This was a significant increase on 2005 when official US figures put the number of non-immigrant Irish visitors at 429,940, putting Ireland in 14th place in the world.

The average stay for Irish visitors during 2006 was 14 nights, according to the US Office of Travel and Tourism, and the average amount of money spent per day was €104.78. More than half, or 53 per cent, visited New York City and almost one in four, or 23 per cent, rented a car during their stay in the US.

The number of visitors is remarkable in view of the size of Ireland's population at around four million. The level of mobility of the population is also reflected in reports that the number of visitors to Spain last year was approximately one million. Irish visitors to the Canary Islands alone are estimated at 440,000 in 2005.

Ireland is far ahead of most of its EU partners in terms of visits to the United States. Figures for 2006 were as follows: Austria, 152,850; Belgium 209,586; Denmark 187,613; Finland;102,366;Greece;61,699; Poland 177,956; Portugal 99,368;Sweden 309,334.

Dictation

Read the text and correct what you wrote. Did you get the numbers right?

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