

## **State Examinations Commission Press Office**

### **Media Statement**

#### **Media Statement Junior Certificate Ordinary Level English 8th June 2005**

Candidates in the Ordinary Level Junior Certificate examination sit one examination paper consisting of six sections. Section 2, Personal Writing, asks candidates to write one composition from a range of eight topics. The choice of composition topics on this morning's paper included "Travelling on the School Bus".

Examination papers, which are set a number of months in advance of the examinations, must be based on the prescribed syllabus and are generally expected to reflect students' learning experience. Candidates are expected to write about situations that reflect the reality of their daily lives. Inevitably, therefore, students will encounter at school in the examinations situation written texts, as well as aural and visual material, related to matters that may, at the time, impact on their lives – for example, accidents, violence, drug abuse, crime, or poverty. While every effort is made to avoid the inclusion of material that might cause offence or upset, it is not possible to exclude from examinations all reference to subjects and topics that might be associated with a traumatic experience for some candidates.

**ENDS**

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