

Under Strict Embargo until 6 AM on Wednesday 12th October 2005

STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPEALS 2005

12th October 2005

The State Examinations Commission has released the appeal results for the 2005 Leaving Certificate examination. Candidates will receive the results of their appeals today either through their school or through the on-line examination results service on www.examinations.ie. At 12 midday today the Leaving Cert examination results available on www.examinations.ie will be updated to reflect the appeal outcomes.

In 2005, the Leaving Certificate (Established and Vocational) examinations culminated in the issue of almost 375,000 grades to some 54,000 candidates. A total of 6,356 candidates made applications for appeals against 11,567 grades leading to 2,612 upgrades and 5 downgrades. Small numbers of appeals were also processed in subjects in the Leaving Certificate Applied Programme.

In the processing of appeals, the work of each candidate is fully re-marked question by question using the original marking scheme. The re-marking is performed by a different examiner to the one who originally marked the work.

Candidates may opt to view their re-marked examination scripts. Candidates are required to complete the application form that accompanies the appeal results and to return it through the school that entered them for examination by Friday 14th October. Externally entered candidates should return the form directly to the SEC. All such applications must be with the SEC by 5 PM on Tuesday 18th October 2005. The viewing will be held in the Athlone office of the SEC on Saturday 22nd October between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm.

Candidates who are dissatisfied with the outcome of their appeal have further recourse to the Independent Appeals Scrutineers. The Scrutineers' role is to ensure that due process has been followed in the case of each appeal and that all of the appeal procedures were properly carried out. The Scrutineers are independent of the State Examinations Commission and they have the power to request from the SEC all documentation relating to an appeal in conducting their investigations. Application forms for an appeal review by the Independent Appeal Scrutineers have been provided with the appeal results.

The appeals process is also used as a further quality assurance check on the original results processing. This year this quality assurance process has culminated in 58 upgrades for candidates who had not appealed.

NUMBER AND OUTCOME OF APPEALS 2005

A total of 11,567 individual subject appeals were processed resulting in 2,612 upgrades and 5 downgrades. Details of the number and outcome of appeals are shown below for subjects in which more than 10 appeals were made.

Leaving Certificate Appeals 2005

SUBJECT	LEVEL	CANDIDATES	APPEALS	UPGRADES
ENGLISH	H	32,351	2,153	423
BIOLOGY	H	17,485	1,216	326
GEOGRAPHY	H	20,939	1,076	318
IRISH	H	14,358	731	208
BUSINESS	H	13,406	676	147
FRENCH	H	14,611	648	128
MATHEMATICS	H	9,843	592	128
MATHEMATICS	O	36,773	459	83
HISTORY	H	6,381	452	167
CHEMISTRY	H	6,033	448	69
PHYSICS	H	5,508	442	44
ART	H	7,632	367	70
LINKS MODULES(LCVP)	C	14,253	277	61
HOME ECONOMICS - S+ S	H	9,712	272	47
ACCOUNTING	H	5,091	249	67
ECONOMICS	H	3,682	246	36
GERMAN	H	4,688	151	43
IRISH	O	28,066	124	13
MUSIC	H	4,227	124	25
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE	H	2,623	109	45
TECHNICAL DRAWING	H	3,060	109	18
CLASSICAL STUDIES	H	736	84	5
CONSTRUCTION STUDIES	H	6,719	82	27
FRENCH	O	15,981	76	9
SPANISH	H	1,135	75	14
ENGLISH	O	19,173	73	36
APPLIED MATHEMATICS	H	1,292	68	15
ECONOMIC HISTORY	H	289	29	8
ENGINEERING	H	3,435	17	1
PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY	H	549	17	2
ITALIAN	H	167	15	11
BIOLOGY	O	7,877	12	0
ARABIC	H	126	10	2

H = Higher, O = Ordinary, C = Common.

Appeals were also made in Ordinary Level Accounting, Agricultural Science, Art, Business, Chemistry, Construction Studies, Economics, Economic History, Engineering, Geography, German, History, Home Economics, Italian, Physics, Physics & Chemistry, Spanish and Technical Drawing; Higher Level Agricultural Economics, Latin and Religious Education; and Foundation Level Irish and Mathematics.

The figures do not include a small number of appeals, which have yet to be finalised.

ENDS

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