

STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPEAL RESULTS 2003

7th October 2003

The State Examinations Commission have released the appeal results for the 2003 Leaving Certificate examination. Candidates will receive the results of their appeals today.

In 2003, the Leaving Certificate examination culminated in the issue of almost 390,000 grades to 59,000 candidates. Appeal applications were made against 10,299 results in 30 subjects leading to 2192 upgrades and 5 downgrades.

In the processing of appeals, the work of each candidate is fully re-marked question by question. A fundamental feature of the appeal process is that the re-marking is performed by a different examiner to the one who originally marked the work.

For the first time this year, all oral tests in language subjects were recorded. In previous years, only the written and aural components of results in Gaeilge, French, German, Spanish, and Italian could be remarked on appeal. Recording the oral test has facilitated a full re-marking of all components of these subjects. In all, 95,000 oral recordings were made. There were 1,974 appeals in these subjects this year.

The appeals process is also used as further quality assurance check on the original marking. This year, the work of four assistant examiners was reviewed in the subjects Gaeilge, English, and Geography. This review has culminated in 358 upgrades for candidates who had not appealed. In addition, there were upgrades in French for 10 candidates who had not appealed. This followed a quality assurance review of the aural test in two examination centres.

These figures do not include a small number of appeals which have yet to be finalised

NUMBER AND OUTCOME OF APPEALS 2003

Details, of the number and outcome of appeals, are shown below for subjects where more than 10 appeals were made.

Subject	Level	No of Candidates	Appeals	Upgrades
ACCOUNTING	Higher	4,694	221	60
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE	Higher	2,034	32	11
ART	Higher	7,012	183	24
BIOLOGY	Higher	13,781	380	106
BIOLOGY	Ordinary	8,888	12	2

BUSINESS	Higher	16,031	814	157
CHEMISTRY	Higher	5,732	365	54
CLASSICAL STUDIES	Higher	785	101	10
CONSTRUCTION STUDIES	Higher	6,569	58	8
ECONOMIC HISTORY	Higher	301	19	2
ECONOMICS	Higher	3,753	243	39
ENGINEERING	Higher	3,524	18	5
ENGLISH	Higher	32,382	2,083	399
ENGLISH	Ordinary	21,083	80	42
FRENCH	Higher	15,060	677	174
FRENCH	Ordinary	17,436	90	17
GEOGRAPHY	Higher	21,776	1,017	260
GERMAN	Higher	5,074	202	45
GERMAN	Ordinary	3,618	17	2
HISTORY	Higher	7,333	403	130
HOME ECONOMICS - S+ S	Higher	12,732	352	45
IRISH	Higher	15,099	846	242
IRISH	Ordinary	29,463	106	18
MATHEMATICS	Higher	9,454	590	94
MATHEMATICS	Ordinary	39,099	528	135
MUSIC	Higher	3,532	99	7
PHYSICS	Higher	6,175	389	35
PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY	Higher	686	22	1
SPANISH	Higher	908	28	4
TECHNICAL DRAWING	Higher	3,392	93	17
LINKS MODULES(LCVP)	Common	13,959	86	20

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