

LESSON 11: LEARNING FROM HISTORY

Lesson aim:

- ↘ To increase students' knowledge of the changing world of work and the role unions have played in it.

Lesson objectives:

At the end of this lesson students will be able to:

- ↘ compare and contrast current and past working conditions; and
- ↘ understand the issues which workers in the past and present face.

Lesson outline:

Using the section "Dublin 1913", discuss with students what they see as the differences between living and working now and in the early 20th century in terms of:

- ↘ workplace protections;
- ↘ union membership;
- ↘ working rights and conditions; and
- ↘ living conditions.

Activity: Class discussion

Ask students to describe, based on what they have learned so far, what life might have been like for the following people in terms of their day-to-day lives, their work prospects, their living conditions etc.

- ↘ a worker;
- ↘ a school pupil; and
- ↘ a parent.

Discuss what impact they think unions may have had on the conditions they described.

Assignment: Essay writing

Write an essay entitled "My life as a worker now, compared to 1913".