



Re-Evaluating Digital Technology to Enhance Learning

Lesson Plan

Lesson Title:	Heritage Studies: Primary Sources
Lesson Duration:	1 Hour
Level:	EQL 4
Student Age Range:	18+
Learning Style(s) of Students:	Mixed
Additional Student Information:	Some students have intermediate literacy skills and prefer visual learning
Digital Technology Hardware Required:	Computer with Internet access
Digital Technology Software Required:	Online access to Youtube, National Archives, census and a suitable commercial heritage records site. Presentation software
Other Equipment Required:	None

Lesson Plan:

This lesson will show students the importance of Primary Sources to local history and Genealogy studies. Students will first be asked to log into mentimeter (www.menti.com) where they will be asked to answer the following questions:

- What is a primary source?
- Where can primary sources be accessed?
- What type of heritage work can primary sources be used for?
- Name some websites that hold primary sources?
- Name physical locations of Primary sources?

The answers to these questions can lead into a general discussion on the importance and use of primary source material..

The teacher will then identify and explain some key primary sources available online, starting with the Census. Students will watch a short film about using the Census (eg. 1901 Census of Ireland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiQ16E84Zgc>)

Other films may also be recommended to them for study after class (E.g. Making the most of - The 1901/1911 Census of Ireland https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qa9LNiR_9yk)

The teacher will make sure that the students understand how best to draw information from the primary source and students will then be given the opportunity to access the online Census records to search for their ancestors or people in their locality.

Students will then be made aware of and given an opportunity to explore other online resources such as Griffith Valuation, Tithe Applotment books and Vital records from the General Register.

The teacher will then spend some time making students aware of records that are available through various archives including National Archives, Local archives, Public libraries, Land Registry and other record depositories. This will be accompanied by a powerpoint presentation. They will watch a short introduction to accessing the National Archives (Accessing the archives https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cbk_9nx1Gm0)

Students who wish to explore this topic further will be directed to a number of further films including (Lecture: Sources for Genealogical Research in the National Archives, Ireland https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNpMqG_bJYA)

Finally we will look at some records available through commercial or private providers such as Ancestry, My heritage, Rootsweb etc. Again some practical examples will be given by allowing students to search for records that may be of interest to them such as Petty Sessions, Immigration documents, military records etc. Students will also be given time to search online for other local sources of primary records.

Students will be given an assignment to search for information relating to their own locality and the assignment may be submitted in written, oral or video format.