TOPIC OVERVIEW
For the Junior Certificate examinations, students must study 2 short stories. They must be able to give a summary of the story and answer essay style questions about the themes, characters and emotions found in the story. ‘An Gadaí’ is a short story written by Padraig Mac Piarais. For a couple of weeks leading up to this team-teaching class, the students had covered and read through the story. They were also familiar with the vocabulary, themes and characters in the story.

GROUP ACTIVITY
The students worked in groups of 4 or 5 to complete the task that had been given to them. Tasks were specifically allocated in a differentiated approach to suit the different types of learners. These activities ensured that the students used and developed all four language skills; reading, oral, writing and listening skills.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
• L.O.1: Work as part of a team to complete a task.
• L.O.2: Use previously learnt vocabulary to complete a revision-based task.

RESOURCES
• Activity packs with worksheets and instructions for each group.
• Copy of each worksheet for each teacher.
• Additional textbooks.

HOW DID IT GO?
We felt the lesson was very successful. The students seemed to be fully engaged in their various task and activities. There was a real buzz in the classroom and the students were enthusiastic about their roles within the groups. As the groups were small, every student had an individual role to play in order to get the exercise complete. This, along with teacher observation and guidance resulted in 100% anticipation and the work was fully completed by the end of class. As teachers, it gave us an opportunity to engage and interact with the students and it allowed us to assess the students’ progress and knowledge of the subject matter in a relaxed and enjoyable way. Overall, the experience was beneficial and enjoyable for all involved.

STUDENT FEEDBACK
‘When can we do that again?’
‘I enjoyed that class!’
‘It was good to do something different’.

LESSON PLAN OUTLINE
• Both teachers hand out activity packs to each specific group. Each teacher supervises 3 groups. Each teacher goes around to each group to ensure that the students understand what is being asked of them in the activity.
• Teachers continue to circulate the room providing support for each group.
• Teachers collect the worksheets and receive oral feedback from the class.