The purpose of this lesson was to revise newspaper front page layouts to aid students with their preparation in answering questions in the media studies section of the Junior Cert exam. Students were asked to work in groups to create the front page of a newspaper. In order to do this they had to first revise the different terminology and methods behind newspaper production and then produce the front page of a newspaper.

Teacher One introduces the lesson and hands out the newspaper analysis worksheet.

Teacher Two explains the task, and in groups of four the students complete the worksheet.

Both teachers walk around the room, monitoring student participation and helping where needed.

Students answers are written on the board by Teacher Two.

Teacher One explains the main task and assigns roles/tasks to individual students in each group, whilst teacher two hands out the relevant resources.

Again, both teachers walk around the room monitoring student participation and helping where needed.

Split into groups of four, students had to first work together to complete a worksheet analyzing newspaper terminology. For the second group activity, the groups were given four roles (editor, artist, and two journalists) and then worked together to produce the front page.

To revise how the front page of a newspaper is designed.

To revise the correct terminology of newspapers.

To work in groups to produce the front page of a newspaper.

Both teachers felt team teaching worked especially well with group work as students had more opportunities for interaction with a teacher. It also allowed for better monitoring of student participation and created a better learning environment.

Overall, while team teaching requires a lot of planning it also allows teachers the opportunity to share resources and spread the workload.

“…team teaching was a great experience, I really enjoyed myself and can’t wait to do it again…”

Overall, I enjoyed my experience of team teaching: 84% agree.

I feel that team teaching should be used more often: 72% agree.