Notes from August 26th to September 16th 2013

Geography

* Light takes 8 minutes to get from the sun to the earth
* Earth is the 3rd planet from the sun

¼ land and ¾ water 🡪is this changing due to global warming?

93 million miles from the sun

* Driftless means you don’t have glaciers (ex: tri-state area - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Driftless_Area> )
* Point is, the geography of an area has a big impact on the lives of the people, and when studying Ireland, it’s important to know something about their geography.

Equator= 0◦

Prime Meridian = 0◦

S

Longitude

Latitude

W

E

N

* South pole is at 90 degrees south and 90 degrees north
* The British were “the scientists” = longitude and latitude lines
* Dublin =53 degrees North, 6 degrees West
* US/Canada border = 49 degrees North
* Dubuque = 42 North and 90 West (about ¼ distance around the world from Dublin about 3750 miles, 7-8 hours flying time)
* Earth is 29,000 miles long at the equator
* About 8,000 miles from Dublin to Dubuque
* Universe = 13.77 billion years old (big bang)
* Earth = 4.6 billion years old and 24k in circumference
* Sun should last 9 billion years
  + 93 million miles away
* Life Formed = 3 or 4 billion years ago
  + 2 B photosynthesis started
  + 1B multi-celled
  + 300 M dinosaurs
  + 200 M mammals
  + 2.5 M human Like
  + 200 K modern humans
* Ice age
  + 1st “current” glacial period
  + 2.6 M years ago
  + Recur 40-100K years
  + Most recent retreated 10,000 years ago
* 3 age system
  + Human Pre History
    - Stone age ( 10K – 3.6K BCE)
    - Bronze/Copper (3.6 BCE – 1K BCE)
    - Iron age (1 K BCE – 500 CE)

PRE HISTORY

* Ice age 16,000BC
* Ireland is an island 12,000 BC
* Early hunter/gatherers 6,500 BC
* Agriculture (crops/livestock) 4,000 BC
* Boyne Valley Tombs 3,500 BC
* Proto History – history of an area that other people are writing about, e.g. Roman writers referred to “Hibernia” around the time of Christ.
* Newgrange – 3000 BC – tombs, looked for pollen buried in soil to understand plants that may have been growing at the time (e.g. is there evidence of agriculture?)
* Dublin Mts- Cairns (pile of rocks)
  + Oral history passed down – hard to “prove” whether this is “true”; standard has always been to look at the written word
* Broze Age – 2000 BC – Portal Tombs
  + Portal to the other world
  + Religious ceremony
  + Opening face east
  + Sloping roofs

Recession – 2 quarters of decreased GDP

* GDP= gross domestic product – US, China, UK (huge economy)
* 2008 Europe has been struggling with a recession (bad economy)
* PIGS = Portugal, Ireland, Greece, Spain

Provinces

* Ulster – in Northern Ireland
* Leinster – Eastern Ireland
* Munster – SW Ireland (tourist)
* Connacht- Western Ireland (Little N Part)
* 32 countries in Ireland: 6 are in Northern Ireland
* Meath and West Meath make up the 5th providence of Ireland
* Prior to 1100 Vikings were in Ireland and speaking Gaelic
* Garda/Gardi – police in the Republic (PSNI – Northern Ireland)
* Diageo – multinational alcohol company (Guinness)
* Taoiseach Enda Kenny – Prime Minister
* Diaspora – when people leave your country (potato famine)

Current Event articles

* Dáil – Parliament of Irish government (senate and house)
* Seanad = house
* Michael D Higgins – from Galway
  + Lockout of 1913 – labor movement
  + Jim Larkin – labor leader called for a strike in Dublin
* Bob Geldof – lead singer of Boomtown rats
  + 1970/1980s Irish band – live AIDS concert
* Google in Ireland – save money on taxes
  + Search 1
    - GAA (Gaelic Athletic Association – 1800s)
    - Fianna Fail /– Eamon de Valera (Head person)
    - Catholic Church
  + Search 2
    - Kim K
    - Dubstep
    - Troika (references the European Commission, the ECB, and the IMF)
* IRA – Irish Republican Army
* ECB – European Central Bank
* European Commission
* IMF(International Monetary Fund)

Union with Great Britain

* End of many of the penal laws – trade off for union with great Britain
* Slow push towards “home rule”
* Daniel O’Connell

Great Famine (1845-1852)

* 1/3 population depended on potatoes
* “potato flight” affects most of Europe
* 20/25% population dies or leaves

Irish Independence

* 1912 Ulster Covenant
* 1916 Easter Rising – Patrick Pierce (WWI was happening)
* 1921-1922 Civil War
* Angelo – Irish Treaty