

OLLSCOIL NAISIUNTA NA hEIREANN
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY.

HI253: GENDER, WORK AND FAMILY IN IRELAND 1850-1922
SECOND ARTS AND VISITING STUDENTS, SEMESTER ONE, 2000-2001

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TWO hours
Answer THREE questions.

1. Discuss the relationship between the land agitation of the late nineteenth century and agricultural change in the same period.
2. Why does Cormac Ó Gráda consider 1879-82 as 'more of a watershed...than the Great Famine of the previous generation,' for people in the west of Ireland?
3. 'A strong trade union movement and a stunted political left', is how O'Connor describes the labour movement on the eve of independence. Explain how this came about, looking at the development of organized labour over this entire period.
4. Emigration certainly brought change for those who emigrated. How did it change the Irish economy and Irish society, though, in the years 1850-1922?
5. As far as work opportunities were concerned, was post-Famine Ireland characterized by decline or development, on the overall? Pay attention to all regions of Ireland, north and south, urban and rural, and to gender and class, in your answer.
6. 'The men around here don't start talking to girls until they start talking to themselves', a Meath woman said, c.1905, when asked why she did not marry. Why was there such a high rate of permanent celibacy in post-Famine Ireland?
7. The nineteenth century has been described as 'the age of the institution.' Discuss the role played by a state institution (National school, hospital, lunatic asylum, workhouse, Industrial school) in Irish life in the years 1850-1922 – or if preferred, compare and contrast two of the above institutions with each other.