

# They can't all be IRISH, can they?

## TASK 1

Some words were taken out of this text. Can you put them back in the correct spaces?

Isle

great-great-grandfather

tennis player

blood

visit

boot maker

For centuries Irish people have been moving abroad to live and work. Perhaps that's why so many people say that they are Irish. But they can't all be Irish, right? Well, maybe not – but then again...



## US PRESIDENTS

American president, Barack Obama, paid a 1 \_\_\_\_\_ to Ireland in 2011 to look at his Irish **origin**<sup>2</sup>. His great-great-grandfather was a 2 \_\_\_\_\_ from Moneygall in **County**<sup>3</sup> Offaly. Everyone knows JFK's family was from Ireland. He was the most famous Irish-American president, but did you know about Bill Clinton, Ronald Reagan and Richard Nixon? They all have Irish **roots**<sup>4</sup> too.

## HOLLYWOOD MOVIE STARS

George Clooney's 3 \_\_\_\_\_, Nicholas, was of the Clooney's of Kilkenny, and Nicholas' wife, Bridget Byron, was Irish, too. In fact, lots of Hollywood movie stars have Irish 4 \_\_\_\_\_: Anne Hathaway has **relatives**<sup>5</sup> from Cork and Donegal; Ben Stiller's mum's parents were both Irish; Johnny Depp's mum has an Irish background – the list goes on and on...

## SPORTING ICONS

Muhammad Ali is 100% Irish! Well, OK, not 100%, but his mother's grandfather was originally from Ennis in County Claire. Swimmer Michael Phelps, 5 \_\_\_\_\_ John McEnroe and professional surfer Kelly Slater – yep: Irish!

## MUSICIANS AND SINGERS

The short Australian singer Kylie Minogue has green in her blood as well. Her father's family comes from the Emerald 6 \_\_\_\_\_. And she's not the only singer: Rihanna's got an Irish background, and so do Kelly Clarkson, Christina Aguilera and the Jonas Brothers.

In fact, it's thought that there are possibly 100 million people around the world with a special Irish **connection**<sup>6</sup>. So who knows, maybe you've got some Irish blood in you too!



## TASK 2

Unscramble the letters to find out more about Ireland:

- A What is one of the colors on the Irish flag? RAGOEN
- B What is Ireland's nickname? TEI AHRMLLE SEDE
- C The name of the Saint who **chased**<sup>7</sup> all the snakes out of Ireland. NRAIP TSTKIAC
- D Which month do we celebrate this Saint's day? CAHMR
- E What is the largest city in Ireland? IDNULB



## FUN FACTS

There are more mobile phones in Ireland than people.



There are more Irish people living OUTside of Ireland than in.



Halloween comes from an Irish festival called Samhain.



The longest town name in Ireland is Muckanaghederdauhaulia (= prasečí močál mezi dvěma moři).

### VOCABULARY

- <sup>1</sup> **have been moving** – stěhovali se
- <sup>2</sup> **origin** ['ɒrɪdʒɪn] – původ
- <sup>3</sup> **county** ['kaʊnti] – hrabství
- <sup>4</sup> **roots** ['ru:ts] – kořeny
- <sup>5</sup> **relative** ['relatɪv] – příbuzný
- <sup>6</sup> **connection** [kə'nekʃ(ə)n] – spojení
- <sup>7</sup> **to chase** [tʃeɪs] – vyhnat

### SOLUTIONS:

- 1** 1 visit, 2 boot maker 3 great-great-grandfather, 4 blood, 5 tennis player, 6 Isle
- 2** A orange, B The Emerald Isle, C Saint Patrick, D March, E Dublin