# What do you know about Northern Ireland?

### Listening 1 - ordering

You will listen to a woman called Geraldine answering the following questions. Listen and number the questions in the order that you hear them.

| Number | Question |
|---|---|
|  | A. Is your region famous for having a special accent? |
|  | B. What would you say were the major changes in your area from when you were a little girl to when you were in your thirties, when you left? |
|  | C. Tell me a little bit about where you're from. |
|  | D. Did you lose anybody you loved in the "Troubles"? |
|  | E. I was going to ask you what your area is famous for... |
|  | G. What's it like now? |
|  | F. Would you say there was any special food associated with where you are from? |

### Listening 2 – Note-taking

Listen again. What are Geraldine's answers? Take notes in the table above. Compare with a partner.

### React to the listening

Now read the script, and discuss the questions with a partner.
- What do you think was most difficult for Geraldine growing up in Belfast?
- Geraldine doesn't live there now. How do you think she feels when she goes home?
- Imagine you're the interviewer. What five new questions would you like to ask Geraldine?

**Interviewer:** Tell me a little bit about where you're from.

**Geraldine:** I'm from a place in Belfast: Northern Ireland called Glenard. It was Glenard up until 1970. The Protestants burnt down old Ardoyne leading from the Cromwell Road and then Glenard became New Ardoyne – still is New Ardoyne, so it is.

**Interviewer:** What would you say were the major changes in your area from when you were a little girl to when you were in your thirties, when you left?

**Geraldine:** It was the troubles. It was the troubles of 1969, because we were brought up to believe that everyone was the same no matter what religion you were. But when the troubles happened, it was just **devastating**. We lost our freedom. You know, we couldn't go where we wanted to go. We were confined to the areas that you lived in and that went on for many years.

**Interviewer:** Did you lose anybody you loved in the troubles?

**Geraldine:** Oh God, everybody **lost** somebody. Yeah there was cousin – he was killed in a bomb blast. And there were friends, just down the street that were shot by the British Army. And then my young nephew, his best friend, he was **riddled** by a passing car full of **Protestants**….oh dear. It was **dreadful**.

**Interviewer:** I was going to ask you what your area is famous for?

**Geraldine:** Well unfortunately, that would be what it's famous for. Prior to that '69, it was the loveliest community. We had neighbours, you know. Everybody had their keys in the door.
You know, you just came home, your key was there, you'd turn the key, you know. My mum, God rest her – she was a single parent really, and she worked day and night. So the oldest sister, she took over the house. It was a lovely community; the neighbours were wonderful. Everybody knew everybody. But that's all gone now.

**Interviewer:** What's it like now?

**Geraldine:** Funnily enough, I was there in March because I go home every **Saint Paddy's**. My sister and my best mate, we always go away on Saint Paddy's for two or three days. But Ardoyne now is these big **gaudy** terrace houses. Everybody just lives in their own wee house. Nobody bothers with anybody.

**Interviewer:** Would you say there was any special food associated with where you are from?

**Geraldine:** Oh God, aye. We're famous for the Irish **stew** – fantastic. Interesting thing is that growing up as kids, you always knew there was a bit of money in the house because with the champ we used to get. If there was no money, you only got the champ, which was potatoes and scallions, spring onions. If there was a bit of money, you got a bit of meat. The Irish stew and the champ.

**Interviewer**: Is your region famous for having a special accent?

**Geraldine:** Well, I have to be honest. Anyone I've met say they love the accent. I personally this it's awful, I think it's very flat, but hey.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Vocabulary**

Look at the words and phrases in **bold** in the script. Work in pairs. Use the context to guess the meanings.