

Candidates must attempt **FOUR** questions, **ONE** from each of the **FOUR** sections.

**EACH QUESTION IN PART TWO CARRIES 30 MARKS.**

## ***Section 1***

***Answer question 1 or 2***

1. Read the article from *The Irish Examiner* and answer the questions that follow.

### **The power of apprenticeships**



Linda Ryan, 23, pretty and petite is not your stereotypical mechanic. She didn't let stereotypical views deter her from her lifelong passion for motors. She started her apprenticeship in Ford C.A.B. Motor Company in Cork and now works for Cleary Motors in Thurles.

"I grew up around engines, we have loads of trucks at home. My dad has a haulage and skip business and I'm used to being around motors. My dad taught me loads about engines. I could have just carried on working, he taught me most of what I needed to know, but I wanted some structure to my knowledge and the papers to prove that I was qualified."

"When I was at school I went to a technical college down the road to hear a talk about apprenticeships and thought that sounded like a good solution. I came back and told the nuns in my school that that's what I wanted to do; they didn't believe me".

"No-one had ever done it from my school before – but now next week there's a girl coming to our garage on work experience from the school I went to. My parents always knew that I'd end up being a mechanic. As for people saying women can't be mechanics, I'd say you need to be strong, but not that strong. The guys at work help me out when I need it – they're really good – but I can also help out with things they can't do, I can reach places they can't. Now my younger brother's about to start an apprenticeship too."

(a) Where did Linda Ryan do her apprenticeship? (3 marks)

Linda Ryan started her apprenticeship in Ford C.A.B Motor Company in Co. Cork.

(b) Describe how Linda became interested in being a mechanic. (6 marks)

She grew up around engines and trucks. Her father owned a haulage company and skip company and so he would teach her things about engines and as a result she developed an interest in engines. He taught her most of what she needed to know but she describes how she wanted to put a structure on her knowledge and so she went to college to train as a mechanic and get her papers.

(c) Why do you think the nuns did not believe Linda when she said she wanted to be a mechanic? (6 marks)

I think the nuns did not believe Linda when she said she wanted to be a mechanic because it is stereotypically a male dominated profession. Also some might think that she would not be strong enough physically to be a mechanic or she might not have the same amount of knowledge as a male.

