

## “Dead in Dublin” by Jeremy Taylor

### Chapter 1 Answer Key to Reading Comprehension Questions

#### Chapter 1

- 1. Who is the narrator of the story? We don’t know his name yet but where does he work? Where does he come from and how old do you think he is?**

The English teacher is an American man who teaches English to foreigners attending a language school in Dublin. He is probably in his mid-20’s to mid-30’s as he is single and seems to have his first job.

- 2. What is the name of the student who dies in class? How old was he? Where is he from? What is his marriage status? How would you describe his personality?**

His name is Milan Schwab and he was 36 when he died. He was from the Czech Republic and was married. He also had a “gorgeous girlfriend” in Dublin. He was a funny guy as he was considered the “class clown” and was always joking in class.

- 3. It’s been announced that the student died from natural causes but the teacher doesn’t seem convinced. Who does the narrator think may have killed his student or have something to do with it? And why?**

He thinks the Egyptian female student Ghada may have been his “gorgeous girlfriend in Dublin” as the last words he said before dying sounded like “Had...had”, which the teacher thinks could have been him trying to say her name.

- 4. Can you find and explain the grammar joke the narrator makes in the beginning of the story?**

He mentions that the students were a pre-intermediate group and had not yet learned the past perfect tense so doubted that his last words “had had” was him trying to use the past perfect tense of the verb “had” (which is what “had had” is in grammatical English terms.)

- 5. What did the English teacher want to become when he was young? Why didn’t he?**

He wanted to be a policeman (top cop) but he couldn’t since he was deaf in one ear and he was not allowed to enter the police academy because of this.