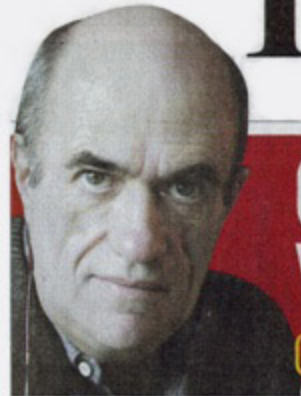


THE IRISH TIMES

Tuesday, August 9, 2011 €1.85 (incl. VAT) £1.20 Northern Ireland.



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**WHEN TO TALK
 TO YOUR KIDS
 ABOUT SEX**
JOHN SHARRY HEALTHplus



**BACK
 TO SCHOOL
 SUPPLEMENT**
CONOR POPE
 HOW TO KEEP
 COSTS DOWN

PREPWORK Junior Certificate

RECENTLY ANNOUNCED changes to the Junior Certificate examination system will not affect students starting first year next month.

From next year, schools will have to select eight examinable subjects and the rest will comprise projects and other activities, but with no formal state exams.

This will affect subject choices

next year, but for now, it's business as usual.

Tammy Strickland (right), who has successfully marketed her own Junior Certificate "mind maps" online, has the following advice for those about to start the Junior Cert cycle. "Maths, English and history are lengthy subjects and require a lot of revision time. It is easy to forget what you have learned in first

and second year when you're in a dash to finish a course. This is why it is worth giving these subjects serious attention from the start by attempting and repeating questions or studying shorthand notes regularly. In the early stages of the year, it is important not to burden yourself with long, laborious study sessions, however. I would recommend studying for short



periods every week at the start of the year, and building and bulking up study sessions as the year progresses. Good studying is all about the quality of work completed during the year rather than the quantity of time spent with the books. For this reason it is better to think in terms of goals instead of the number of hours when it comes to work and revision.