Irish Potato Famine

The Irish **Potato** Famine occurred in 1845-1849 when Ireland’s potato crop failed. The failures were caused by a plant disease called **blight**. This **disease** kills the leaves of the plant and causes the root (the potato) to **rot**, making it inedible.

Blight was accidentally brought over from North America, where it then thrived in Ireland’s cool, moist soil. At the time, the potato was Ireland’s staple **crop** and a lot of people relied on the potato as an important source of their **diet**.

Since the blight destroyed most of the potatoes, many people went **hungry**. Some even **starved** to the point of death. The Irish potato famine was the worst famine to occur in Europe during the 19th century.

![Normal Potato](image1.png) ![Blight Potato](image2.png)

This is a picture of the famine statues in Dublin, Ireland. These statues were made to honour all the lives lost during the Irish Potato Famine.
Word Search

Can you find all the words in the word search below?

BLIGHT  FAMINE  DISEASE  POTATO
ROT  STARVE  CROP  HUNGRY
IRELAND  DIET