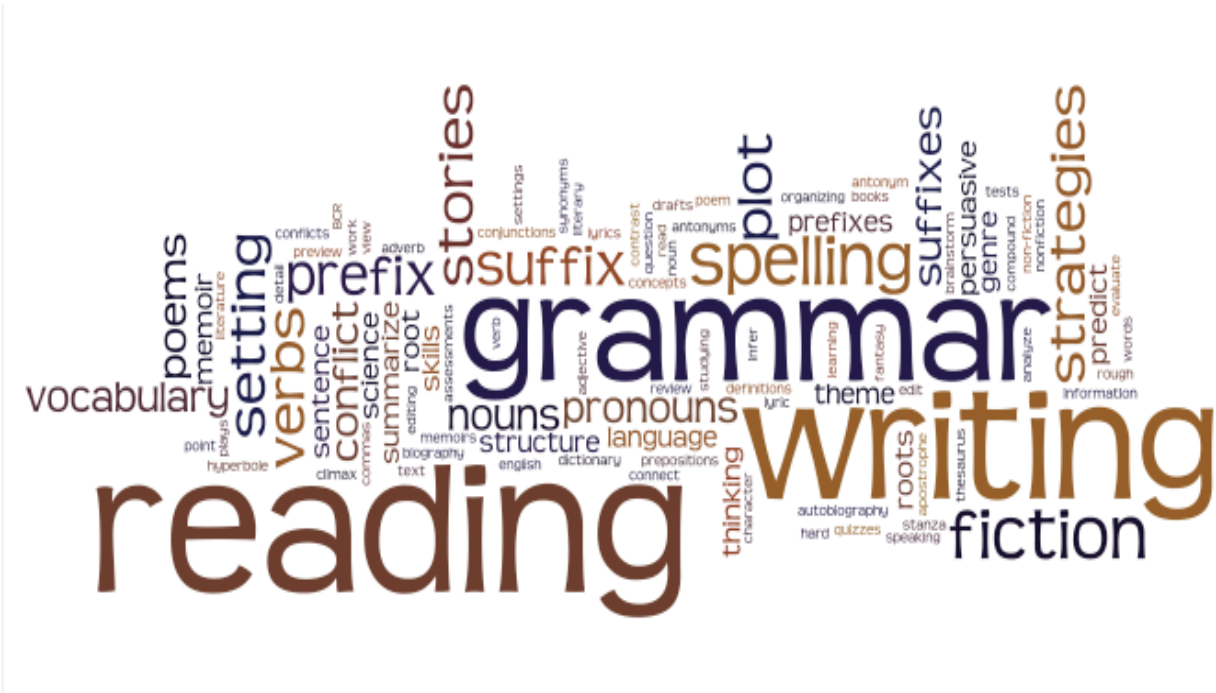
GCSE English Language



Unit 3 Workbook

Name:……

Teacher:

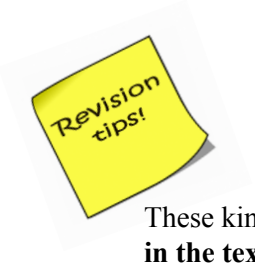
……..

This workbook will help you to practise different types of reading questions you may be asked in your Unit 3 exam.

When you complete each section, tick how you felt about those particular questions in the table below. This will make it easier for you to see what you may need extra help with in the run-up to your exams.

Page number	Type of Question	I understand how to do this	I'm okay, but may need to practise more	I don't understand it
Page 3-4	**Access, location and retrieval** (including multiple choice and 'find and copy')			
Page 5	Sequencing			
Page 6	**Analysing Language** (The '**How**' questions)			
Page 7 and 8	**Thoughts and feelings** questions			
Page 9-12	**Synthesis** questions			

Question Type 1 – Access, Location and Retrieval



These kinds of questions are **usually low mark questions**, and require you **to find key information in the text**. They can often be a 'find and copy' question, or a multiple choice question.

In both Unit 2 and Unit 3, you will be asked **3 multiple choice questions**. These kinds of questions are used to test a number of skills, including:

- locating (finding) the correct information to answer;
- deducing (working out) word meaning;
- deciding the purpose of the text;
- showing understanding of text or words in context; and
- verbal reasoning skills.

Miss Riddings says…
This section in bold is very important – always make sure you're answering on the correct text, otherwise you'll get 0 marks!

Let's test this out…

Look at Text A

TEXT A

1. What percentage of all bought food is wasted? [1]

.....

2. Which food type 'goes off' quickest despite being stored in its original packaging? [1]

a) Cucumber ☐
b) Salads ☐
c) Sliced meats ☐
d) Breads and rolls ☐

3. How much money does wasted food cost the average household? [1]

.....

4. How many million tonnes of food waste could have been eaten? [1]

.....

5. How many Wembley Stadiums could be filled with the food and drink thrown away every year? [1]

.....

Question Type 1 – Access, Location and Retrieval (Multiple Choice)

Remember- In both Unit 2 and Unit 3, you will be asked **3 multiple choice questions**. These kinds of questions are used to test a number of skills, including:

- Locating (finding) the correct information to answer;
- Deducing (working out) word meaning;
- Deciding the purpose of the text;
- Showing understanding of text or words in context;
- Verbal reasoning skills.

Let's test this out…

Look at Text B

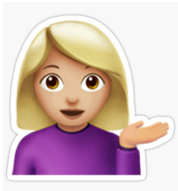
6. What does the word **'resilient'** mean in the text?

a) An effort that is valiant or brave
b) Able to recover quickly or cope with
c) Something that is sustainable over time
d) To be able to resist temptation

This kind of multiple choice is testing your 'understanding of the words/phrase in the context' of the text. There is only one true correct answer, but the other answers will be 'distractors' designed to throw you off.

7. What is a '**strategy document**'?

a) A document outlining a plan.
b) A rule book.
c) A textbook with information.
d) A list of instructions.



Mrs Delacoe says…
This is a 'word meaning' multiple choice question. Locate the word in the extract, then read around the whole sentence to deduce its meaning.

Look at Text C

8. What is the purpose of this text?

a) Personal
b) Public
c) Educational
d) Occupational

Miss Moore says…
This is a 'purpose of the text' question. Remind yourself of the 4 text purposes, and make your choice.

Text Purposes

Personal – Written for people to read for their own interest/pleasure.
Public – Written so people can get information about public events or information about society. (News articles, official documents and leaflets).
Occupational – Written for tasks linked to jobs and the workplace.
Educational – Written to help with gaining knowledge – they give instructions and information. They are written to help people learn, and probably given rather than chosen by the reader.

Question Type 2 – Sequencing

These kinds of questions will require you to put something in the correct order. One answer will be completed for you. Make sure you do not repeat the answer!

Let's test this out…

Mrs Povey says…
Sequence/sequencing is about chronology (working in order) and **not** summary/summarising!
You must be confident that all steps/stages work before answering.
Be aware that the format may vary.

Look at Text C

9. Look at the instructions on how to avoid wasting food. Put the instructions in the order that they would be best completed. [3]
The first one has been completed for you:
1. *Shop Smart: If you throw away food, change your shopping habits. Start by taking smaller, more frequent shopping trips.*

2. ……
……
……

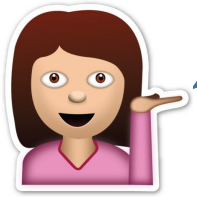
3. ……
……
……

4. ……
……
……

Question Type 3 – Analysis – the 'How' Question

These kinds of questions are **likely to be 5 or 10 mark questions,** and you WILL need to pick out quotations from the text to support all of your ideas. You will need to explain ALL of your chosen quotations.

When relevant, you should comment on the writer's techniques/use of language and explain why it's effective. DO NOT ALLOW YOUR RESPONSE TO BE DRIVEN BY FINDING FEATURES FIRST!



Miss Davies says…

- Look to see how many marks the question is worth.
- Read through the extract, highlighting as you go.
- Choose quotes from the whole extract, not just one part.
- Write up your response chronologically by tracking through the text.

Let's test this out…

Look at Text D

10. How does the writer try to persuade British people to ask for a 'doggy bag'? (10 marks)

Question Type 4 – Thoughts and Feelings

This kind of questions is likely **to be higher mark question (5 marks).**

Always check the focus of your response.

When constructing an answer and it's asking for your thoughts and feelings, use 'I think... I feel' to frame a response.

Example: **We first learn that Tristram "likes to rummage in bins" which makes me think that he is strange as this is not normal behaviour.**

If you are struggling with this, look on the next page for some help.

Mr Davies says…
Check carefully whose thoughts and feelings you are looking at. It could either be the reader's or the writer's. Look at an example to help you to start your answer.

Let's test this out…

Look at Text E

11. What are your thoughts and feelings about Tristram Stuart (5 marks)
You should support your answer with words and phrases from the text.

Question Type 4 – Help: Thoughts and Feelings

Evidence	Thoughts or feelings
“likes to rummage in bins”	
“a bin full of chucked-out food is not an object of physical revulsion”	
“In his garden he grows vegetables and keeps bees; he shoots squirrels and deer.”	
“supermarket dustbins are still the "mainstay" of his diet”	
"Perfect!" he says.	

Question Type 5 – Synthesis Question Help

Synthesis

Definition: Synthesis is the skill of bringing together information from different sources to create a new text.

Advice to candidates on answering synthesis questions

- A clear focus on the question is essential
- Synthesis does not require any form of comparison
- Candidates should avoid generalisations/blurring messages from texts (e.g. 'All of the texts say…').

'Synthesise' means to 'put together'.

Look at Texts B, D and E.

12. Using information from Texts B, D and E, synthesise the possible benefits gained from reducing our waste plans to reduce waste further. [10]

Highlight key words in the question. We are only looking for 'benefits' or 'advantages'.

There are a lot of marks on offer here. Break this down to finding 3-4 key points from each text.

You do not need to analyse here!

Do not compare the texts! You are not looking for similarities and differences. You are putting information together from different texts.

Do not copy big chunks of the texts.

Question Type 5 – Synthesis Question Help

'Synthesise' means to 'put together'.

Look at Texts B, D and E.

12. Using information from Texts B, D and E, synthesise the possible benefits gained from reducing our waste plans to reduce waste further. [10]

Highlight key words in the question. We are only looking for 'benefits' or 'advantages'.

There are a lot of marks on offer here. Break this down to finding 3-4 key points from each text.

	Text B	Text D	Text E
Benefits			

Question Type 5 – Synthesis Questions

Let's test this out…

Look at Texts B, D and E.

12. Using information from Texts B, D and E, synthesise the possible benefits gained from reducing our waste plans to reduce waste further. [10]

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