

GCSE English Language Unit 3

Reading and Writing:

Argumentation, Persuasion and

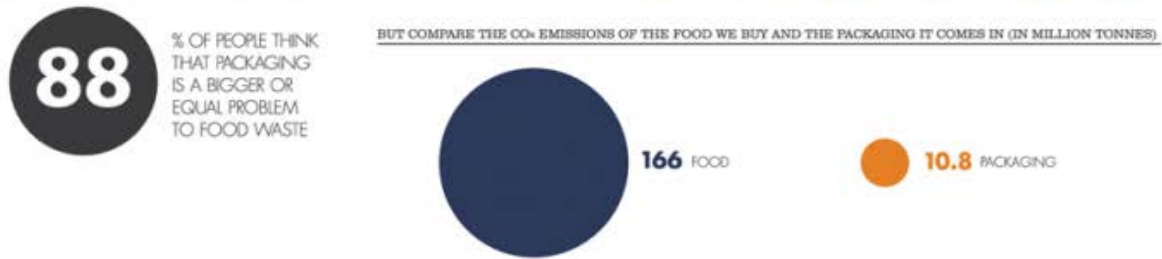
Instructional

Waste

Resource Material

Text A shows where food is wasted

THE TRUTH ABOUT FOOD WASTE



Text B is taken from Wales' waste reduction strategy

Towards Zero Waste is Wales' waste strategy document.

Launched in June 2010, the strategy document outlines the actions we must all take if we are to achieve our ambition of becoming a high recycling nation by 2025 and a zero waste nation by 2050. We need to reduce the amount of waste by 1.5 per cent every year until 2050. We must also prevent the waste of materials which have the greatest impact on our ecological footprint (the impact we have on the environment). These materials are:

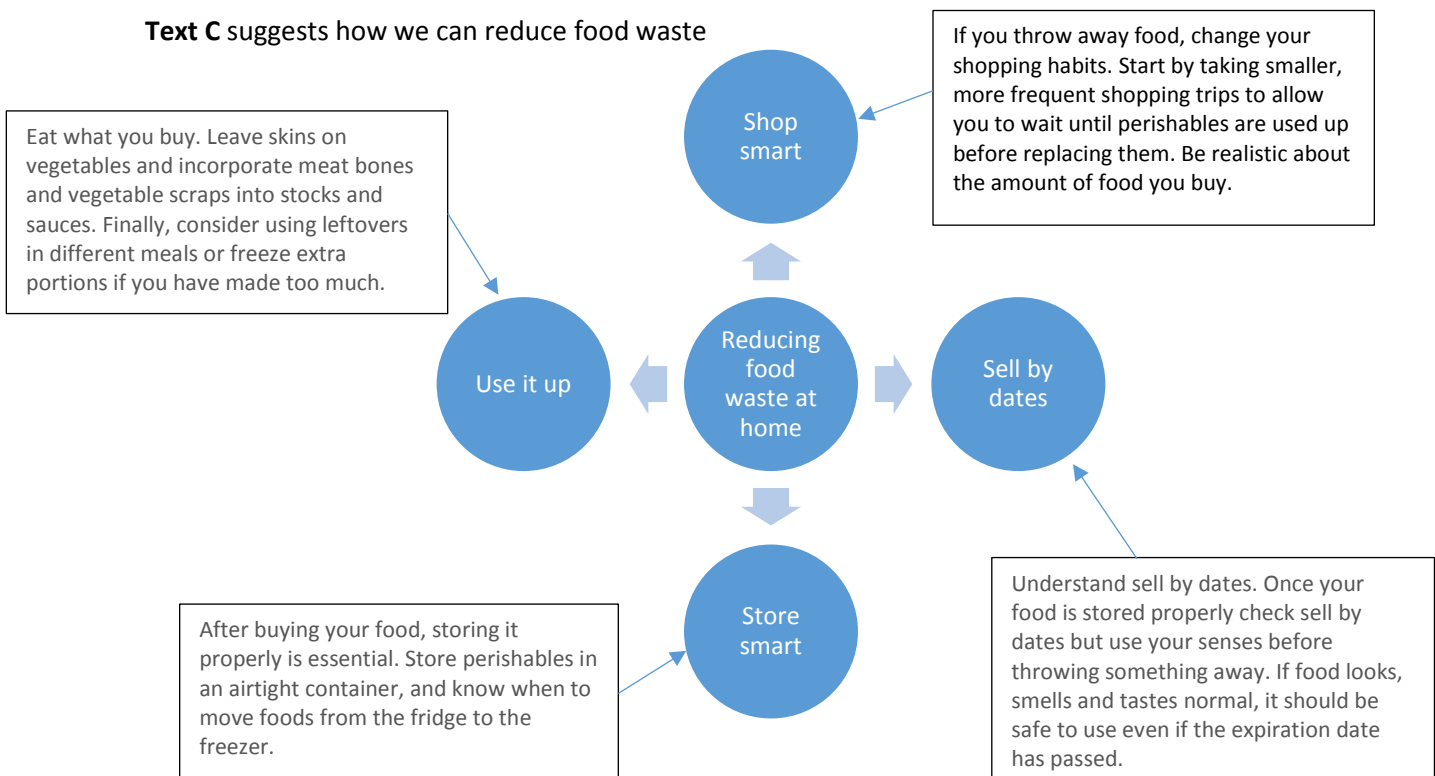
- food waste
- paper and cardboard
- wood
- metals
- plastic.

Where waste is produced, we need to deliver very high levels of recycling which is separated at source.

The measures outlined in **Towards Zero Waste** will also:

- provide more green jobs and increase skills
- help Wales become more resilient against future competing demands for resources
- ensure that everybody can contribute
- support our sustainable development and climate change objectives.

Text C suggests how we can reduce food waste



Text D comments on avoiding waste in restaurants

Doggy bag: Why are the British too embarrassed to ask?

Doggy bags are part and parcel of eating out in America. But many British diners struggle with the idea of asking to take their leftovers home, something campaigners want to change.

In the UK, it is a rarely heard request. And if one does have the audacity to ask for a doggy bag, it will probably be uttered under one's breath or behind one's hand. There is no such shame attached to doggy bags in the America, where they are overtly offered on a menu or freely handed out by the waiting staff as part of the service.

A recent survey by the Sustainable Restaurant Association (SRA) showed 25% of diners were too embarrassed to ask for boxes, with 24% wrongly believing they were against health and safety policies. The organisation is launching a new campaign to embolden diners to ask for doggy bags and to encourage restaurants to make patrons feel more comfortable about it. The Too Good to Waste initiative will see 25,000 biodegradable boxes dispatched to about 50 participating restaurants. They are hoping it will help reduce the amount of waste in the UK and the cost of removing and disposing of that waste food too.

But old habits die hard and this is not the first time such a campaign has tried to convert Britons to the doggy bag culture. Dining out in the UK has certainly become more and more common for many people. It was once the preserve of the well-to-do but more people started to eat away from home in the 1960s.

In 1981, 957 million meals were served in restaurants and pubs in the UK whereas an estimated 1,661 million will be dished out this year, according to food consultancy Horizons. So if more and more Britons are eating out, why is there still a mental block when it comes to doggy bags? This reluctance may boil down to the British desire not to create a fuss, or it could be the belief that it is good manners to leave a few morsels on your plate. To go against the norm in society takes a lot of confidence. There are unwritten rules in society people will follow automatically. When these adapt, so do people's actions. When people's actions change, so do their attitudes and ultimately people will not only reduce waste and save money but they will feel good about their actions too.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-15106212>

Text E is a newspaper article about freeganism

The freegans' creed: waste not, want not

As a nation we throw away millions of tonnes of food a year – a quarter of all we buy. Enter the 'freegans' – campaigners like Tristram Stuart who are tackling the scandal of global waste by digging around in supermarket bins for their weekly shop

Tristram Stuart likes to rummage in bins. He can tell you what time central London convenience stores put their binbags out on to the streets and hazard a good guess as to what will be in them. Stuart is a "freegan" – someone who subsists largely on food discarded by others. For him, a bin full of chucked-out food is not an object of physical revulsion. Rather, it's an opportunity.

Stuart became a freegan at Cambridge (he read English) and as a student acquired most of his food from the bins of his local Sainsbury's. "I remember getting through an awful lot of sliced bread and ready meals," he says. Stuart has now become pickier and these days he gathers at least some of his food from other sources. In his garden he grows vegetables and keeps bees; he shoots squirrels and deer, and rears pigs on a nearby farm. And he sometimes obtains food by the traditional method – paying for it. But he hasn't given up his freeganning lifestyle and items foraged from supermarket dustbins are still the "mainstay" of his diet.

Earlier this month, I accompanied him on one of his freeganning expeditions. First stop is a small branch of Sainsbury's. He opens up one of the bins and picks out a clear plastic sack containing roughly a dozen one-pint cartons of milk – all still within their use-by dates – and a pack of custard doughnuts. "Perfect!" he says.

Next we drive to Waitrose, which is where Stuart says that he gets most of his groceries. "You tend to find lots of fresh fruit and vegetables here – plenty of organic stuff." Four bins are empty and another is stuffed to the brim with white binbags. He starts opening these up, standing on his toes and leaning right into the bin to do so. Inside are all manner of edible-looking goodies: sacks of bread, packets of bagels and chocolate doughnuts, endless yoghurts, cartons of soup, individually wrapped pizzas and packets of pre-sliced ham. Most items are within their use-by dates.

For Tristram, solving the problem of food waste is not about us getting rid of supermarkets and all embracing freegan lifestyles. It is about taking a large number of waste-reducing steps right across the food system. "That is the thing I can't stress too much about food waste it isn't about everyone giving up something, having to grow their own vegetables and do all their own preserving. The message is, first of all, if you buy food, don't throw it away. And second, let's put pressure on food businesses to withdraw the policies they currently employ that cause all this waste."

[William Skidelsky](#)

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2009/jul/19/freegan-environment-food>

Question Paper

SECTION A (Reading): 40 marks

*In the **separate Resource Material** there are five texts on the theme of 'Waste' labelled Text A-E. Read each text carefully and answer all the questions below that relate to each of the texts. Additional answer pages are available at the back of this paper should you require them.*

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]

.....

TEXT B

4. Explain what the phrase 'separated at source' means. [1]

.....

.....

.....

5. What does the word 'resilient' mean? [1]

- 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 a temptation

6. Explain why Wales has a zero waste policy. [2]

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

TEXT C

7. Tick the box that best describes the purpose of this text: [1]

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

8. 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.
.....
.....

TEXT D

9. What is meant by the phrase 'doggy bag'? [1]

.....
.....
.....

10. How does the writer try to persuade British people to ask for a 'doggy bag'? [10]

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....



