



**GCSE**

3700U20-1A-CR

**MONDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2019 – MORNING**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**UNIT 2**

**Reading and Writing: Description, Narration and Exposition**

**Resource Material**

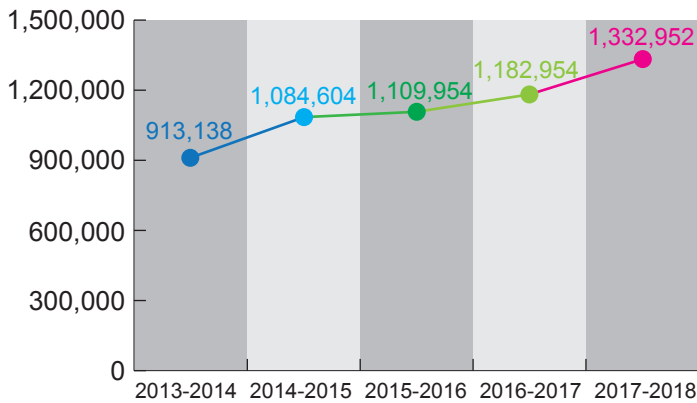
For use with Section A

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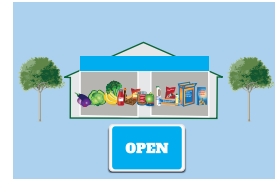
Text A is taken from a report on the Trussell Trust foodbanks website.

The Trussell Trust has 400 foodbanks across the UK. These foodbanks provide emergency food supplies to those in need.

### NUMBER OF THREE-DAY EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPLIES GIVEN BY TRUSSELL TRUST FOODBANKS

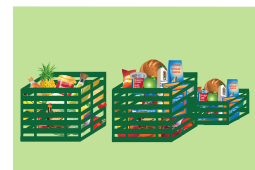


### OTHER STATS



**428**

foodbanks operate within the Trussell Trust Network



**12,955**

tonnes of food donated by the public in 2017-2018 to Trussell Trust foodbanks



**53,883**

frontline professionals such as doctors and social workers give foodbank vouchers to people in crisis

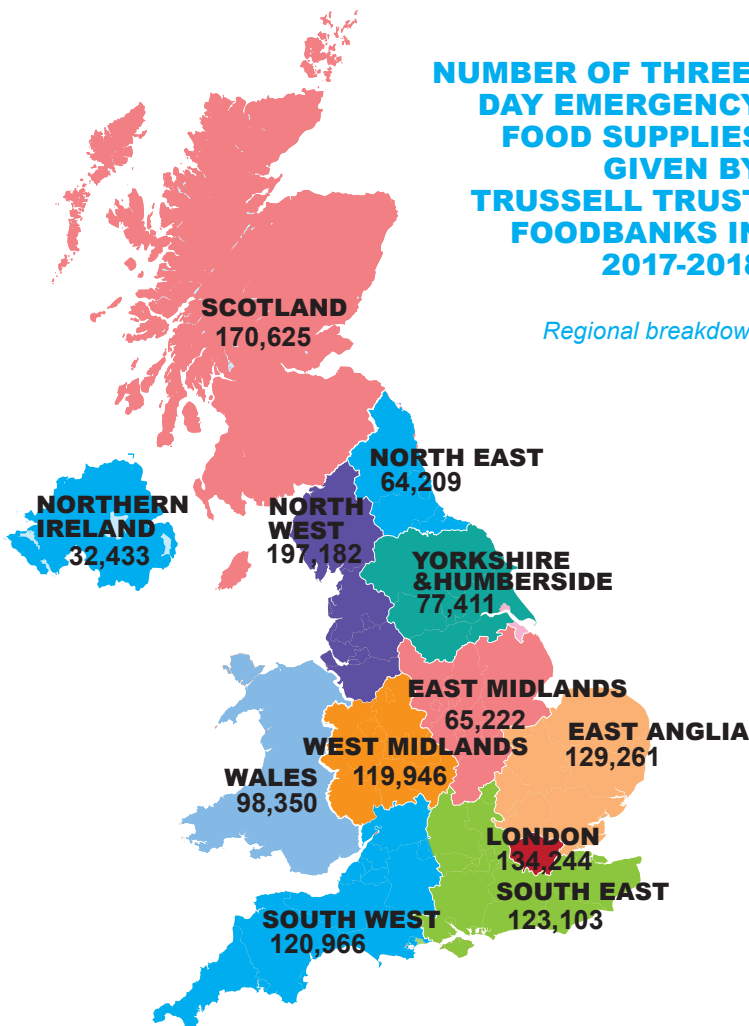


**40,000**

people volunteered with a Trussell Trust foodbank in 2017-2018

### NUMBER OF THREE-DAY EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPLIES GIVEN BY TRUSSELL TRUST FOODBANKS IN 2017-2018

Regional breakdown



*Text B is adapted from a news story in a national newspaper.*

## **‘It’s a life or death situation’: why GPs are referring patients to food banks**

The icy wind outside the Height Medical Practice in Salford, Manchester is a clear sign to its practice nurse that she will be sending patients – stuck with the choice of eating or keeping warm – to the local food bank.

More than half of the practice’s 4,000 registered patients are classed by GPs as “very deprived”, with high rates of alcohol and drug problems, as well as homelessness. Increasingly, a referral to Salford Foodbank has become more crucial to their care than anything she can offer from her clinical training.

“It’s a life-and-death situation with some patients,” says the practice nurse. “Some can’t take their medication without food, so they are going without that too because they cannot afford to eat. It drives me up the wall.” She refers to a man in his 50s who has diabetes and requires insulin three times a day to be taken with food. Since he does not necessarily eat even once a day, neither does he take his medication. She is struggling to persuade him to go to the food bank. “For many people, it’s an admission of failure,” she says.

In a recent inspection, the practice was rated as outstanding, with its links with Salford Foodbank singled out for special praise. Since 2014, the practice has sent 32 patients for food parcels.

Nearby, Langworthy Medical Practice makes even more referrals to Salford Foodbank – 263 since 2014. Currently, around 45 of their patients are surviving on GP-referred food parcels.

Text C is a poster advertising a Cardiff foodbank.

# Reverse Advent Calendar

**Cardiff foodbank**  
Banc Bwyd Caerdydd

## Christmas Appeal

Christmas can be a difficult time for many, especially for those living on a tight budget. With increased winter fuel bills alongside the seasonal pressures many will find themselves in food crisis.

### Can you help someone this year?

For 25 days, from the 6th November, please could you donate an item daily from the list below. Pop it in a box or bag and then drop it off at our warehouse in early December. We can then make up parcels for people in need – you really can make a big difference this Christmas!



1. Custard
2. £2 donation
3. Sponge/Christmas pud
4. £1 donation
5. Soup
6. £2 donation
7. Savoury biscuits
8. £1 donation
9. Crisps/nuts
10. £2 donation
11. Tinned ham
12. £1 donation
13. Gravy granules
14. £2 donation
15. Tinned veg
16. £1 donation
17. Coffee
18. £2 donation
19. Chocolate
20. £1 donation
21. Fruit juice
22. £2 donation
23. Biscuits
24. £1 donation
25. A non perishable food item of your choice

**Thank you!**

Info@cardiff.foodbank.org.uk www.cardiff.foodbank.org.uk

*Text D is adapted from a blog.*

## Foodbanks aren't solving problems — they can make things worse too

by Edwina Currie

The Trussell Trust says there has been an increase in people using foodbanks in the last 12 months. Of course; that's because there are more foodbanks. As anyone with any sense can grasp, if you give away something worth having, you'll have takers queuing at the door.

Foodbank usage is being connected to poverty. The figures are being used as a stick to beat the government, often by well-meaning groups who want to 'do something' to help. In reality, they may be adding to the problems that brought people to their doorstep in the first place.



The users of foodbanks seem to me to fall into three categories.

1. **People with long-term issues, such as addiction, alcoholism and mental illness.** These people would struggle at any time; services for them are often atrocious, with long waiting lists. When councils start using money for foodbanks instead of health programmes, I despair. Manchester, for example, is spending over £240,000 on foodbanks this year. It'd be better spent on addiction clinics.
2. **People with short-term problems, such as debt.** Foodbanks are meant to be for emergencies only, not for maintaining people in a hand-to-mouth existence. How often do the same faces reappear claiming their tin of soup, instead of confronting failure and sorting out their money problems?
3. **People who are not poor.** There are people who seem to make a choice to stay on benefits, and to get free food. Kindly food bank operators rarely have the resources to visit such people at home. One imagines they would get as incensed as I do at the well-fed dogs, the wide-screen TVs, the satellite dishes, the manicures and mobiles – and the car parked outside... Desperate? No, not all of them.

Free food increases poverty and encourages problems rather than solving them.

*Text E is adapted from the book 'Hunger Pains: Life inside foodbank Britain'.*

I'm one of more than a million people who have been referred to a foodbank in recent years, reliant on a small parcel of emergency food. It happened so quickly. Within two months I had gone from a full-time salaried job to sobbing on the phone to the energy company, begging them not to turn off the heating in a flat with cold laminate flooring and large windows, occupied by a baby boy who was not yet two years old. I was once paid on the 15th of every month. The bills were all paid out of my bank account the same day. In, and straight out, and whatever was left went on food, clothing for a growing boy and the occasional nice time. Until it didn't. Until that certainty was taken away and threw me at the mercy of a local council whose answering machine informed me that there was 'a six-week delay in processing new Housing Benefit claims'. Those six weeks turned into eleven, from November, to December, to January. I waited, phoned, wrote letters, cried, screamed, turned up at the office, wrote to my MP. I'm going to be evicted, I told them. I have a baby. At the last minute, my MP stepped in. I escaped eviction but was drastically behind with my rent.

As much as the likes of Edwina Currie would have you believe that 'anyone' can turn up to a foodbank to top up the supermarket delivery with a couple of dented tins of tomatoes and some slightly black bananas, the reality is very different. The reality is that you need to be identified as being in need – by a social worker, a health visitor, a childcare provider, your doctor. Someone needs to recognise that without their intervention, your family is going to go hungry. They direct you to a foodbank for help. A lot of people don't go, because of the shame and the stigma attached to queuing up to beg for food. Because I'll tell you now, even after months of attending, it feels like begging. No matter how kind the volunteers, how discreet the carrier bags, you have to look someone in the face who knows that you are desperate and that your life is falling apart.

This is a country riddled with poverty. Turning off the heating and missing days of meals is not being budget conscious. Try it. Turn off the fridge because it's empty anyway. Walk everywhere in the same pair of shoes in the pouring rain, with a soaking wet and sobbing child trailing along behind you, into every shop and pub within reasonable walking distance and ask if they have any job vacancies. Try not to go red as the person behind the counter appraises your dirty jeans and tatty jumper and tells you that there's nothing. Trudge home. Pour some tinned tomatoes over some 39p pasta and try not to hurl it at the wall as your son tells you he doesn't want it.

Foodbanks are a better hope for the world. They are the mark of a decent society in action. They are all that hundreds of thousands of families have. But foodbanks are also a disgrace, and the issues that lead people to their doors need to be addressed. More cuts for the poorest people in our society is not the answer. Why not campaign for a real living wage instead, to ensure that people who work don't have to rely on charity food handouts, but instead have a reasonable income to buy food for themselves and their families?

Foodbanks are doing a brilliant job of pulling people out of the river. But we need to now go upstream, and stop anyone else from falling in.