



Pass GCSE English

FREE SAMPLER

GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

AMBITIOUS VOCABULARY

THE ESSENTIAL WORDS

26 HAND-PICKED WORDS

TWO UNITS • EIGHT EXERCISES EACH



SPOT IT



CHOOSE IT



USE IT

A FREE TASTER OF THE FIVE-BOOK SERIES

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SECTION

Contents

How this booklet works

Unit 1 — Argument & Persuasion

Unit 2 — Character & Atmosphere

Answers & Model Responses

How this booklet works This booklet gathers a set of ambitious words — hand-picked by an examiner — to help you push from Level 3 into Level 4 in your writing, across both Paper 2 (non-fiction, argument and persuasion) and Paper 1 (creative and descriptive). **Unit 1 — Argument & Persuasion** gives you words that carry weight and precision in transactional writing. **Unit 2 — Character & Atmosphere** gives you words that bring people and places to life in imaginative writing. Each unit builds through eight exercises — from spotting a word, to choosing it precisely, to judging when it is used well, to producing it in your own sentences. The gap-fill is only the warm-up. The goal is not to memorise definitions; it is to reach the point where words like these come to you naturally, under exam pressure.

Important — there is no such thing as a “Level 4 word list.” No examiner is looking for particular words, and no single word will lift your grade on its own. What moves you up the bands is not which words you know, but whether you use ambitious vocabulary — and whether you use it consistently and purposefully. **Level 3** sounds like a student who is starting to reach for ambitious vocabulary. **Level 4** sounds like a student who uses it consistently, and always for a reason. So treat these words as examples and practice, not a checklist. That is exactly why the exercises push past gap-fill into judgement and production — using a word well, and using it consistently, is the real Level 4 behaviour.

Unit 1 – Argument & Persuasion

Transactional writing · Paper 2, Section B

WORD REFERENCE TABLE

WORD	PART OF SPEECH	WHAT IT MEANS	EXAM-STYLE WRITING EXAMPLE
gravitas	noun	Seriousness and weight of manner that makes people take you seriously.	The head girl spoke with such gravitas that the hall fell silent before she had finished her first sentence.
temerity	noun	Excessive boldness or nerve; the audacity to do something daring or rude.	It takes real temerity to stand before an audience and tell them that everything they believe is wrong.
polemic	noun	A strong, controversial argument that attacks a person, idea, or belief.	What began as a balanced article soon hardened into a polemic against the entire school system.
pejorative	adj.	Expressing criticism or contempt; deliberately belittling.	Labelling protesters a “mob” is a pejorative term chosen to make them sound dangerous.
proliferation	noun	A rapid, often uncontrolled increase in the number of something.	The proliferation of screens in every classroom has changed how children pay attention — and not for the better.
purport	verb	To claim to be or do something, often when this is not really true.	These advertisements purport to sell confidence, but what they really sell is insecurity.
unassailable	adj.	Impossible to attack, question, or defeat.	With the evidence firmly on her side, her argument became almost unassailable.
embroil	verb	To involve someone deeply in an argument or difficult situation.	We must not let ourselves be embroiled in a dispute that distracts from the real problem.
mercenary	adj.	Interested only in money or personal gain, rather than in doing what is right.	Behind its friendly slogans, the company’s motives are purely mercenary.
extant	adj.	Still existing; surviving to the present day.	The few extant photographs of the old town remind us of everything we have already lost.
nihilistic	adj.	Rejecting all values and beliefs; treating life as meaningless.	Telling teenagers that nothing they do matters is a nihilistic message that helps no one.
irreverence	noun	A lack of respect for things that are usually taken seriously.	There is a healthy irreverence in questioning rules that no longer make any sense.

EXERCISE 1 Gap Fill (warm-up)

Choose the correct word from the word bank to complete each sentence. Each word is used once.

Word bank: gravitas | temerity | polemic | pejorative | proliferation | purport | unassailable | embroiled | mercenary | nihilistic

COMPLETE THE SENTENCE

1. The judge delivered the verdict with a _____ that silenced the entire courtroom.
 2. It took real _____ to stand up and contradict a whole panel of experts.
 3. The essay was less a balanced discussion than a _____ against modern schooling.
 4. Calling the campaigners a “mob” is a _____ term designed to make them sound dangerous.
 5. The _____ of fast-food outlets on every high street has made healthy choices harder.
 6. These slogans _____ to offer freedom, but they deliver only debt.
 7. With the figures on her side, her case was very nearly _____.
 8. We must not become _____ in arguments that distract from the real issue.
 9. The charity accused the firm of putting _____ profit before people’s safety.
 10. Telling students that effort makes no difference is a deeply _____ message.
-

EXERCISE 2 Choose the Precise Word

Three words could fit each gap, but only one does the job precisely. Underline the best choice — the word the mark scheme would reward.

Sentence — choose from the options in brackets

1. The retired judge carried a natural _____ that made juniors lower their voices. (seriousness / gravitas / cleverness)
2. It took _____ to interrupt the minister mid-speech and demand a straight answer. (rudeness / confidence / temerity)
3. Her column was not analysis but a full _____ against the exam system. (complaint / polemic / opinion)
4. Describing strikers as “greedy” is a _____ label meant to shut down sympathy. (pejorative / negative / strong)
5. Campaigners warned of the _____ of vaping shops near schools. (number / growth / proliferation)
6. The glossy leaflet _____ to care about the planet while the factory kept polluting. (tried / purported / wanted)

EXERCISE 3 Connotation Sort

Connotation is what a word makes the reader feel about its subject. Sort the words below into the three columns. Some are arguable — be ready to justify your choice.

Words: gravitas, temerity, polemic, pejorative, mercenary, unassailable, nihilistic, irreverence

ADMIRING / WEIGHTY

CRITICAL / NEGATIVE

DEPENDS ON CONTEXT

EXERCISE 4 Collocations — Words That Belong Together

Ambitious words keep the company of particular partner words. Complete each phrase with the word that naturally goes with it.

Word bank: unassailable | gravitas | proliferation | pejorative | mercenary | embroiled | polemic | temerity

COMPLETE THE PHRASE

1. an _____ position that no critic could shake
2. to deliver the eulogy with quiet _____
3. the rapid _____ of fake reviews online
4. a sneering, _____ nickname
5. driven purely by _____ self-interest
6. to become _____ in a bitter dispute
7. a blistering _____ against the council
8. the sheer _____ to question the referee

EXERCISE 5 Spot the Misuse

Each sentence uses the word in bold incorrectly — this is the trap of reaching for a word you don't fully control. Explain what's wrong and rewrite the sentence so the word is used properly (or swap in a better one).

SENTENCE (THE WORD IN BOLD IS MISUSED)

YOUR CORRECTION

1. She thanked the volunteers with great **temerity** for their kindness.
2. The scientist's data was so **pejorative** that no one could argue with it.
3. The **proliferation** of the one surviving manuscript proves the monks worked slowly.
4. He **purported** the trophy above his head in triumph.
5. Their **mercenary** donation fed hundreds at the food bank.
6. The comedian's **gravitas** had the whole room in stitches.

EXERCISE 6 Purposeful or Padded?

The same ambitious word appears twice. In one sentence it earns its place; in the other it has just been dropped in to look impressive. Tick the purposeful one and say why the other fails.

#	SENTENCE	PURPOSEFUL? (✓ / X)
1a	The old headmaster's gravitas silenced the hall without a word.	
1b	I ate my breakfast with gravitas and then caught the bus.	
2a	The proliferation of betting apps has turned every phone into a casino.	
2b	There was a proliferation of two cats in the garden.	
3a	With three independent studies behind it, her claim was unassailable.	
3b	The weather was completely unassailable on Tuesday.	
4a	His after-dinner speech curdled into a polemic against the press.	
4b	She wrote a lovely, gentle polemic to thank her nan.	

EXERCISE 7 Sentence Upgrade (Grade 4 → Grade 8)

Each sentence is flat Grade-4 writing. Rewrite it using the word in brackets so it does more work — think about connotation and rhythm, not just swapping one word for another.

#	FLAT SENTENCE (USE THE WORD GIVEN)	YOUR GRADE-8 VERSION
1.	The teacher was serious and people respected her. (use: gravitas)	
2.	There are more and more gambling adverts now. (use: proliferation)	
3.	The company only cares about money. (use: mercenary)	
4.	It was brave of him to argue with the expert. (use: temerity)	
5.	The article strongly attacked the new policy. (use: polemic)	
6.	You can't really argue against her point. (use: unassailable)	

EXERCISE 8 Two Words, One Sentence

Write a single sentence that uses both words naturally — not two ideas glued together, but one sentence where both words pull their weight.

#	USE BOTH WORDS	YOUR SENTENCE
1.	gravitas + temerity	
2.	mercenary + purport	
3.	proliferation + pejorative	
4.	polemic + unassailable	

BRING IT TOGETHER Write Your Own

Paper 2 task. “Ambition is just greed with a better haircut.” Write a letter to a newspaper arguing for or against this view. Use at least four words from this unit to give your argument weight and precision.

Hint: Try: gravitas, mercenary, unassailable, purport, polemic. Remember — the mark scheme rewards ambitious vocabulary used purposefully. The right word in the right place beats the longest word you can find.

Your response:

SECTION

Unit 2 — Character & Atmosphere

Imaginative writing · Paper 1, Section B

WORD REFERENCE TABLE

WORD	PART OF SPEECH	WHAT IT MEANS	EXAM-STYLE WRITING EXAMPLE
indelible	adj.	Impossible to remove, erase, or forget.	That summer left an indelible mark on me; I can still smell the salt whenever I close my eyes.
impish	adj.	Playfully mischievous, in a way that is hard to stay cross about.	An impish grin spread across his face the moment the teacher turned to the board.
precocious	adj.	Showing skill or maturity far earlier than is usual.	The precocious child spoke to the adults as an equal, unaware that she was only seven.
plucky	adj.	Showing brave determination in the face of difficulty.	Bruised but grinning, the plucky runner crossed the line last and proudest of all.
smarmy	adj.	Excessively polite or flattering in a way that feels false and unpleasant.	The salesman’s smarmy smile never quite reached his eyes.
	adj.		

WORD	PART OF SPEECH	WHAT IT MEANS	EXAM-STYLE WRITING EXAMPLE
sycophantic		Praising powerful people too much in order to win their favour.	Surrounded by sycophantic advisers, the king never once heard the truth.
sleazy	adj.	Sordid, cheap, and morally low; dishonest and untrustworthy.	The alley was lined with sleazy bars whose neon signs flickered like tired eyes.
flummoxed	adj.	Completely confused or bewildered.	She stared at the letter, utterly flummoxed, reading the same line for the third time.
elusive	adj.	Difficult to find, catch, or hold on to — including memories and feelings.	Sleep was elusive that night; each time it came close, another thought pulled it away.
camaraderie	noun	A feeling of friendship and trust between people who share experiences.	There was a quiet camaraderie among the survivors, forged in a single unforgettable night.
scrabble	verb	To scratch or grope hurriedly with the hands, especially in panic.	Her fingers scrabbled at the locked door as the footsteps grew louder.
scramble	verb	To climb or move quickly and awkwardly, using your hands.	The children scrambled up the wet rocks, laughing, as the tide chased them inland.
lap up	phrasal verb	To take in praise, attention, or pleasure eagerly and greedily.	He lapped up the applause, bowing far longer than the performance deserved.
tunnel-focused	adj. phrase	So fixed on one goal that everything else is ignored.	Tunnel-focused on the finish line, she never heard the friend calling her name.

EXERCISE 1 Gap Fill (warm-up)

Choose the correct word from the word bank to complete each sentence. Each word is used once.

Word bank: impish | indelible | precocious | plucky | smarmy | sycophantic | flummoxed | elusive | camaraderie | scrambled

COMPLETE THE SENTENCE

- The _____ grin on the boy's face told everyone exactly who had hidden the chalk.
- That day by the sea left an _____ memory that thirty years could not fade.
- The _____ child corrected the professor's grammar without a hint of nerves.
- Bruised but determined, the _____ little dog refused to move from the doorway.
- His _____ compliments made my skin crawl long before I learned he was lying.
- Surrounded by _____ admirers, she never once heard an honest opinion.
- She read the message twice, completely _____ by what it seemed to say.
- Sleep was _____ that night, slipping away each time I reached for it.

COMPLETE THE SENTENCE

9. There was a warm _____ among the volunteers, built over long, cold shifts.
10. We _____ up the steep bank, hands slipping on the wet grass.

EXERCISE 2 Choose the Precise Word

Three words could fit each gap, but only one does the job precisely. Underline the best choice — the word the mark scheme would reward.

Sentence — choose from the options in brackets

1. A(n) _____ grin, not a cruel one, crossed his face as he pocketed the keys. (evil / impish / big)
2. Her _____ compliments were sweet on the surface and oily underneath. (kind / smarmy / loud)
3. Sleep stayed _____, retreating every time he thought he'd caught it. (gone / elusive / late)
4. The _____ child debated politics with adults twice her age. (clever / precocious / noisy)
5. Bruised but refusing to quit, the _____ boxer climbed off the canvas. (angry / plucky / tired)
6. Their _____, forged on freezing night shifts, needed no words. (friendship / camaraderie / teamwork)

EXERCISE 3 Connotation Sort

Connotation is what a word makes the reader feel about its subject. Sort the words below into the three columns. Some are arguable — be ready to justify your choice.

Words: impish, precocious, plucky, smarmy, sycophantic, sleazy, camaraderie, flummoxed

WARM / LIKEABLE

UNPLEASANT / DISTRUST

DEPENDS ON CONTEXT

EXERCISE 4 Collocations — Words That Belong Together

Ambitious words keep the company of particular partner words. Complete each phrase with the word that naturally goes with it.

Word bank: indelible | impish | smarmy | lap (up) | scramble | camaraderie | tunnel-focused | precocious

COMPLETE THE PHRASE

1. an _____ mark on my memory
2. an _____ grin, full of mischief
3. a _____ smile that never reached his eyes
4. to _____ up every drop of praise
5. to _____ up the crumbling cliff on all fours
6. a warm _____ among the crew
7. _____ on the finish line, deaf to everything else
8. a _____ talent, far beyond her years

EXERCISE 5 Spot the Misuse

Each sentence uses the word in bold incorrectly — this is the trap of reaching for a word you don't fully control. Explain what's wrong and rewrite the sentence so the word is used properly (or swap in a better one).

SENTENCE (THE WORD IN BOLD IS MISUSED)

YOUR CORRECTION

1. The kind nurse gave me a **smarmy** smile that made me feel safe.
2. After the funeral, an **impish** grief settled over the family.
3. The **camaraderie** of the empty, silent house frightened her.
4. The **precocious** old man struggled to work his new phone.
5. She was **flummoxed** with joy when she opened her results.
6. He **lapped up** the harsh criticism and burst into tears.

EXERCISE 6 Purposeful or Padded?

The same ambitious word appears twice. In one sentence it earns its place; in the other it has just been dropped in to look impressive. Tick the purposeful one and say why the other fails.

#	SENTENCE	PURPOSEFUL? (✓ / ✗)
1a	The scar left an indelible reminder of that night.	
1b	I bought an indelible sandwich for lunch.	
2a	The right word was elusive; it hovered just out of reach.	
2b	The bus was elusive and also quite blue.	
3a	The plucky underdog fought on with a broken hand.	
3b	He plucky opened the fridge and looked inside.	
4a	The sycophantic aide agreed with every word the boss said.	
4b	The rain was sycophantic all afternoon.	

EXERCISE 7 Sentence Upgrade (Grade 4 → Grade 8)

Each sentence is flat Grade-4 writing. Rewrite it using the word in brackets so it does more work — think about connotation and rhythm, not just swapping one word for another.

#	FLAT SENTENCE (USE THE WORD GIVEN)	YOUR GRADE-8 VERSION
1.	It was a memory I could never forget. (use: indelible)	
2.	He smiled in a fake, flattering way. (use: smarmy)	
3.	The little dog was brave even though it was scared. (use: plucky)	
4.	She climbed the rocks quickly using her hands. (use: scramble)	
5.	He really enjoyed all the attention. (use: lap up)	
6.	The child was very clever for her age. (use: precocious)	

EXERCISE 8 Two Words, One Sentence

Write a single sentence that uses both words naturally — not two ideas glued together, but one sentence where both words pull their weight.

#	USE BOTH WORDS	YOUR SENTENCE
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1.	impish + precocious	
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2.	camaraderie + indelible	
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3.	smarmy + sycophantic	
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4.	elusive + flummoxed	
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BRING IT TOGETHER Write Your Own

Paper 1 task. Write the opening of a story set in a place where someone is waiting for news that will change everything. Use at least four words from this unit to bring the character and atmosphere to life — let the words show what the character feels, rather than naming the feeling.

Hint: Try: elusive, flummoxed, indelible, scrabble, camaraderie. Choose words whose connotations match the mood you want to create.

Your response:

SECTION

Answers & Model Responses

For the writing exercises (7 and 8) these are models, not the only right answer — a student's version may be better.

Unit 1 — Argument & Persuasion

Exercise 1 — Gap Fill

#	SENTENCE	ANSWER
1.	The judge delivered the verdict with a _____ that silenced the entire courtroom.	gravitas
2.	It took real _____ to stand up and contradict a whole panel of experts.	temerity

#	SENTENCE	ANSWER
3.	The essay was less a balanced discussion than a _____ against modern schooling.	polemic
4.	Calling the campaigners a “mob” is a _____ term designed to make them sound dangerous.	pejorative
5.	The _____ of fast-food outlets on every high street has made healthy choices harder.	proliferation
6.	These slogans _____ to offer freedom, but they deliver only debt.	purport
7.	With the figures on her side, her case was very nearly _____.	unassailable
8.	We must not become _____ in arguments that distract from the real issue.	embroiled
9.	The charity accused the firm of putting _____ profit before people’s safety.	mercenary
10.	Telling students that effort makes no difference is a deeply _____ message.	nihilistic

Exercise 2 — Choose the Precise Word

1. **gravitas** — weight of manner, not mere seriousness or brains
2. **temerity** — bold nerve with an edge of audacity
3. **polemic** — a sustained attacking argument, not a mild opinion
4. **pejorative** — a contemptuous, loaded label
5. **proliferation** — rapid, uncontrolled spread
6. **purported** — claimed — hinting it isn’t true

Exercise 3 — Connotation Sort

Admiring / weighty: gravitas, unassailable

Critical / negative: pejorative, mercenary, nihilistic

Depends on context: temerity (nerve can impress or offend), polemic (principled or aggressive), irreverence (healthy questioning or plain disrespect)

Exercise 4 — Collocations: 1. unassailable · 2. gravitas · 3. proliferation · 4. pejorative · 5. mercenary · 6. embroiled · 7. polemic · 8. temerity

Exercise 5 — Spot the Misuse

1. “Temerity” means audacity/nerve, not warmth. Use “with great warmth / sincerity.”
2. “Pejorative” means insulting, not convincing. Use “unassailable / compelling.”
3. A single item can’t “proliferate.” The right word is “extant” (surviving): “the one extant manuscript.”
4. “Purport” means to claim, not to lift. Use “hoisted / held.”
5. “Mercenary” means money-grubbing/selfish — it clashes with a generous gift. Use “generous.”

6. “Gravitas” is seriousness/weight — the opposite of making people laugh. Use “irreverence / wit.”

Exercise 6 — Purposeful or Padded?

- 1a — gravitas does real work (weight of presence); 1b is nonsense (breakfast needs no gravity).
- 2a is purposeful; 2b fails — “two” is not a proliferation.
- 3a is purposeful; 3b fails — weather can’t be argued with, so “unassailable” is empty.
- 4a is purposeful; 4b fails — a polemic is an attack, so it can’t be “gentle” or a thank-you.

Exercise 7 — Sentence Upgrade (models)

1. The teacher carried such gravitas that a single glance was enough to settle the room.
2. The proliferation of gambling adverts means a teenager can’t watch a match without being sold a bet.
3. Beneath the charity logos, the company’s instincts remain coldly mercenary.
4. He had the temerity to tell a room of experts that they had misread their own data.
5. The article abandoned any pretence of balance and became a polemic against the policy.
6. Backed by evidence she had gathered herself, her point was very nearly unassailable.

Exercise 8 — Two Words, One Sentence (models)

1. It took real temerity to challenge a man of his gravitas — but she did it anyway.
2. The advert purports to champion families, yet its motives are nakedly mercenary.
3. The proliferation of the word “snowflake” shows how fast a pejorative label can spread.
4. A polemic feels powerful, but only an evidence-backed, unassailable argument changes minds.

Unit 2 — Character & Atmosphere

Exercise 1 — Gap Fill

#	SENTENCE	ANSWER
1.	The _____ grin on the boy’s face told everyone exactly who had hidden the chalk.	impish
2.	That day by the sea left an _____ memory that thirty years could not fade.	indelible
3.	The _____ child corrected the professor’s grammar without a hint of nerves.	precocious
4.	Bruised but determined, the _____ little dog refused to move from the doorway.	plucky
5.	His _____ compliments made my skin crawl long before I learned he was lying.	smarmy
6.	Surrounded by _____ admirers, she never once heard an honest opinion.	sycophantic
7.	She read the message twice, completely _____ by what it seemed to say.	flummoxed
8.	Sleep was _____ that night, slipping away each time I reached for it.	elusive

#	SENTENCE	ANSWER
9.	There was a warm _____ among the volunteers, built over long, cold shifts.	camaraderie
10.	We _____ up the steep bank, hands slipping on the wet grass.	scrambled

Exercise 2 — Choose the Precise Word

1. **impish** — playful mischief, not real malice
2. **smarmy** — flattery that feels false and oily
3. **elusive** — keeps slipping out of reach
4. **precocious** — advanced unusually early for their age
5. **plucky** — brave determination against the odds
6. **camaraderie** — trust built through shared hardship, not just cooperation

Exercise 3 — Connotation Sort

Warm / likeable: impish, plucky, camaraderie

Unpleasant / distrust: smarmy, sycophantic, sleazy

Depends on context: precocious (impressive or annoying), flummoxed (a neutral, often comic state rather than a judgement)

Exercise 4 — Collocations: 1. indelible · 2. impish · 3. smarmy · 4. lap · 5. scramble · 6. camaraderie · 7. tunnel-focused · 8. precocious

Exercise 5 — Spot the Misuse

1. “Smarmy” is insincere and oily — it clashes with “kind” and “safe.” Use “warm / reassuring.”
2. “Impish” means playfully mischievous; grief can’t be impish. Use “heavy / silent.”
3. “Camaraderie” needs people and friendship; an empty house has none. Use “emptiness / stillness.”
4. “Precocious” means advanced unusually early (in youth); it can’t describe an old man. Use “baffled / struggling.”
5. “Flummoxed” means confused, not delighted. Use “overjoyed” — keep “flummoxed” only if she is genuinely baffled.
6. “Lap up” means to enjoy eagerly — it clashes with crying at criticism. Use “absorbed / took in.”

Exercise 6 — Purposeful or Padded?

1. 1a is purposeful; 1b fails — a sandwich can’t be “indelible.”
2. 2a is purposeful (a word slipping from reach); 2b is random detail.
3. 3a is purposeful; 3b fails — “plucky” is an adjective, not an adverb, and opening a fridge needs no courage.
4. 4a is purposeful; 4b fails — rain can’t flatter anyone.

Exercise 7 — Sentence Upgrade (models)

1. It was an indelible memory — thirty years on, I can still smell the smoke.
2. He smiled a smarmy smile, all teeth and no warmth.

3. The plucky little dog stood its ground, tail trembling, and refused to back away.
4. She scrambled up the slick rocks, knuckles white, as the tide gained on her.
5. He lapped up the applause, bowing far longer than the performance deserved.
6. The precocious child dismantled the adults' argument before anyone thought to stop her.

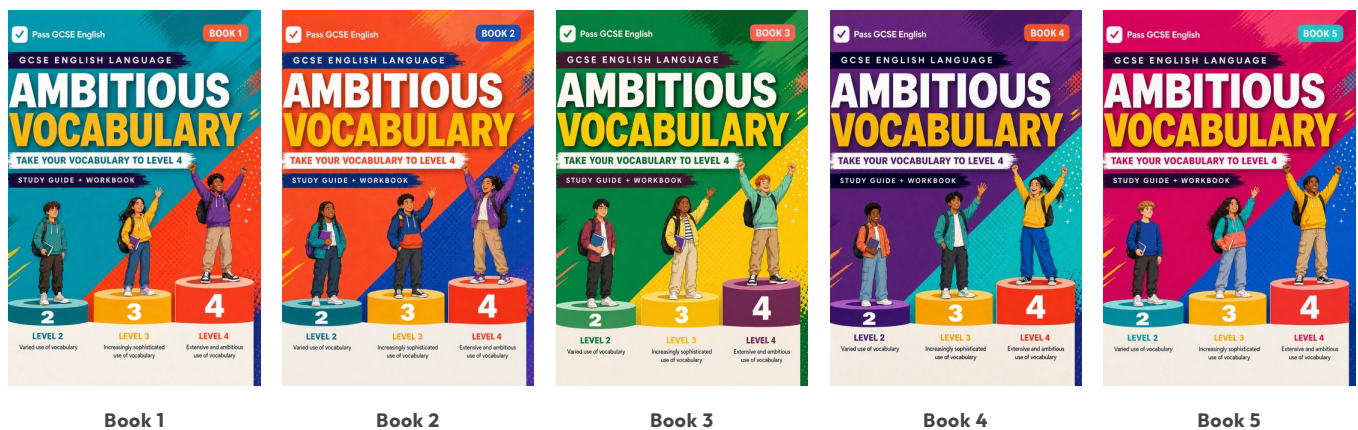
Exercise 8 — Two Words, One Sentence (models)

1. There was something impish in the precocious boy's smile, as if he already knew the answer and enjoyed our struggle.
2. The camaraderie of that winter left an indelible mark on all of us.
3. Surrounded by smarmy, sycophantic advisers, the star never heard a single honest word.
4. Flummoxed, he chased the elusive memory around his mind, never quite catching it.

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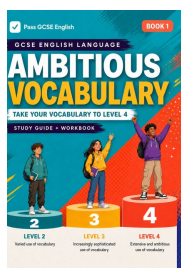
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SCAN FOR THE SHOP

ALSO IN THE SERIES

The rest of the shelf



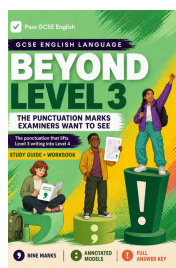
BOOKS 1–5

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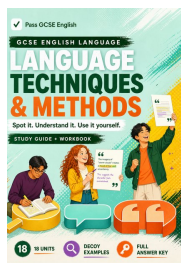
PUNCTUATION · AO6

Beyond Level 3

The nine punctuation marks that lift Level 3 writing into Level 4, taught through one text — Alice's Adventures in Wonderland — with four exam-style writing tasks.



passgcseenglish.co.uk/punctuation



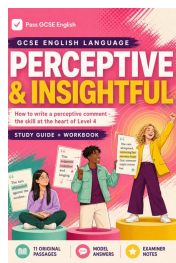
18 UNITS

Language Techniques & Methods

Every extract holds more than one example of the technique, and only one creates the effect the question asks about. Finding the right one is the skill the exam rewards.



passgcseenglish.co.uk/language-techniques



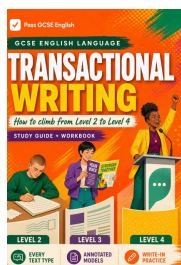
11 PASSAGES

Perceptive & Insightful

“Perceptive” isn’t a gift. It’s a set of moves you make when you look at a quotation. This names them, and shows one comment climbing from Level 2 to Level 4.



passgcseenglish.co.uk/perceptive



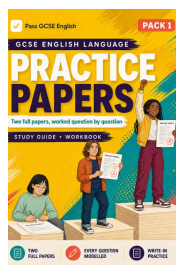
PAPER 2 QUESTION 5

Transactional Writing

Question 5 is worth half of Paper 2. One ordinary answer is levelled up in front of you — Level 2 to Level 4 — naming the criterion each edit satisfies.



passgcseenglish.co.uk/transactional-writing



PACKS 1 & 2

GCSE English Practice Papers

Two full papers per pack, every question modelled step by step, with Grade 4, 6 and 8 answers compared so the difference is visible. Updated for the 2026 Paper 1 changes.



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