



GCSE

3700U30-1A

THURSDAY, 6 JUNE 2024 – MORNING

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

UNIT 3

**Reading and Writing: Argumentation, Persuasion and
Instructional**

RESOURCE MATERIAL

For use with Section A

TEXT A

[TEXT A is a poster giving facts about Mount Snowdon.]

MOUNT SNOWDON

Mount Snowdon is the highest peak in Wales at 1,085 metres (3,560 ft) above sea level

In Welsh it is called YR WYDDFA

Excluding Scotland, Snowdon is the tallest point in the British Isles

It was first climbed in 1639 by a botanist called Thomas Johnson

10 million people visit Snowdonia National Park each year

450,000 people climb Snowdon each year

TEXT B

[TEXT B is an information text suggesting how to prepare for climbing a mountain. The text describes four different steps. The steps are not in order. There is one illustration.]

THINGS TO PREPARE FOR BEFORE CLIMBING A MOUNTAIN.

PACK

Pack the right amount of food, drinks and equipment. Check the weather forecast to make sure you dress appropriately.

PREPARE

Prepare physically several months in advance. You must be fit enough to comfortably ascend and descend the mountain.

PACE

Pace yourself so that you are able to complete the climb. Don't set off too quickly.

PLAN

Plan the route you will take. 24 hours before you set off, check online to make sure there are no obstacles.

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[The photo shows someone standing at the top of a mountain, looking at the scenery]

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TEXT C

[TEXT C is taken from a brochure advertising Snowdonia National Park.]

SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK

With 823 square miles of skyscraping peaks, deep wooded valleys, rolling moors, craggy coastline and soft, sandy beaches, the Snowdonia National Park is one of the world's most alluring places. For more information on all the walks and activities listed below, visit snowdonia.gov.wales.

SUMMIT SPECIAL

Mighty, mist-shrouded Snowdon is one of the Park's headline attractions and the busiest. It's the tallest peak in England and Wales (and the place where Sir Edmund Hillary and his team trained to conquer Mount Everest).

But Snowdon is just one of 14 summits in the Park measuring more than 3,000ft. It's well worth spreading your wings and getting off the beaten track to explore places like boulder-strewn Carnedd Dafydd in the Carneddau range and the jagged rocky outcrops of Glyder Fawr. Make sure you're ready to enjoy our mountains safely by checking the information on our website before you head out.

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THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH

Another high-altitude alternative to the crowds on Snowdon is a walk up Cader Idris. Looming above Dolgellau in the south of the Park, this mountain's moody silhouette cuts an unmistakable sight on the skyline. Take the shorter, steeper Minffordd Path which runs through the Cader Idris National Nature Reserve, or follow the longer and gentler Llanfihangel-y-pennant Path with its views of the Dysynni Valley and ruins of Castell y Bere, a gnarled, atmospheric native Welsh castle.

TAKE IT EASY

You don't have to tackle lung-busting ascents to enjoy getting out and about in the Snowdonia National Park. Choose from a wide selection of leisurely walks on flat and easy terrain, ranging from a two-mile stroll through wooded Cwm Penamnen to an 18-mile network of interlinked paths criss-crossing Dyffryn Maentwrog's landscape of oak forest and lakes.

Short, 'accessible for all' walks suitable for wheelchair users and prams are also plentiful. Stroll a section of the nine-mile Mawddach Trail between Barmouth and Dolgellau (also a popular route for gentle bike rides). Or follow the boardwalk through woodland on the shores of Llyn Cwellyn, set amongst steep slopes between

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Beddgelert and Caernarfon. You'll find a full list of leisurely and accessible walks on the National Park website: snowdonia.gov.wales.

TEXT D

[TEXT D is taken from the British Mountaineering Council website.]

HEADING UP SNOWDON THIS WINTER? BE PREPARED.

As challenging winter conditions grip many mountain areas across Britain, the British Mountaineering Council is urging people heading for Wales' highest mountain to be prepared.

Going into the mountains where there is snow and ice requires specific equipment and experience in addition to those used in summer hill walking, and the consequences of making errors can be much more serious. This is true anywhere, but the booming popularity of Snowdon means the 1,085-metre-high mountain sees many visitors who aren't equipped to deal with the harsh, often hazardous conditions.

Snow and ice can transform mountains completely. They can be wonderful places in winter, but they can also introduce hazards and dangers you don't find

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in summer. A lot of people think Snowdon is an easy mountain to climb because there are wide paths to the summit and a café on top. But Snowdon in winter is a very different place to Snowdon on a sunny summer's day. The weather is much harsher, with strong winds, sub-zero temperatures and blizzards. Visibility can be very poor, making it challenging to find your way. Snow and ice often cover the paths, not only obscuring the way but forming potentially hazardous slippery slopes. In heavy snow conditions there can be a risk of avalanches.

Mountain Rescue teams are constantly kept busy in winter responding to incidents caused by people setting off up Snowdon not prepared for what they're letting themselves in for. These incidents could so easily be avoided by people having a bit of prior preparation. Make sure you take safety precautions and sufficient food to keep you going. We're not saying, 'Don't go up Snowdon in winter.' If you think the views are good in summer, you should see them under a layer of snow – it can be breathtaking and hugely rewarding. We're just saying, 'Be prepared.'

Last December the summit winds topped 100mph and there was snow and ice on all of the paths from October onwards. It is important that people have the

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appropriate equipment, such as waterproof clothing, insulated clothing, a map and compass (and know how to use them). We also urge people to base their plans on an up-to-date weather forecast and match their objective with the conditions and their experience. Never be afraid to turn back and remember it is often more challenging to descend in snow and ice than it is to head uphill.

The British Mountaineering Council (thebmc.co.uk)

TEXT E

[TEXT E is an article taken from a national newspaper about Snowdonia during the lockdown of 2020.]

Snowdonia hires guards to tackle beauty spot louts

A security company will patrol a village in Snowdonia after a spate of bad behaviour. There have been complaints of uncontrolled tourism in north Wales, with large numbers of people visiting the area and causing chaos.

Llanberis, a village at the foot of Snowdon, the highest mountain in Wales, has been particularly affected. “We have never seen anything like it,” one resident said. “The crowds have been unbelievable, and some completely antisocial and out of control.” Party-goers have been accused of ‘wrecking’ a hidden infinity pool at a mountain beauty spot. Roads have also been clogged with illegally parked vehicles, some of which have been towed away by the local authority.

In a letter to residents published online, Sian Gwenllian, the local Plaid Cymru member of the Senedd, said: “I understand that it is a worrying time for Llanberis

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residents and many feel unsafe in their own village. I'm pleased to announce that steps will be taken." Gwynedd Council confirmed that the security company would be used in three areas, including Padarn Country Park in Llanberis, at a cost of £5,000 during the bank holiday. A spokesman said: "While the vast majority of visitors respect our local communities and natural environment, unfortunately a small number do not. Over the past few weeks, following the relaxation of the Welsh government's Covid-19 travel regulations, we have experienced problems with some visitors ignoring the 'no overnight camping' rules and leaving litter in Parc Padarn Country Park in Llanberis and on beaches including Morfa Bychan and Abersoch." The council said that its staff would be available to address problems during normal working hours and the security company would patrol in the evening.