



English assessment activity – Student worksheet

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- You have 30 minutes to complete this GCSE-style reading activity.
- Please read the sources and the questions carefully.
- This activity contains 3 sources, A, B and C, and there are four activities to complete.
- There are 34 marks available.

Source A:

This text is taken from a journal written by an accountant, recalling her first day of work experience.

On my first day of work experience as an accountant, I was filled with a mix of excitement and nervousness. The office environment was unfamiliar and I was about to embark on a journey into the world of finance and business. Little did I know that this day would be much more than just crunching numbers; it would be a day that forever changed my perspective on the profession.

As I settled at my new desk, my supervisor introduced me to the team and explained that they had a special activity planned for us that morning. We were going to participate in a teamwork activity run by an inspirational and warm-hearted professional, who had a reputation for making a lasting impact on newcomers to the field.

The anticipation built as we gathered in the conference room. Soon, our guest facilitator entered with a warm smile and a friendly demeanour. She introduced herself as Sarah, a seasoned accountant with years of experience. Her genuine enthusiasm for her work was palpable, and I instantly felt at ease.

Sarah began by explaining the activity. We were given a complex problem to solve together as a team. It involved analysing financial data, identifying errors, and proposing solutions. At first, I was a bit overwhelmed by the sheer complexity of the task, but Sarah assured us that teamwork and collaboration were the keys to success.

As we worked through the problem, Sarah encouraged us to share our thoughts and ideas openly. She emphasised that effective communication was vital in our field, just as it was in this activity. I was pleasantly surprised by the level of camaraderie and support among my colleagues. We brainstormed, debated and collaborated to unravel the puzzle, just like a well-oiled machine.

Throughout the activity, Sarah offered guidance and wisdom, sharing anecdotes from her own experiences that illustrated the importance of teamwork in accounting. She told us how sometimes it was the collaborative efforts of the team that saved a client from a financial crisis, not just the numbers on a spreadsheet.

As we finally solved the problem, a sense of accomplishment washed over me. I realised that accountancy was about more than just crunching numbers and compiling spreadsheets. It was about working together as a team, leveraging your colleagues' strengths and supporting one another to achieve the best possible outcomes for clients.

Sarah's inspirational leadership and warm-hearted approach left a lasting impression on all of us that day. She taught me that effective teamwork was not just a valuable skill but a fundamental aspect of our profession. We weren't just accountants; we were a team dedicated to helping our clients navigate the complexities of finance.

That first day of work experience taught me that accountancy was about more than just numbers; it was about people, collaboration and making a meaningful difference in the financial well-being of others. It was a lesson I carried with me throughout my career, reminding me that the best outcomes for clients were achieved through the power of teamwork.

Activity 1

Answer these questions about [source A](#).
Circle the correct response.

A - The accountant's first day of work experience involved participating in a teamwork activity. True/False

B - The accountant's supervisor introduced them to the team on their first day. True/False

C - The guest facilitator, Sarah, was known for making a positive impact on newcomers to the field. True/False

D - The teamwork activity involved solving a complex financial problem as a team. True/False

E - Sarah emphasised that accountancy was only about numbers and spreadsheets. True/False

F - The accountant's colleagues worked together harmoniously during the teamwork activity. True/False

G - Sarah shared personal anecdotes to illustrate the importance of teamwork in accounting. True/False

H - The accountant and their team successfully solved the problem presented during the activity. True/False

I - The accountant learned that teamwork was a fundamental aspect of the accounting profession. True/False

J - The accountant concluded that effective teamwork was not essential for achieving the best outcomes for clients. True/False

[10 marks]

Source B

This text is taken from a speech given by a Junior Doctor, recalling his very first day at work.

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed colleagues, and cherished guests,

Allow me to share with you the story of my first patient encounter as a junior doctor—a moment that will forever remain etched in my heart and mind.

On that crisp morning, as I walked onto the ward, a mix of anticipation and apprehension filled the air. I had meticulously reviewed the patient's chart the night before, familiarizing myself with their medical history and the reason for their hospitalization. Armed with knowledge and stethoscope, I stood outside their room, taking a deep breath to steady my nerves.

Upon entering, I found my patient—a middle-aged woman named Mrs. Anderson, who had been admitted with respiratory distress. She lay in her hospital bed, her face etched with lines that spoke of a lifetime of experiences. Tubes and monitors surrounded her, a testament to the intricacies of modern medicine.

As I introduced myself, a faint smile tugged at the corner of her lips. Her eyes held a mix of curiosity and vulnerability, perhaps wondering what this young doctor could offer. I pulled up a chair and sat down beside her, aiming to establish a connection beyond the medical jargon.

I began with a simple question, "Mrs. Anderson, how are you feeling today?" In today's fast-paced and often digitally-driven workplace, this question carries even more significance. The importance of care in the workplace cannot be overstated. In a world where remote work, virtual meetings, and impersonal interactions have become the norm, taking the time to genuinely inquire about a colleague's well-being has the potential to transform workplace dynamics. Whether it's in healthcare or any other professional setting, the power of a simple question, like "How are you feeling today?" should not be underestimated. It's a reminder that care is a vital component of our modern work culture, enriching our professional lives and promoting a more empathetic and connected world.

Her response was a candid account of her symptoms, punctuated by moments of discomfort. She shared her worries, her fears, and her hopes for a swift recovery. In that instant, I realized the privilege of being entrusted with someone's well-being—the gravity of the doctor-patient relationship.

Gently, I performed a physical examination, placing the stethoscope on her chest, listening to the rhythm of her heart and the symphony of her breath. With each touch, I sought to not only gather clinical data but also to convey my commitment to her care.

As I sat back down, we spoke about her life outside the hospital walls. Her eyes lit up as she recounted a particularly emotive memory – a family trip to the beach when her children were young. She described the warm sand underfoot, the sound of waves crashing, and the laughter of her kids building sandcastles. Her face beamed with joy as she shared the details, and I could feel the deep nostalgia and happiness in her words.

In that exchange, I glimpsed the person behind the patient, reminding me that every individual we encounter has a story worth hearing. This memory, filled with love and laughter, highlighted the importance of connecting with patients on a personal level, not just as medical cases. It reinforced the idea that in the midst of illness, there are cherished moments that define a person's identity and that deserve to be celebrated and preserved.

Source C

The following is an extract taken from the autobiography of an experienced Graphic Designer recalling their very first client.

I feel it is prudent that I begin by sharing a story, a story of a significant milestone—the memory of my first commissioned project. It's a memory that encapsulates the essence of creativity, collaboration, and the profound impact that visual art can have on the world.

As I embarked on my journey as a professional graphics designer, I was a mix of exhilaration and trepidation. The prospect of translating ideas into visual concepts was a thrilling challenge, and I was determined to prove myself in the realm of visual storytelling.

My first client was a local business owner, Ms. Rodriguez, who sought to rebrand her cafe with a fresh, modern identity. As I walked into our initial meeting, I was welcomed by the aroma of freshly brewed coffee and the hum of conversation—the very essence of the space I was tasked with capturing in design.

Sitting across from Ms. Rodriguez, I listened intently as she described her vision, her passion for quality coffee, and the warm atmosphere she aimed to cultivate. With every word, I felt a connection to her dream, and I understood the pivotal role that my creative work would play in bringing that vision to life.

After our meeting, I dove into the creative process, armed with inspiration and a blank canvas. I sketched, I brainstormed, and I experimented with colours, fonts, and layouts. Each element I chose was an attempt to encapsulate the soul of Ms. Rodriguez's cafe—the cozy corners, the conversations, and the comforting aroma that lingered in the air.

As the design started taking form, I experienced a blend of thrill and duty. It was akin to composing a tale, not merely positioning images. This design was on the cusp of becoming one with the café's core, much like flavours merging in a recipe. Every hue, each contour, and every pixel carried a purpose, aiming to stir feelings and craft an indelible adventure for café-goers, much like a cherished journey.

Upon presenting the design to Ms. Rodriguez, a hushed silence filled the room as she studied the visuals before her. A smile gradually spread across her face, and her eyes sparkled with recognition. "You've captured it," she whispered, her voice tinged with emotion. In that moment, I realized the immense power of art to resonate with people on a profound level.

Through this project, I understood that being a graphics designer means more than just arranging elements aesthetically. It's about crafting narratives, sparking emotions, and leaving an indelible mark on the world through visuals. Every project, no matter how small, has the potential to leave a lasting impact on individuals and communities alike.

Activity 2

The following questions are related to source B only.

1-Read source B again and complete the following activity. Tick four statements below which are true: (4 marks)

- A. The author is sharing a story about their first patient encounter as a junior doctor.
- B. The junior doctor reviewed the patient's chart the night before to familiarize themselves with the medical history.
- C. The patient's name is Mr. Anderson.
- D. The junior doctor had no prior knowledge of the patient's medical history.
- E. The patient was admitted with respiratory distress.
- F. The junior doctor entered the room without any nervousness or apprehension.
- G. The junior doctor felt a personal connection with the woman's story.
- H. The junior doctor was careless in their examination of the patient.

2-Explain what the writer means when they write that the experience was "a moment that will forever remain etched in my heart and mind." (1 mark)

3-Find a quotation which proves that the writer studied the patient's medical chart with great care and attention. (1 mark)

4-Find a quotation which proves that the patient initially felt nervous when they met the doctor. (1 mark)

5-What language technique has the writer used here: “listening to the rhythm of her heart and the symphony of her breath”? (1 mark)

6-What can you infer about the doctor from the passage? Use evidence to support your idea. (3 marks)

Activity 3

The following questions are related to source C only.

7-Read source C and complete the following activity. Tick four statements below which are true: (4 marks)

- A. The author feels their account of their first client is a very important one.
- B. The atmosphere within the meeting room was hostile and unfriendly.
- C. The room was filled with an overpowering aroma of paper and take-away food.
- D. Ms. Rodriguez had an overwhelming passion for tea.
- E. The author responded to the meeting with excitement and vigour.
- F. Ms. Rodriguez' reaction to the design was one of elation.
- G. The author struggled to come up with ideas around his client's proposed design.
- H. The author believes that his job the power to resonate with the rest of the world.

8-Find a quotation which proves that the writer was both filled with excitement and nerves on their first day of work. (1 mark)

9-What is the writer trying to convey about the atmosphere in the room when they describe the "hum of conversation"? (1 mark)



10-Find a simile which suggests that the writer believed their design had all the right ingredients making it perfect. (1 mark)

11-Find a quotation which proves that the writer believes that their job as a graphic designer has a permanent and lasting effect on the world. (1 mark)

Activity 4

The final question relates to both source B and source C.

12- Compare the reactions that the patient and the client have towards each writer. (5 marks)

