

# 10.3 Vocabulary and skills development

GOALS ■ Understand reference words in a text ■ Understand words with more than one meaning

## Reading understanding reference words in a text

- 1a Work with a partner. Look at the headline of the newspaper article and discuss the questions.
- 1 Why do people throw food away?
  - 2 What food do you think is thrown away most often?
- b 10.5 ))) Listen to a radio news report and make notes to answer the questions in exercise 1a.
- 2 Read the information in the Unlock the code box about reference words in a text.



### UNLOCK THE CODE

reference words in a text

- We often use words like *this*, *that*, *these*, *those* to refer to a word or group of words earlier in a text.

Compare:

One third of the world's food is wasted. This is a shocking figure.

One third of the world's food is wasted. This is shocking.

- Other words which refer back are *the one(s)* and *so*. *The one(s)* refers back to a noun(s). *So* refers back to a verb.  
*The red apples look fresh.* *So do the green ones.*

- 3 Find the reference words below in paragraph 1 of the article. What do they refer to? Choose from options a–c.
- 1 *the one* (line 4)  
a apple    b supermarket    c brown mark
  - 2 *this* (line 4)  
a look perfect  
b buy fruit and vegetable from farmers  
c only buy fruit and vegetables which look perfect
- 4 Read the rest of the article. Look at the reference words in **bold** and draw a line from these to the word(s) they refer to.
- 5 Now use these references to help you answer the questions.
- 1 In developed countries, what do farmers do with fruit and vegetables which don't look perfect?
  - 2 How do supermarkets persuade customers to buy more food than they need?
  - 3 In developing countries, how much food ...?  
a is wasted each year  
b is wasted by the average person
  - 4 What can cause waste during production and transportation in these countries?

## One third of the world's food is wasted, says UN study



### It's a pretty shocking figure. So what are the facts behind it?

Imagine you're buying an apple in a supermarket. There are two left, one with a small brown mark, one without. Which do you choose? Be honest – you'd go for **the one** that looks perfect. Supermarkets do **this** too, but on a much, much larger scale when buying fruit and vegetables from farmers. And what happens to the ones with marks on them? They are thrown away. **So** are **the ones** that are a funny shape or size.

Another reason for waste is that people buy more food than they can eat and supermarkets do everything they can to encourage **this**, for example with offers like, 'Buy one, get one free'.

Developed countries, like those in Europe and North America, waste about 650 million tonnes of food each year and **so** do developing countries, like sub-Saharan Africa. But the waste happens for very different reasons. In developed countries, 95–115kg of food is wasted per person every year. But in developing countries, **this** figure is only 6–11kg. It's clear, therefore, that in **these** countries, it's not the consumers who are responsible for waste. Instead, the waste happens on farms during production or transportation. One cause of **this** is the hot and humid weather.

As the world's population grows, this problem will only get worse so we need to take action urgently.

- 6 Read the leaflet. For each tip, circle the reference word(s) and underline the words they refer to.

## Tips for reducing waste

- Avoid shopping on an empty stomach. If you do that, you'll buy too much.
- Don't buy food which has travelled thousands of miles. This is already several days old.
- Don't throw away soft apples or oranges. These make great fruit juices. So does other 'old' fruit.
- Understand food labels. A 'Best before' is different from a 'Use by' date. The first one tells you about quality, not safety. Food often lasts much longer than that date.

**BEST BEFORE**  
18 JAN

**USE BY**  
02 Oct

- Share a starter with someone else. Do this with your dessert, too.
- Ask the waiter for a 'doggy bag', to take home food you can't eat. Don't be shy about asking for one of these.

- 7 Which of the things in the leaflet can you do a) at home, b) while shopping, c) in a restaurant?

## Vocabulary words with more than one meaning

- 8a Read the information in the Vocabulary focus box.

### VOCABULARY FOCUS words with more than one meaning

- Many English words have more than one meaning. The words may be the same parts of speech.  
*I'm free (adj) on Tuesday. This bottle of water was free (adj).*
- Or they may be different parts of speech.  
*Can (verb) I help you? A can (noun) of soup.*

- b Find words 1–6 in the newspaper article on page 100. Choose the correct meaning for each one, as it is used in the article.

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 1 pretty | a attractive                                       |
|          | b quite/very                                       |
| 2 left   | a remaining, still there                           |
|          | b opposite of <i>right</i>                         |
| 3 mark   | a a spot or line that spoils the look of something |
|          | b a score in a test or essay                       |
| 4 funny  | a making you laugh                                 |
|          | b strange  |
| 5 figure | a the shape of the human body                      |
|          | b a number   |
| 6 clear  | a something you can see through                    |
|          | b obvious  |

- c Work with a partner. Write a sentence for each word to show the other meaning.

- 9a Choose the correct meaning for the word in **bold** as it is used in the sentences.
- 1 In the **past**, people were not as wasteful as they are today.
    - a later than
    - b the time before now
  - 2 Supermarkets should **charge** customers for shopping bags.
    - a ask someone to pay a price
    - b put electricity into a battery
  - 3 Food that's travelled a long **way** doesn't taste as good as locally-grown food.
    - a distance
    - b method
  - 4 Going on a **diet** is a waste of time.
    - a food you normally eat
    - b food you eat to get thinner

- b Work with a partner and decide if you agree or disagree with the statements in exercise 9a.

- 10a Complete the questions using the words in **bold** in exercise 9a. Then write **a** or **b** in the brackets to show which meaning.

- 1 Is there anything you don't mind eating/drinking when it's past ( a ) its sell-by date? What?
- 2 Can you think of another \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_ ) that supermarkets persuade you to spend more money?
- 3 Would you like to have a healthier \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_ )?
- 4 How often do you need to \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_ ) your mobile?

- b Ask and answer the questions with a partner.