

Passage 1. The history of teas

1. tombs	.. But tea drinking certainly became established in China many centuries before it had even been heard of in the West. Containers for tea have been found in tombs dating from the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD) but it was under the Tang Dynasty (618-906 AD), that tea became firmly established as the national drink of China.
2. book	... It became such a favourite that during the late eighth century a writer called Lu Yu wrote the first book entirely about tea, the Ch'a Ching, or Tea Classic.
3. monks	... It was shortly after this that tea was first introduced to Japan , by Japanese Buddhist monks who had travelled to China to study.
4. Dutch	But although some of these individuals may have brought back samples of tea to their native country, it was not the Portuguese who were the first to ship back tea as a commercial import. This was done by the Dutch , who in the last years of the sixteenth century began to encroach on Portuguese trading routes in the East. By the turn of the century they had established a trading post on the island of Java, and it was via Java that in 1606 the first consignment of tea was shipped from China to Holland .
5. smuggling	One unforeseen consequence of the taxation of tea was the growth of methods to avoid taxation- smuggling and adulteration... What began as a small time illegal trade, selling a few pounds of tea to personal contacts, developed by the late eighteenth century into an astonishing organised crime network , perhaps importing as much as 7 million lbs annually, compared to a legal import of 5 million lbs! ... By 1784, the government realised that enough was enough, and that heavy taxation was creating more problems than it was words. The new Prime Minister , William Pitt the Younger, slashed the tax from 119 per cent to 12.5 percent . Suddenly legal tea was affordable, and smuggling stopped virtually overnight.
6. India	Another great impetus to tea drinking resulted from the end of the East India Company's monopoly on trade with China, in 1834 . Before that date, China was the country of origin of the vast majority of the tea imported to Britain, but the end of its monopoly stimulated the East India Company to consider growing tea outside China , India had always been the centre of the Company's operations, which led to the increased

	cultivation of tea in India, beginning in Assam
7. clippers	While the Company had had the monopoly on trade, there was no rush to bring the tea from China to Britain, but after 1834 the tea trade became a virtual free for all. Individual merchants and sea captains with their own ships raced to bring home the tea and make the most money, using fast new clippers which had sleek lines, tall masts and huge sails. In particular there was a competition between British and American merchants , leading to the famous clipper races of the 1860s.
8. FALSE	... Britain , always a little suspicious of continental trends, had yet to become the nation of tea drinkers that it is today. Starting in 1600, the British East India Company had a monopoly on importing goods from outside Europe, and it is likely that sailors on these ships brought tea home as gifts. The first coffee house had been established in London in 1652 , and tea was still somewhat unfamiliar to most readers, so it is fair to assume that the drink was still something of a curiosity.
9. NOT GIVEN	By the turn of the century they had established a trading post on the island of Java, and it was via Java that in 1606 the first consignment of tea was shipped from China to Holland. Tea soon became a fashionable drink among the Dutch, and from there spread to other countries in continental western Europe, but because of its high price it remained a drink for the wealthy.
10. FALSE	... Britain , always a little suspicious of continental trends, had yet to become the nation of tea drinkers that it is today. Starting in 1600 , the British East India Company had a monopoly on importing goods from outside Europe, and it is likely that sailors on these ships brought tea home as gifts. The first coffee house had been established in London in 1652 , and tea was still somewhat unfamiliar to most readers, so it is fair to assume that the drink was still something of a curiosity. Gradually, it became a popular drink in coffee houses, which were as many locations for the transaction of business as they were for relaxation or pleasure. They were though the preserve of middle- and upper-class men, women drank tea in their own homes, and as yet tea was still too expensive to be widespread among the working classes . In part, its high price was due to a punitive system of taxation.
11. TRUE	... Worse for die drinkers was that taxation also encouraged the adulteration of tea , particularly of smuggled tea which

	<p>was not quality controlled through customs and excise. Leaves from other plants, or leaves which had already been brewed and then dried, were added to tea leaves. By 1784, the government realised that enough was enough, and that heavy taxation was creating more problems than it was words. The new Prime Minister, William Pitt the Younger, slashed the tax from 119 per cent to 12.5 percent. Suddenly legal tea was affordable, and smuggling stopped virtually overnight.</p>
12. TRUE	<p>... Before that date, China was the country of origin of the vast majority of the tea imported to Britain, but the end of its monopoly stimulated the East India Company to consider growing tea outside China, India had always been the centre of the Company's operations, which led to the increased cultivation of tea in India, beginning in Assam. There were a few false starts, including the destruction</p>
13. NOT GIVEN	<p>... While the Company had had the monopoly on trade, there was no rush to bring the tea from China to Britain, but after 1834 the tea trade became a virtual free for all. Individual merchants and sea captains with their own ships raced to bring home the tea and make the most money, using fast new clippers which had sleek lines, tall masts and huge sails. In particular there was a competition between British and American merchants, leading to the famous clipper races of the 1860s.</p>

Passage 2. Biodiversity

14. TRUE	<p>... It seems biodiversity has become a buzzword beloved of politicians, conservationists, protesters and scientists alike. But what exactly is it? The Convention on Biological Diversity, an international agreement to conserve and share the planet's biological riches, provides a good working definition: biodiversity comprises every form of life, from the smallest microbe to the largest animal or plant, the genes that give them their specific characteristics and the ecosystems of which they are apart.</p>
15. FALSE	<p>... . The resources are simply not available. The IUCN reports that 5714 plants are threatened, for example, but admits that only 4 per cent of known plants has been assessed. And, of course, there are thousands of species that we have yet to discover. Many of these could also be facing extinction.</p>

16. TRUE	... It is important to develop a picture of the diversity of life on Earth now so that comparisons can be made in the future and trends identified. But it isn't necessary to observe every single type of organism in an area to get a snapshot of the health of the ecosystem.
17. TRUE	... In the media , it is usually large, charismatic animals such as pandas, elephants, tigers and whales that get all the attention when a loss of biodiversity is discussed.
18. FALSE	The cactus moth , whose caterpillar is a voracious eater of prickly pear was introduced to Australia to control the rampant cacti. It was so successful that someone thought it would be a good idea to introduce it to Caribbean islands that had the same problem. It solved the cactus menace, but unfortunately, some of the moths have now reached the US mainland-borne on winds and in tourists' luggage - where they are devastating the native cactus populations of Florida.
19. NOT GIVEN	... Problems such as illegal logging are being tackled through sustainable forestry programmes, with the emphasis on minimising the use of rainforest hardwoods in the developed world and on rigorous replanting of whatever trees are harvested.
20. Not given	... There is cause for optimism, however. There seems to be a growing understanding of the need for sustainable agriculture and sustainable tourism to conserve biodiversity. Problems such as illegal logging are being tackled through sustainable forestry programmes, with the emphasis on minimising the use of rainforest hardwoods in the developed world and on rigorous replanting of whatever trees are harvested . CITES is playing its part by controlling trade in wood from endangered tree species. In the same way, sustainable farming techniques minimise environmental damage and avoid monoculture .
21. keystone	In the media , it is usually large, charismatic animals such as pandas, elephants, tigers and whales that get all the attention when a loss of biodiversity is discussed. However, animals or plants far lower down the food chain are often the ones vital for preserving habitats - in the process saving the skins of those more glamorous species. These are known as keystone species .

22. fig family	By studying the complex feeding relationships within habitats , species can be identified that have a particularly important impact on the environment. For example, the members of the fig family are the staple food for hundreds of different species in many different countries, so important that scientists sometimes call figs "Jungle burgers". A whole range of animals , from tiny insects to birds and large mammals, feed on
23. sea urchins	Similarly, sea otters play a major role in the survival of giant kelp forests along the coasts of California and Alaska . These "marine rainforests provide a home for a wide range of other species. The kelp itself is the main food of purple and red sea urchins and in turn, the urchins are eaten by predators, particularly sea otters... The problems start when the sea otter population declines . As large predators they are vulnerable - their numbers are relatively small to disease or human hunters can wipe them out. The result is that the sea urchin population grows unchecked and they roam
24. cactus moth 25. Australia	... Conversely, keystone species can also make dangerous alien species: they can wreak havoc if they end up in the wrong ecosystem. The cactus moth , whose caterpillar is a voracious eater of prickly pear was introduced to Australia to control the rampant cacti . It was so successful that someone thought it would be a good idea to introduce

Passage 3. Nature works Polylactic acid

27. B	... Dozen years ago, scientists at Cargill got the idea of converting lactic acid made from corn into plastic while examining possible new uses for materials produced from corn wet milling processes. In the past, several efforts had been made to develop plastics from lactic acid, but with limited success. Achieving this technological breakthrough didn't come easily, but in time the efforts did succeed .
28. C	As an agricultural based firm, Cargill had taken this product as far as it could by 1997. The company needed a partner with access to plastics markets and polymerization capabilities, and began discussions with The Dow Chemical Company
29 F	Cargill Dow's product is the world's first commercially available plastic made from annually renewable resources such as com: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Works™ PLA is a family of packaging polymers (carbon-based molecules) made from non-

	<p>petroleum based resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ingeo is a family of polymers for fibers made in a similar manner.
30A	<p>Cargill Dow's product is the world's first commercially available plastic made from annually renewable resources such as com:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Works™ PLA is a family of packaging polymers (carbon-based molecules) made from non-petroleum based resources. • Ingeo is a family of polymers for fibers made in a similar manner.
31. starch	<p>The process for making Nature Works PLA begins when a renewable resource such as corn is milled, separating starch from the raw material. Unrefined dextrose, in turn, is processed from the starch.</p>
32. fermentation	<p>Cargill Dow turns the unrefined dextrose into lactic acid using a fermentation</p>
33. condensation	<p>.. Through a special condensation process, a lactide</p>
34. polymer	<p>. This lactide is purified through vacuum distillation and becomes a polymer (the base for Nature Works PLA)</p>
35. B	<p>As Nature Works PLA polymers are more oil and grease-resistant and provide a better flavor and aroma barrier than existing petroleum-based polymers, grocery retailers are increasingly using this packaging for their fresh foods.</p>
36. C	<p>As Nature Works PLA polymers are more oil and grease-resistant and provide a better flavor and aroma barrier than existing petroleum-based polymers, grocery retailers are increasingly using this packaging for their fresh foods.</p>
37, 38 A, D	<p>For example, PLA possess two properties that are particularly useful for drape fabrics and window furnishings. Their resistance to ultraviolet light is particularly appealing as this reduces the amount of fading in such fabrics, and their refractive index is low, which means fabrics constructed from these polymers can be made with deep colors without requiring large amounts of dye. In addition, sportswear makers have been drawn to the product as it has an inherent ability to take moisture away from the skin and when blended with cotton and</p>
39,40	<p>he source material for PLA is a natural sugar found in plants such as corn and using such renewable feedstock presents</p>

A,C	several environmental benefits. As an alternative to traditional petroleum-based polymers, the production of PLA uses 20%-50% less fossil fuel and releases a lower amount of greenhouse gasses than comparable petroleum-based plastic
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