

Reading

Unit 4 - Tuesday

All use the same text.

Choose the questions which are best for you.

There are Bronze, Silver or Gold levels.

Life-changing

James McConnell
Harrow Lane Primary School
Stanmore
London
UK
HA7 4TD

Ranjeev Mittal
Community School
Nagapuram Estate
Tamil Nadu
India

3rd March 2017

Dear Ranjeev,

Hello! My name is James. I am eight years old. I go to Harrow Lane Primary School in the UK.

My class at school is learning about Fairtrade. We have all been given pen-pals. You are my new pen-pal! It is so nice to write to you. I am looking forward to getting to know you, and to learning about how Fairtrade has changed your life.

How old are you?

I know that you live in India. Where in India do you live? What is your house like?

Do you have any brothers or sisters? I have a sister called Emily. A lot of the time she is fun and kind but sometimes she gets on my nerves! She winds me up and then I get told off! But that does not happen so often.

I like to play football. Do you play any sports?

It will be so good to get a letter back from you!

From your pen-pal,

James

Ranjeev Mittal
Community School
Nagapuram Estate
Tamil Nadu
India

James McConnell
Harrow Lane Primary School
Stanmore
London
UK
HA7 4TD

21st March 2017

Dear James,

It was so very nice to get your letter. I have never spoken to somebody from the United Kingdom before, so this was very special for me. I am also eight years old. My school is called the Community School and is on the Nagapuram Estate where my mother and father grow and pick tea. We live in an area called Tamil Nadu which is at the southern tip of India.

Do you drink tea? I hear that people in the United Kingdom really enjoy it.

Since we began to work as part of the Nagapuram Estate many things have got much better. My father and mother are given more money for their work and the tea they grow and pick.

The workers are also given money which I think is called the 'Premium'. They decide together how to use this extra money. Sometimes they spend it to repair things. They used it to make my school much better.

My house is very clean now. When we worked at the old tea farm my house was dirty and let the rain in. Now I sleep in the clean and dry.

I have many brothers and sisters. Do you want to know them?

Sometimes we have time to play cricket. I am very good at hitting the ball a very long way. One time I hit it all the way over my house!

From Ranjeev

James McConnell
Harrow Lane Primary School
Stanmore
London
UK
HA7 4TD

Ranjeev Mittal
Community School
Nagapuram Estate
Tamil Nadu
India

8th April 2017

Dear Ranjeev,

I went on the internet and found your school! I could see it on a map! The tea fields on the estate are huge! How many people work there? You must grow so much tea!

I do not drink tea yet, really. I have tried it a few times. My grandmother always gives it to me when we go to visit her and I always drink it but I think I would rather have fruit juice.

So you have not always lived on the Nagapuram Estate? What was it like on the old farm?

My teacher Mrs. Wagstaff told us that the 'Premium' is extra money people pay when they buy Fairtrade things. Fairtrade food is more expensive than other food here in the UK. Mrs. Wagstaff says that is because workers at Fairtrade farms are paid more and this means it costs more to grow the food. To make sure the food still makes a profit (I have forgotten what that means!) the people who own food companies charge customers more money. They also include the 'Premium' in the price. But I think it is good to pay more for Fairtrade food. It is good to be fair. I am glad we can help farmers like your mother and father.

I would like to know all about your family. I cannot believe you can hit a ball over your house! I could not do that here!

From your pen-pal,

James

Ranjeev Mittal
Community School
Nagapuram Estate
Tamil Nadu
India

James McConnell
Harrow Lane Primary School
Stanmore
London
UK
HA7 4TD

19th April 2017

Dear James,

Thank you very much for writing to me again. It is very exciting to have a new friend. It is even more exciting to have a new friend in a country far away!

Thank you for buying Fairtrade food. I cannot understand why not everybody is given fair money. Why are so many people poor and hungry? When we grow up, we must change this.

The old farm my family worked at was not a Fairtrade farm. The people who owned the farm wanted more and more tea for less and less money. They had to sell the tea and wanted to make money. That is not bad but the shops in other countries were paying them less so they had to pay my family less. I think you understand? If people want tea very cheap then the money has to disappear from somewhere. It is always the farmers who have their money disappear, because they have no one left to pass the lost money on to.

So my parents had to work very, very hard for not very much money. We did not have a nice house, or a good school like we do at Nagapuram. Life is better now.

I have two brothers and two sisters. My brothers are Javid and Pardu. My sisters are Mahla and Varya. Javid, Mahla and Varya are older than me. Pardu is little. He is only five.

What is your school like? What do you learn there?

From Ranjeev

Bronze

1. Who has written the first letter?
2. When was Ranjeev's first letter written?
3. After reading the first letter, explain one thing you are expecting to find out in Ranjeev's reply? Why are you expecting it?
4. Even if there were no addresses to be seen, how would you know that these pieces of writing are letters?
5. Use a dictionary to find out what 'profit' is.
6. Do you think that James and Ranjeev will stay in contact after Ranjeev's second letter? Why?
7. Do you feel more or less likely to buy Fairtrade food after reading these letters? Which words or groups of words made up your mind?

Silver

1. Who has written the first letter?
2. When was Ranjeev's first letter written?
3. After reading the first letter, explain one thing you are expecting to find out in Ranjeev's reply? Why are you expecting it?
4. Even if there were no addresses to be seen, how would you know that these pieces of writing are letters?
5. Use a dictionary to find out what 'profit' is.
6. Do you think that James and Ranjeev will stay in contact after Ranjeev's second letter? Why?
7. Do you feel more or less likely to buy Fairtrade food after reading these letters? Which words or groups of words made up your mind?
8. What is the postcode for Harrow Lane Primary school?
9. What village is Ranjeev's school in?
10. What does the word 'Premium' mean in Ranjeev's first letter?
11. Write a short summary of how Fairtrade works. Include how it makes money and how that money helps people.
12. Does James think tea is for older people or younger people? Explain your answer.
13. Can you describe Ranjeev's family tree? Include his parents and siblings, and use their names if you know them.

Gold

1. Who has written the first letter?
 2. When was Ranjeev's first letter written?
-
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 2. When was Ranjeev's first letter written?
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3. After reading the first letter, explain one thing you are expecting to find out in Ranjeev's reply? Why are you expecting it?
 4. Even if there were no addresses to be seen, how would you know that these pieces of writing are letters?
 5. Use a dictionary to find out what 'profit' is.
 6. Do you think that James and Ranjeev will stay in contact after Ranjeev's second letter? Why?
 7. Do you feel more or less likely to buy Fairtrade food after reading these letters? Which words or groups of words made up your mind?

8. What is the postcode for Harrow Lane Primary school?
9. What village is Ranjeev's school in?
10. What does the word 'Premium' mean in Ranjeev's first letter?
11. Write a short summary of how Fairtrade works. Include how it makes money and how that money helps people.
12. Does James think tea is for older people or younger people? Explain your answer.
13. Can you describe Ranjeev's family tree? Include his parents and siblings, and use their names if you know them.
14. Why did James start writing to Ranjeev?
15. Why is Ranjeev a very useful pen-pal to have for someone learning about the difference made by Fairtrade?
16. For you as a schoolchild, what is the most inspiring thing Ranjeev writes in his second letter? Why?

Answers

1 James

2 21st March 2017

3 Ranjeev's age, Where he lives, what his house is like, has he got brothers/sisters and sports he likes

4 written 'Dear..' at the beginning and name is signed at the end

5 Profit is the money you make on something when you have taken the cost out to grow, pick and send it (expenses).

6. Personal answer. Use evidence from the text to help you.

7 Personal Answer

8 HA7 4TD

9 Nagapurum Estate

10 Extra money from Fairtrade which is paid by customers

11 Workers on Fairtrade farms are paid more and also given a premium. Both of these expenses are passed onto the person who buys their goods. The extra money goes towards personal, family and community improvement.

12 Older people. He says he does not drink tea 'yet' which implies he thinks it is for older people. Also, it is his grandma who insists that he drinks it showing that people have a positive attitude towards drinking tea.

13 He has a mother and father. He has one older brother (Javid) and two older sisters (Mahla and Varya). He has a younger brother called Pardu.

14 His class have been learning about Fairtrade so they have got penpals (with someone who lives in a Fairtrade area) to help them learn.

15 He has lived a normal and 'Fairtrade' farm

16 Personal answer