

Reading

Unit 4 - Wednesday

All use the same text.

Work through the questions from Bronze.

If you can manage Silver, do that.

If you can manage Gold too, do that.

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

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

Ranjeev Mittal
Community School
Nagapuram Estate
Tamil Nadu
India

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

Complete the chart using information from the text.

	James	Ranjeev
Age		
City		
Name of school		
Siblings		
Favourite sport		

Circle the correct answer.

Ranjeev is James' new...

paper-pal

pen-pal

pencil-pal

pupil-pal

James thinks that his sister is mostly...

boring

silly

dull

fun

Ranjeev's mother and father grow and pick...

tea

coffee

flowers

sugar

Ranjeev's school was improved with money called the...

'Payment'

'Principle'

'Premium'

'Payroll'

James' teacher is called...

Mrs Wagtail

Mr Wagstaff

Mrs Wagtadd

Mrs Wagstaff

Silver

Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

Statement	True	False
Ranjeev has never spoken to anyone from the United Kingdom before.		
Ranjeev can kick a football over his house.		
James found Ranjeev's school on the internet.		
Fairtrade food costs a little bit more.		
Ranjeev wishes there weren't so many poor and hungry people.		
Ranjeev has two brothers and three sisters.		

Gold

Use the information in the text to explain what Fairtrade is and how it can improve the lives of people like Ranjeev and his family.

Answers

Bronze

Complete the chart using information from the text.

	James	Ranjeev
Age	8 years old	8 years old
City	London	Tamil Nadu
Name of school	Harrow Lane Primary School	Community School
Siblings	Emily	Javid, Pardu, Mahla and Varya
Favourite sport	football	cricket

Circle the correct answer.

Ranjeev is James' new...

paper-pal

pen-pal

pencil-pal

pupil-pal

James thinks that his sister is mostly...

boring

silly

dull

fun

Ranjeev's mother and father grow and pick...

tea

coffee

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Ranjeev's school was improved with money called the...

'Payment'

'Principle'

'Premium'

'Payroll'

James' teacher is called...

Mrs Wagtail

Mr Wagstaff

Mrs Wagtadd

Mrs Wagstaff

Silver

Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

Statement	True	False
Ranjeev has never spoken to anyone from the United Kingdom before.	✓	
Ranjeev can kick a football over his house.		✓
James found Ranjeev's school on the internet.	✓	
Fairtrade food costs a little bit more.	✓	
Ranjeev wishes there weren't so many poor and hungry people.	✓	
Ranjeev has two brothers and three sisters.		✓

Gold

Use the information in the text to explain what Fairtrade is and how it can improve the lives of people like Ranjeev and his family.

e.g. Fairtrade means that people like Ranjeev's parents are paid a decent wage for the tea they grow and pick. Fairtrade goods cost more money because a 'Premium' is included in the price. This 'Premium' is used by the local people to improve their working and living conditions, just like Ranjeev's school.