



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

English Language Intensive Programme Unit

Stage 2

Bamboo and Flax

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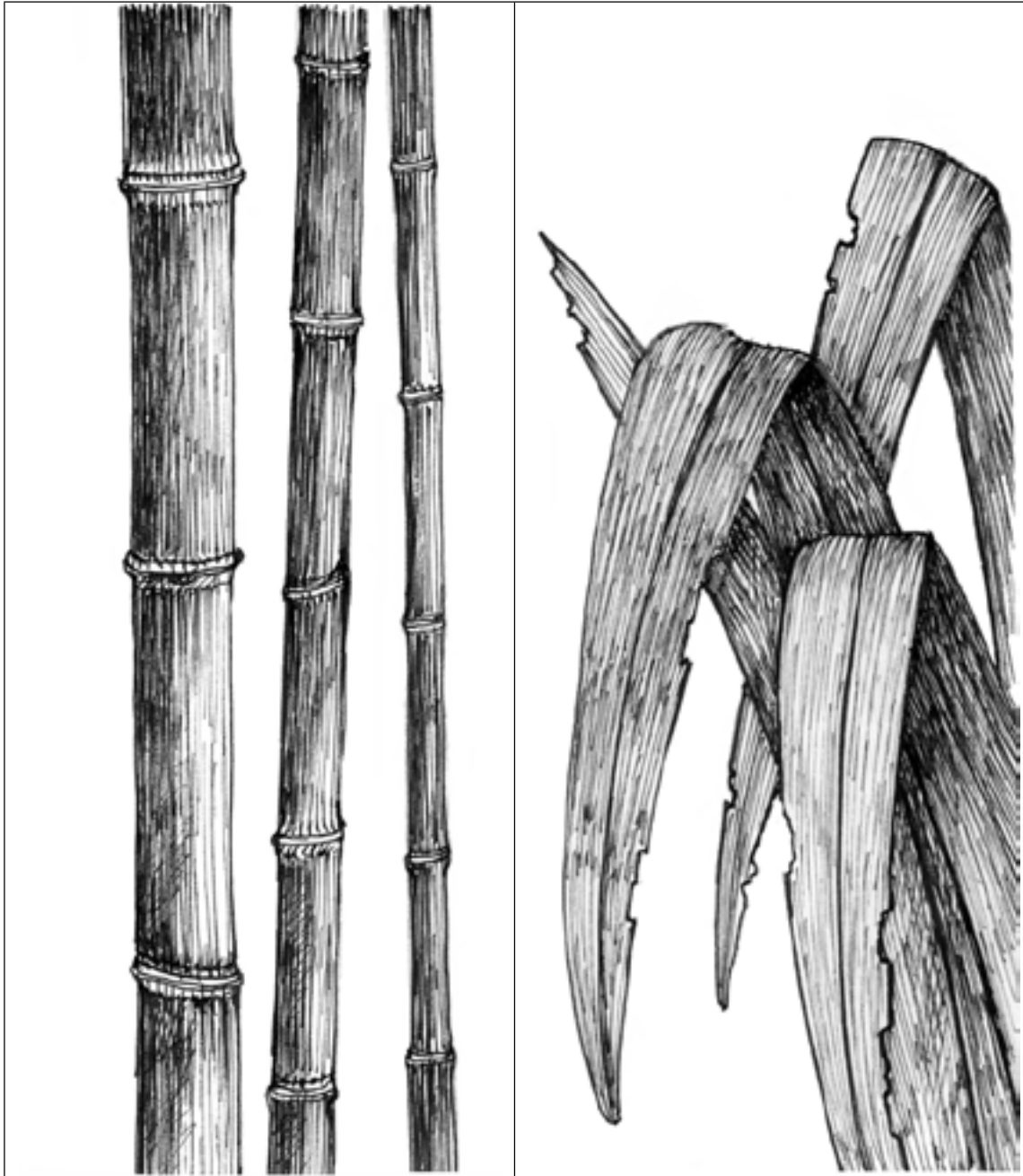
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Bamboo and Flax

A topic based language learning programme for students learning English at English Language Intensive Programme (ELIP) Stage 2

Age: Secondary



Bamboo and Flax

Introduction

The purpose of this unit is to teach some of the basic skills of English using a scaffolded learning approach. The topics are bamboo and flax. Many of our students have a great deal of knowledge about bamboo and its uses. The topic of flax provides an introduction to early Maori history. It is interesting to compare and contrast these beautiful and useful plants.

The text types featured in this unit are information report and procedural.

The language teaching points are

- nouns - count, mass and proper nouns
- linking verbs - simple present
- action verbs - simple present
- simple sentences- classifying and describing
- giving reasons/using *because*
- connectives used to compare and contrast

Recommended dictionary: Collins New Zealand School Dictionary

Recommended resource : Calder, Jennie. (2001) Dictation. Practical ideas.
This resource is available from Kohia Teachers Centre.

This unit has been written for the English Language Intensive Programme by Shirley Smith 2004.

Teacher notes - Objectives and activity guide

ACTIVITIES 1 - 9 READING AND WORD FOCUS

ACTIVITY 1

Use atlases to locate some of the countries marked on Map 1.
Use Map 2 to label the countries where bamboos grow naturally.
Write capital letters clearly for the proper nouns.

ACTIVITY 2

Key words. Introduce target vocabulary. Say the words and get students to repeat.

Students identify consonant blends, say the words and identify the number of syllables.

Label the illustration and complete the text using key words.

ACTIVITY 3

Gap-filling activity using the key words.

Find synonyms. (is made up of, types of, absorbs, soil, the base of, underground)

ACTIVITY 4

First, teacher reads the text BAMBOO (on OHT) to students.

Draw pictures and label some of the key vocabulary.

Teacher draws a picture (copy from Activity 5) onto the white-board.

Students copy and label each picture.

ACTIVITY 5

Assessment activity. Match each word to a picture. This can be given the following lesson.

ACTIVITY 6

Use dictionaries to complete the word list.

ACTIVITY 7

Use the pictures to discuss the meanings.

Write the definitions on the white board and do a Disappearing Dictation.

Reference: Dictation. Practical Ideas (page 25) by Jennie Calder 2001. Leave some clues on the white-board.

ACTIVITY 8

Scissors and glue needed.

Match words and definitions.

ACTIVITY 9

ACROSS. 3 broom. 5 artist. 8 panda. 10 light. 12 medicine. 13 dry. 14 roots. 17 leaves. 19 diameter 20 hollow. 21 stalk.

DOWN. 1 erosion. 2 joint. 4 quantity. 6 flexible. 7 flute. 9 altitude. 11 wet. 15 soil. 16 bamboo. 18 species.

ACTIVITY 10 SPEAKING FOCUS

ACTIVITY 10

Cut out the words and the definitions.

Give one half to each student. Students walk around the room and read each other's words until they find a match. Students then form a circle and each pair takes it in turns to read aloud their word and definition.

ACTIVITY 11 READING AND WORD COMPREHENSION

ACTIVITY 11

Assessment Gap-filling - key words.

ACTIVITY 12 LISTENING FOCUS

ACTIVITY 12

Listening exercise.

ACTIVITIES 13 - 15 READING AND WORD FOCUS

ACTIVITY 13

Reading comprehension.

ACTIVITY 14

Text reconstruction. Match headings with text. There is one extra heading.

ACTIVITY 15

Search for target words - teach consonant clusters.

ANSWERS tall, fan, pipes, bamboo, species, leaves, strong, flexible, grass, hollow, light, stiff, plant, baskets.

ACTIVITY 16 - 17 SPEAKING ~ DICTATION

ACTIVITY 16

Say It. Small group/pair activity. Students take turns to select a co-ordinate for another student to say.

ACTIVITY 17

Running Dictation. Pair activity. Dictation Practical Ideas. (pg 20) Jennie Calder. 2001.

ACTIVITY 18 - 19 GRAMMAR FOCUS ~ NOUNS

ACTIVITY 18

Identify count, mass and proper nouns.

ACTIVITY 19

Nouns-singular/plural endings.

Activities 20 - 22 GRAMMAR FOCUS ~ VERBS ~ SIMPLE SENTENCES

ACTIVITY 20

Bring to the class a variety of fruit and vegetables. Ask the students to classify and describe each one.

Teach linking verbs. See Teacher notes. Practise using the fruit and vegetable pictures. Students copy the first three examples on the worksheet. Words are gradually deleted. This is a useful activity to practise letter formation.

ACTIVITY 21

Action verbs. Gap-filling activity.

ACTIVITY 22

Sentence reconstruction.

Activity A Teacher to cut up the sentence parts and place in envelopes. Students reconstruct the sentences, individually or in pairs. **Activity B** Students cut the sentence parts and reconstruct the sentences.

ACTIVITY 23 WRITING FOCUS ~ INFORMATION REPORT

ACTIVITY 23

Homework / research topic. Use the Bamboo text to point out the language features and text structure of an information report.

ACTIVITY 24 WRITING FOCUS ~ PROCEDURAL TEXTS

ACTIVITY 24

Introduce procedural texts. Match the written instructions with the pictures. Students could write and illustrate a procedural text. Suggested topics: How to build a bamboo house, how to make a bamboo flute, recipes using bamboo shoots.

ACTIVITY 25 - 26 SPEAKING FOCUS

ACTIVITY 25

Talk about the difference between a fact and an opinion.

ACTIVITY 26

Explain the meaning of conservation to students.

Ranking activity. Give reasons using *because*. Encourage students to discuss and share their opinions. Students write each of the 8 items onto separate pieces of paper and move them around on their desks as they discuss and rank each item.

ACTIVITY 27 SPEAKING, LISTENING, READING, WRITING

ACTIVITY 27

Homework activity. Partnership Dictation.

ACTIVITY 28 - 33 READING AND WORD FOCUS

ACTIVITY 28

Teacher draws each picture onto the white-board for students to copy and label.

ACTIVITY 29

Assessment activity. Match each word to a picture.

ACTIVITY 30

Use dictionaries to complete the word list. Students locate and underline each word in the Flax text.

ACTIVITY 31

Use these pictures as a basis for discussion. Students locate the verb group(s) in each sentence.

ACTIVITY 32

Label the parts of the flax plant.

ACTIVITY 33

Label the animals that are part of a flax community. This text is suitable for a Disappearing text (p 25) or Paired Dictation (p.18) in Dictation. Practical Ideas by Jennie Calder.

ACTIVITY 34 LISTENING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY 34

Listening Activity. Teacher reads the Flax text on page 67.

ACTIVITY 35 READING FOCUS

ACTIVITY 35

Text reconstruction. Match the headings to the text. Cut and paste.

ACTIVITY 36 LISTENING AND WRITING FOCUS

ACTIVITY 36

Disappearing Dictation. Each section is folded so only one part can be seen for each dictation. The text gradually disappears.

ACTIVITY 37 WRITING FOCUS ~ SENTENCES

ACTIVITY 37

Venn diagram - Myself and my friend (or brother, sister).
Write sentences using appropriate connectives.

ACTIVITY 38

Venn diagram - Auckland and another city.
Write sentences using appropriate connectives.

ACTIVITY 39

Use the Venn diagram frame to compare and contrast bamboo and flax. Hand out to students the compare and contrast text list. As a whole class or small group activity complete a Venn diagram. Finally, write sentences that show comparison or contrast.

ACTIVITY 40

Assessment activity. Compare and contrast.

ACTIVITY 41 FOCUS ON SPEAKING

ACTIVITY 41

Students to prepare a two minute talk on either bamboo or flax. Students work in pairs and present their talk to their partner. The listener uses a checklist to evaluate their partner's talk. Each student uses a self-checklist.



BAMBOO

Bamboo is used in both a singular and plural form. The plural form (bamboos) is used to refer to the different species of bamboo. The singular form is used to refer to the plant in general - its characteristics and uses.



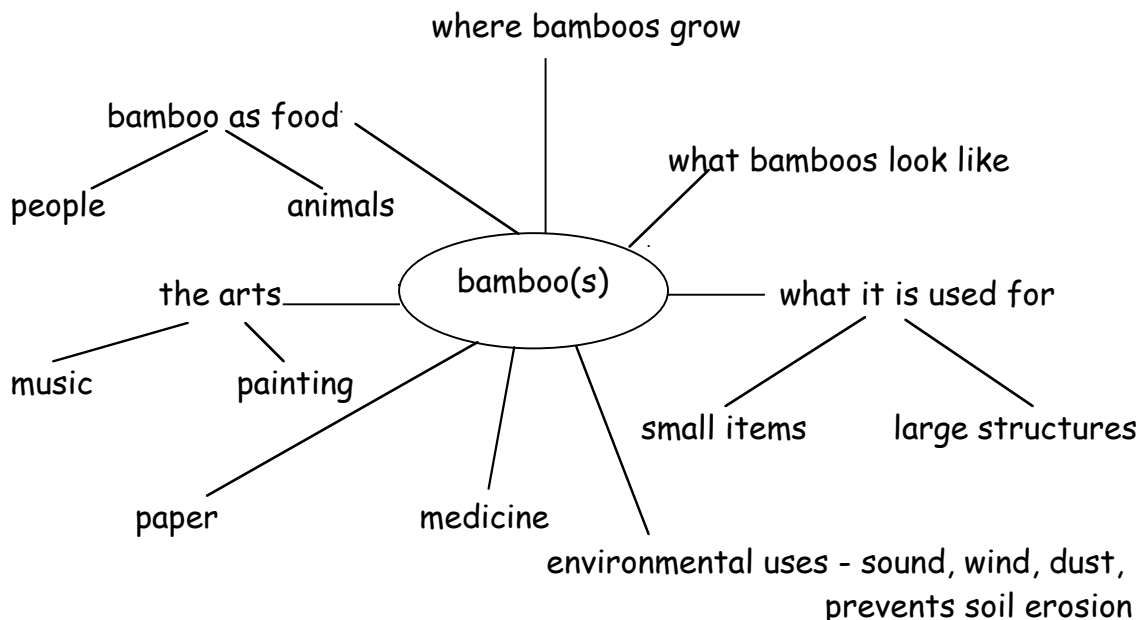
Bamboo

Bamboo

Orientation

Introducing the topic

- ❑ Collect bamboo items e.g. fans, containers, chopsticks, hats.
- ❑ Cut some bamboo stalks to show the nodes and hollow interior.
- ❑ Find some pictures. *National Geographic* magazines are a good source.
- ❑ Movie - fight sequence from *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* in the giant bamboo forest.
- ❑ Students could sketch bamboo leaves and stalks and then write sentences to describe their pictures.
- ❑ Listen to pan pipe music.
- ❑ Link with students' prior knowledge. Use a graphic organiser such as mind map. If your students come from Asia they will probably know a great deal about bamboo.



❑ Websites

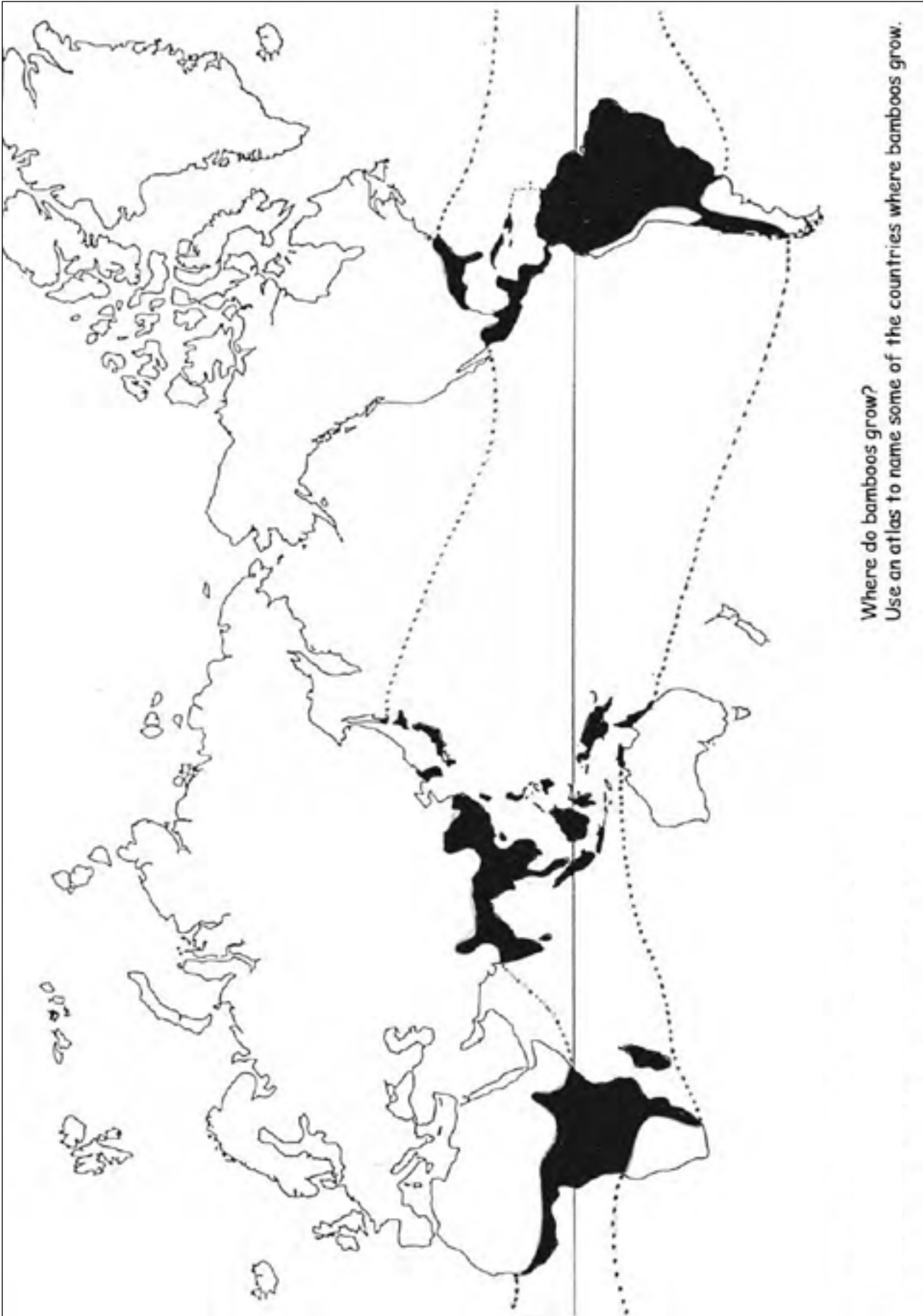
<http://www.bamboonetwork.org/about%20bamboo.htm>

http://athenstn.com/wwt/Bamboo_Composites.html

<http://www.shakuhachi.com/Q-Bamboo.html>

http://www.globalhemp.com/Archives/Magazines/bamboo_paper_not_friendly.html

MAP 1



Where do bamboos grow?
Use an atlas to name some of the countries where bamboos grow.



OHT Key Words **The parts of a bamboo plant**

bamboo

nodes

plant

branches

grow

leaves

roots

soil

base

divide

rhizomes

sections

underground

nutrients

stalk

absorb

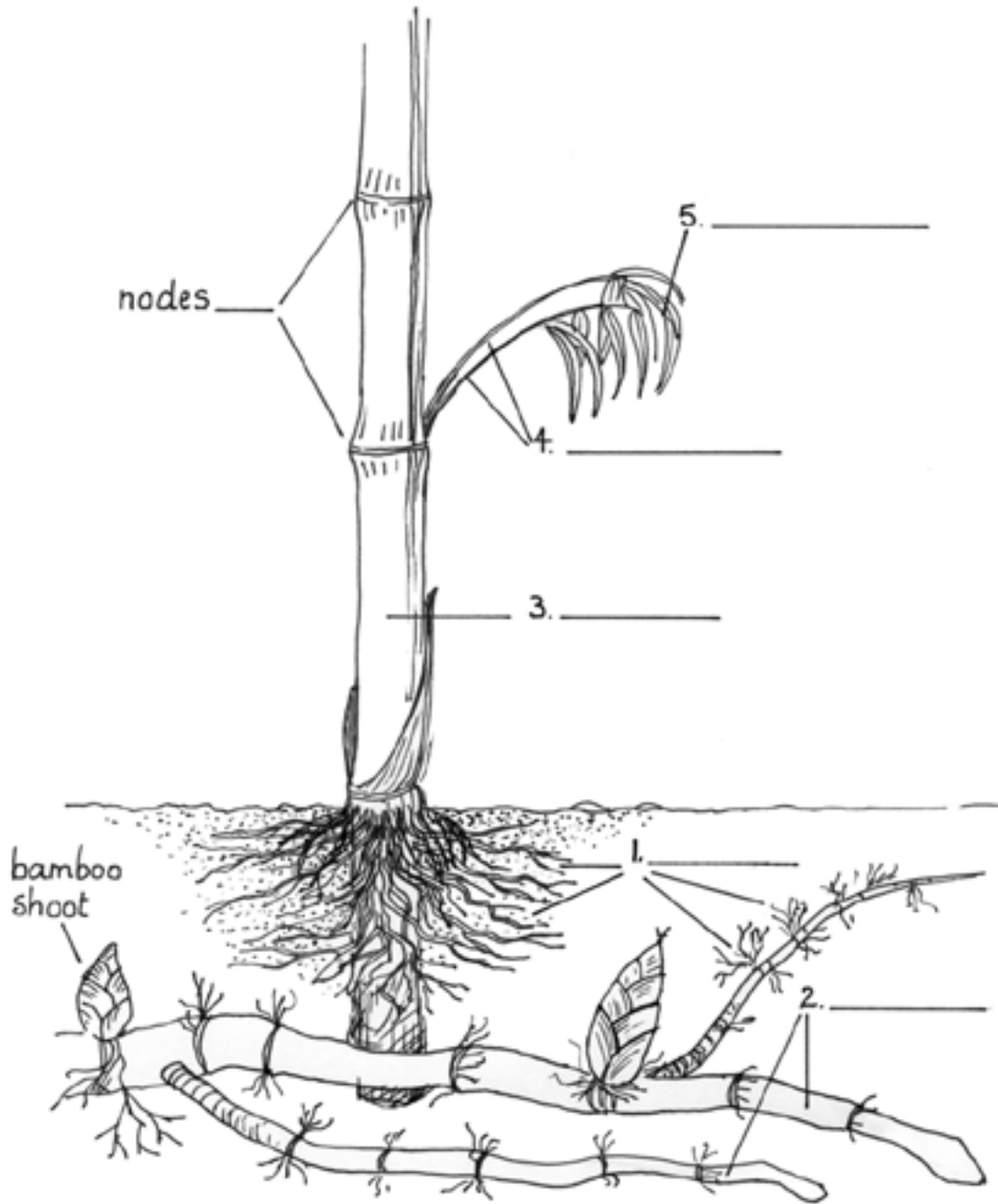
stem

horizontal



The parts of a bamboo plant

Label the parts of the bamboo plant

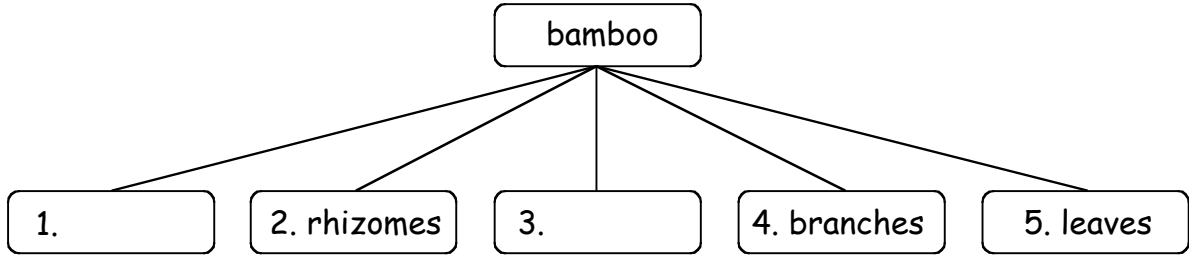


A bamboo plant has **roots, rhizomes, a stalk, branches and leaves.**

The parts of a bamboo plant

Use the illustration and the text to complete Activity 2.

A bamboo plant is made up of five parts.



1. roots

There are two types of roots.

- a) The first type of roots absorbs water and nutrients from the soil.
- b) The second type grows at the base of the stalk. They hold the plant in the soil.

2.

The rhizomes are underground stems. They grow horizontally.

B s..... grow out of the rhizomes.

3. stalk

The stalks are the woody stem of the plant. The stalk is divided into sections by

4.

The grow out of the nodes

5. leaves

The grow out of the

Use your dictionary

nutrient(s):
noun

absorb:
verb

horizontal:
adjective

The parts of a bamboo plant

- Choose words from the box to complete the text.
- Use the illustration to help you to choose the correct word.

The parts of a bamboo plant

A bamboo plant is made up of five parts.

The first part is the roots. There are two types of roots. The first type absorbs water and from the soil. The second type of roots grows at the base of the stalk. They hold the plant in the

The second part of a plant is the rhizomes. The rhizomes are the underground stems. They grow horizontally. Bamboo shoots grow out of the

The third part is the This is the woody stem of the plant. The stalk is divided into sections by nodes.

The fourth part is the branches. They grow out of the nodes.

The fifth part is the They grow out of the branches.

leaves	stalk	rhizomes	bamboo	nutrients	soil
--------	-------	----------	--------	-----------	------

Find a word or phrase in the text that means the same as a word in the list

1. consists of
2. kinds of
3. takes in
4. ground
5. bottom of
6. below the ground

Read and spell these words

1st first 2nd second 3rd third 4th fourth 5th fifth

OHT The parts of a bamboo plant

A bamboo plant is made up of five parts.

The *first* part is the roots. There are two types of roots. The first type absorbs water and nutrients from the soil. The second type of roots grows at the base of the stalk. They hold the plant in the soil.

The *second* part of a bamboo plant is the rhizomes. The rhizomes are the underground stems. They grow horizontally. Bamboo shoots grow out of the rhizomes.

The *third* part is the stalks. They are the woody stems of the plant. The stalks are divided into sections by nodes.

The *fourth* part is the branches. They grow out of the nodes.

The *fifth* part is the leaves. They grow out of the branches.

Key Words

BAMBOO

bamboo

centimetres

bamboos

diameter

grass

hollow

species

sea level

plants

mountains

earth

rafts

to flower (verb)

scaffolding

a flower (noun)

pipes

stiff

quantities

flexible

paper

stalks

medicine

nodes

food

graceful

soil erosion

leaves

erode

roots

artist

metres

builder



BAMBOO

What are bamboos?

Bamboos are a type of grass. There are about 1,500 different species. Bamboos are the fastest growing plants on earth and some grow as tall as trees. They hardly ever flower.

What do bamboos look like?

Bamboos have stiff, flexible stalks and thin, graceful leaves. Some bamboos are very small. Some species grow up to thirty metres tall and they measure thirty centimetres in diameter. A bamboo stalk has hard nodes (joints) along it so it is very strong. Most bamboos are hollow so the stalks are very light.

Where do bamboos grow?

Bamboos grow in wet and dry places. They can grow at sea level or on mountains up to 4,000 metres high.

OHT 2

What is bamboo used for?

Bamboo is used to build houses, bridges and rafts. Builders use bamboo to make scaffolding. Farmers use the canes (stalks) for water pipes.

Bamboo is used to make furniture. It can be split to make chopsticks, brushes, baskets, brooms and fans.

Chinese artists paint pictures of bamboo because it is so beautiful. Many kinds of musical instruments are made from bamboo. In India and China large quantities of bamboo are used to make paper.

Bamboo provides food for people and animals. People eat bamboo shoots and pandas love to eat the leaves. Bamboo is also used to make medicine.

In countries such as China, Indonesia and the Philippines, people plant bamboo to stop soil erosion. The roots are very strong and they hold the soil tightly so it does not erode.

Key word list

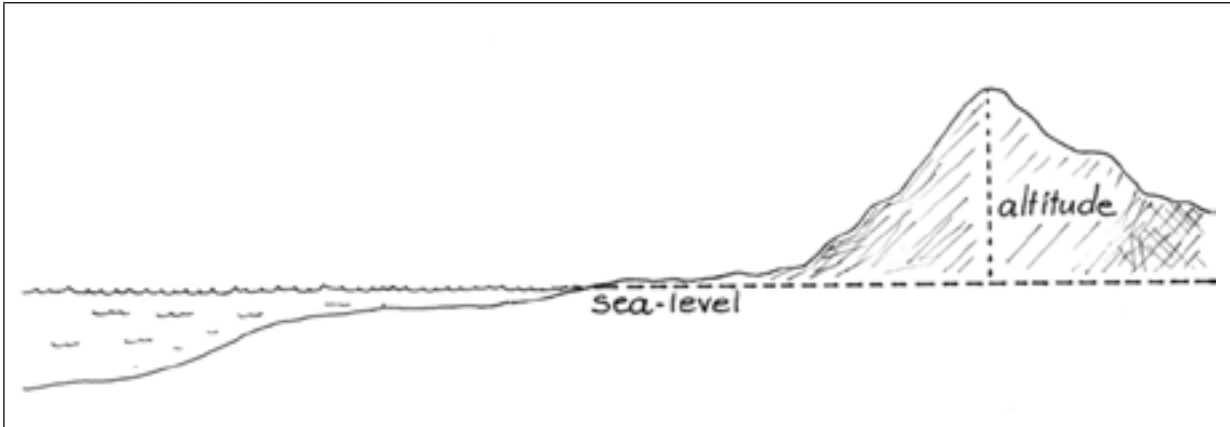
BAMBOO

Word	English dictionary	First Language
grass noun		
species noun		
stiff adjective		
flexible adjective		
a stalk noun		
graceful adjective		
to flower verb		
a flower noun		
diameter noun		
hollow adjective		
a quantity noun		
soil noun		
soil erosion noun		
to erode verb		
an artist noun		
a builder noun		
a pipe noun		

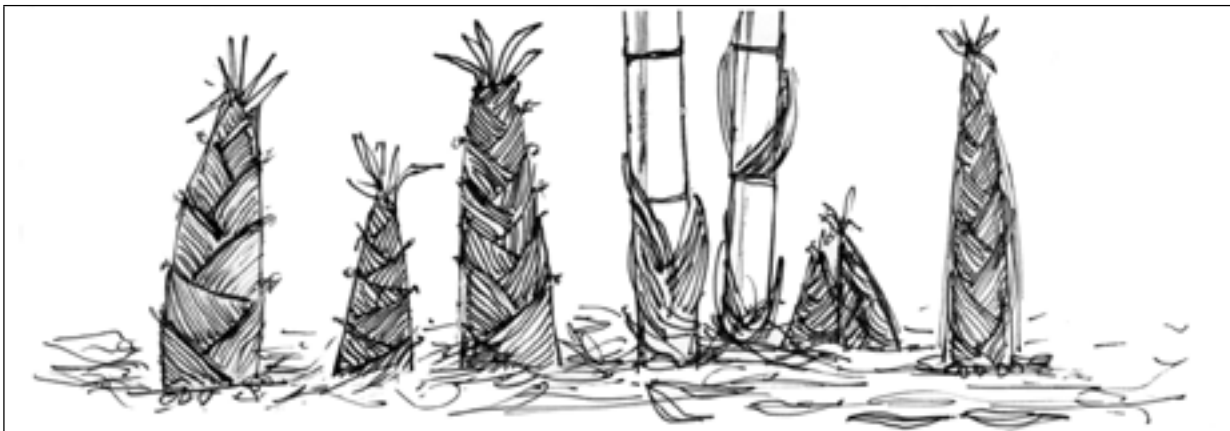
WORD FOCUS



soil erosion: (noun) Soil erosion happens when soil is moved to another place by wind or water. Trees, bamboo and other plants hold the soil firmly with their roots.



sea - level: (noun) Sea level is the level of the sea in relation to the land. How high is Mt. Everest above sea level?



bamboo shoots: (noun) Bamboo shoots grow into new bamboo stalks (canes). The shoots are a nutritious food. They contain a lot of vitamins.

TEACHER REFERENCE Activity 8

Key words and definitions **BAMBOO**

species	different groups of plants and animals	stiff	does not bend easily
flexible	bends easily without breaking	graceful	moves in a beautiful way
to flower	when a plant flowers, it produces flowers	a stalk	the stem of a leaf or plant
hollow	space inside, not solid	light	not weighing much, not heavy
a joint	a place where two things are fixed together	strong	does not break easily
scaffolding	poles on the outside of a building	medicine	something we take when we are sick
paper	made from wood or bamboo - we write on paper	to paint	to make a picture of something using paint
bamboo shoots	the new part of a bamboo plant	soil	the top layer on the surface of the earth
soil erosion	when soil is moved to another place by wind or water	an artist	a person who paints pictures
a quantity	an amount you can measure or count	diameter	the length of a straight line drawn through the centre of a circle
a musician	a person who plays a musical instrument	earth	the planet we live on
a flute	a musical instrument	bamboo roots	the parts that grow underground

Key words and definitions

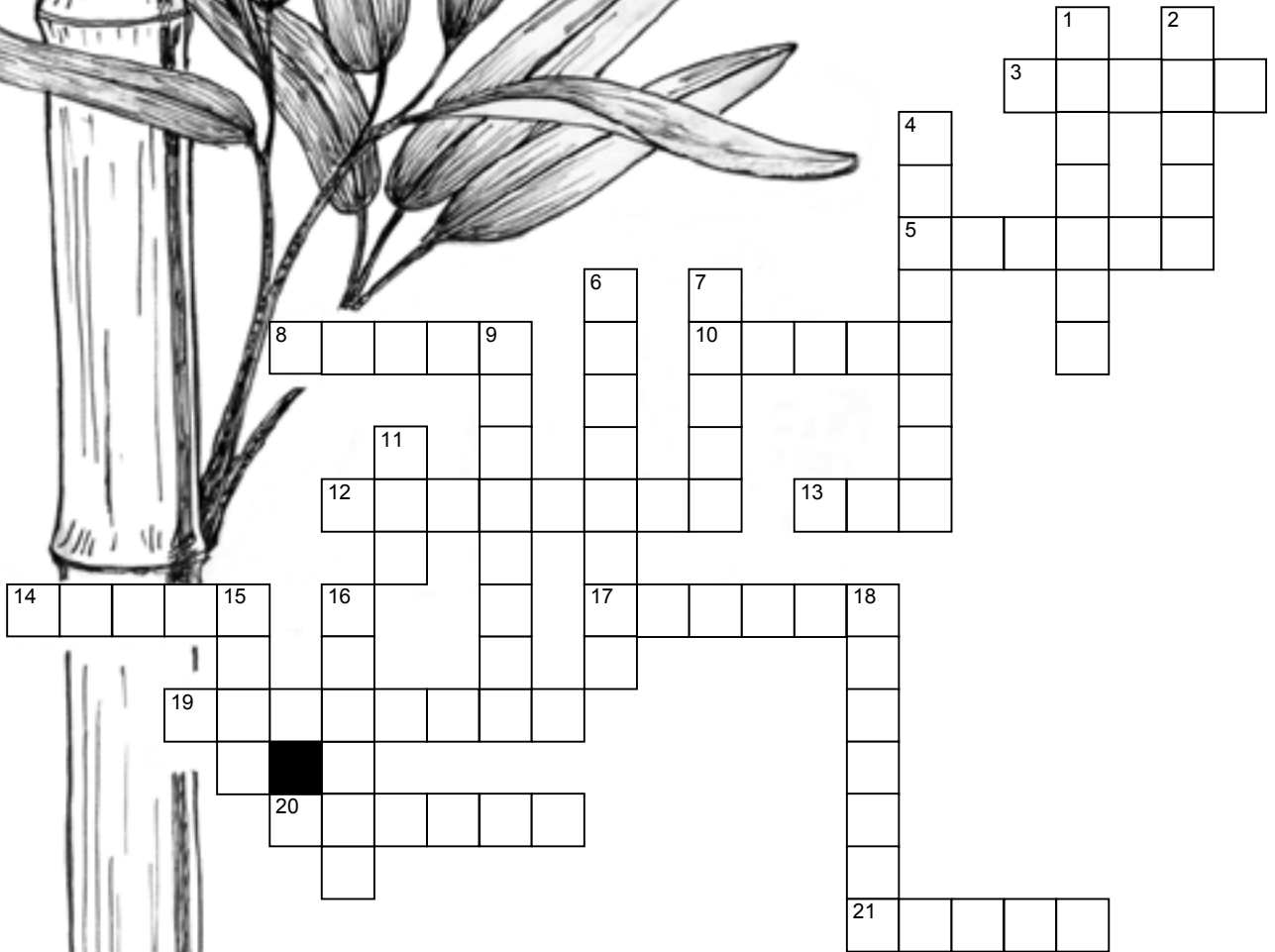
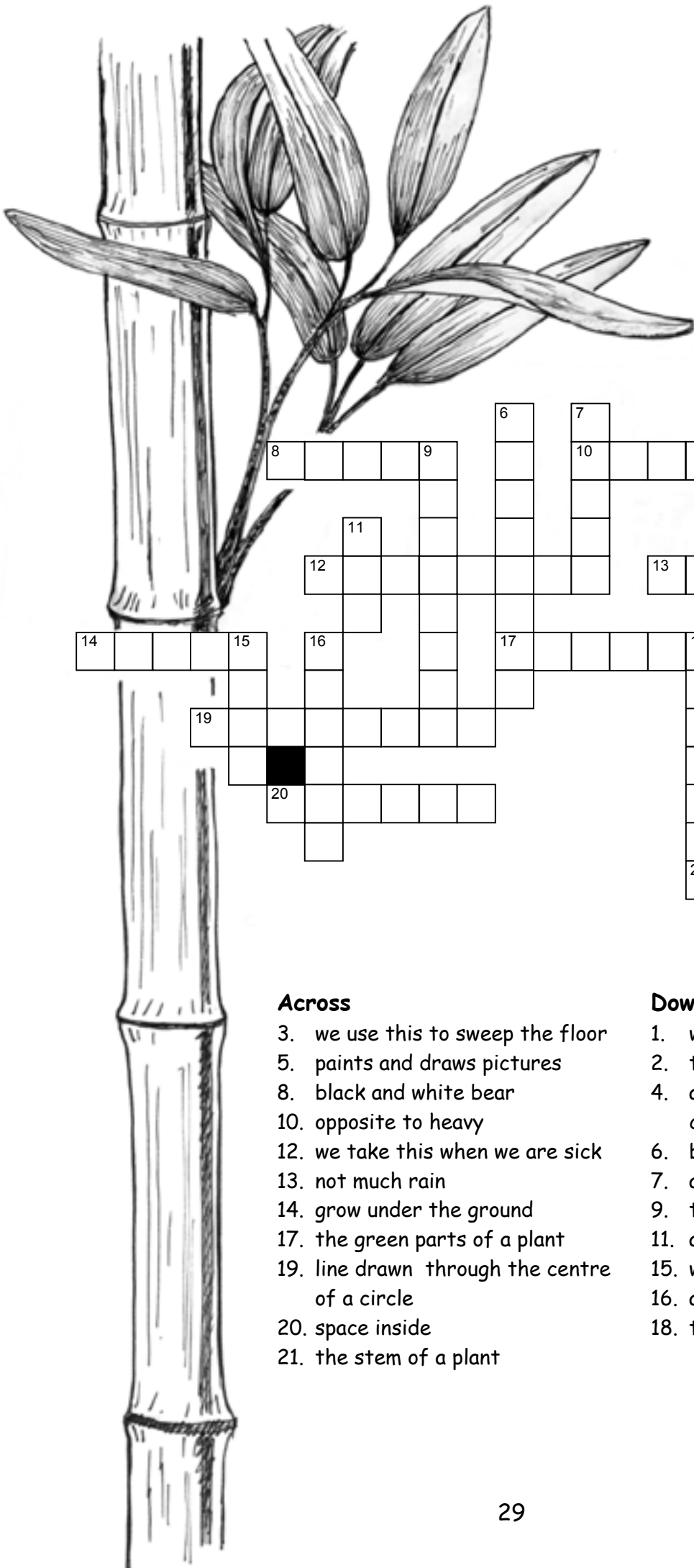
species noun		stiff adjective	
flexible adjective		graceful adjective	
to flower verb		a stalk noun	
hollow adjective		light adjective	
a joint noun		strong adjective	
scaffolding noun		medicine noun	
paper noun		to paint verb	
bamboo shoots noun		soil noun	
soil erosion noun		an artist noun	
a quantity noun		diameter noun	
a musician noun		earth noun	
a flute noun		bamboo roots noun	

□ Cut out the definitions and paste each one next to the correct word.



a musical instrument	moves in a beautiful way
a person who plays a musical instrument	different groups of plants and animals
the new part of a bamboo plant	the parts that grow underground
when soil is moved to another place by wind or water	the planet we live on
an amount you can measure or count	the length of a straight line drawn through the centre of a circle
made from wood or bamboo - we write on paper	a person who paints pictures
poles on the outside of a building	the top layer on the surface of the earth
a place where two things are fixed together	to make a picture of something using paint
space inside, not solid	something we take when we are sick
when a plant <i>flowers</i> , it produces flowers	does not break easily
bends easily without breaking	not weighing much, not heavy
does not bend easily	the stem of a leaf or plant

ACTIVITY 9



Across

- 3. we use this to sweep the floor
- 5. paints and draws pictures
- 8. black and white bear
- 10. opposite to heavy
- 12. we take this when we are sick
- 13. not much rain
- 14. grow under the ground
- 17. the green parts of a plant
- 19. line drawn through the centre of a circle
- 20. space inside
- 21. the stem of a plant

Down

- 1. when water or wind moves soil
- 2. two things fixed together
- 4. an amount you can measure or count
- 6. bend without breaking
- 7. a musical instrument
- 9. the height above sea level
- 11. a lot of rain
- 15. where plants grow
- 16. a type of grass
- 18. types of plants or animals

ACTIVITY 10

bamboos	a type of grass
flexible	bends but does not break easily
roots	the part of the plant that grows underground
soil	the top layer of the surface of the earth in which plants grow
species	groups of plants or animals that are alike
a flute	a musical instrument
wet	lots of rain

ACTIVITY 10

dry	very little rain
mountains	very high areas of land with steep sides
pandas	large animals that eat bamboo leaves
an artist	paints pictures
a musician	plays music
hollow	has space inside - not solid
diameter	the straight line through the centre of a circle
medicine	you drink or swallow it when you are sick

Assessment

Bamboo word list

- Complete each sentence with a word from the box.
- There is one extra word in each box.

flexible	species	grass	graceful	stalk	flower
----------	---------	-------	----------	-------	--------

1. There are many _____ of bamboo.
2. A bamboo _____ has nodes (joints) that are hard.
3. The stalks are strong and _____.
4. Bamboos are a type of _____.
5. The leaves are thin and _____.

flower	hollow	metres	diameter	measure	centimetres
--------	--------	--------	----------	---------	-------------

1. Most bamboo stalks are _____.
2. Some stalks are 30 _____ in diameter.
3. The _____ is the length of a straight line that goes through the centre of a circle.
4. Bamboos hardly ever _____.
5. Some species grow up to thirty _____ tall.

quantity	soil erosion	erode	pipes	soil	flowers
----------	--------------	-------	-------	------	---------

1. The _____ produce seeds from which new plants grow.
2. Bamboo canes (stalks) can be used to make water _____.
3. The _____ is the top layer of the surface of the earth. Plants grow in soil.
4. The top layer of soil can be removed by wind or water. This is called _____.
5. A large _____ of bamboo is needed to make paper.

artist	roots	leaves	rhizomes	scaffolding	stalk
--------	-------	--------	----------	-------------	-------

1. The underground, horizontal stems of a bamboo plant are called _____.
2. A _____ is hollow except at the nodes.
3. The _____ absorb water and nutrients from the soil. They also hold the plant firmly in the soil.
4. Bamboo is used to make _____.
5. Li K'an is a famous 14th century Chinese _____. He studied and painted bamboo all his life.

Listen Up !

- Listen carefully to the text as it is read to you. Put a tick by the word in the list when you hear that word. Count the number of ticks and check with the text to see if you have the correct number.

bamboos

bamboo

stalks

grow

eat

farmers

artists

people

soil

China

India

Indonesia



- Cover the list and write down all the words you can remember.

BAMBOO

What are bamboos?

Bamboos are a type of grass. There are about 1,500 different species. Bamboos are the fastest growing plants on earth and some grow as tall as trees. They hardly ever flower.

What do bamboos look like?

Bamboos have stiff, flexible stalks and thin, graceful leaves. Some bamboos are very small. Some species grow up to thirty metres tall and they measure thirty centimetres in diameter. A bamboo stalk has hard nodes (joints) along it so it is very strong. Most bamboos are hollow so the stalks are very light.

Where do bamboos grow?

Bamboos grow in wet and dry places. They can grow at sea level or on mountains up to 4,000 metres high.

What is bamboo used for?

Bamboo is used to build houses, bridges and rafts. Builders use bamboo to make scaffolding. Farmers use the canes (stalks) for water pipes.

Bamboo is used to make furniture. It can be split to make chopsticks, brushes, baskets, brooms and fans.

Chinese artists paint pictures of bamboo because it is so beautiful. Many kinds of musical instruments are made from bamboo. In India and China large quantities of bamboo are used to make paper.

Bamboo provides food for people and animals. People eat bamboo shoots and pandas love to eat the leaves. Bamboo is also used to make medicine.

In countries such as China, Indonesia and the Philippines, people plant bamboo to stop soil erosion. The roots are very strong and they hold the soil tightly so it does not erode.

BAMBOO

Read the following statements. Do they agree with statements in the text ? Write *agree* next to the statements that agree with the text. Write *disagree* next to the statements that disagree with the text.

1. Bamboos are trees.	
2. There are many different kinds of bamboos.	
3. Bamboos grow very slowly.	
4. Bamboos flower every year.	
5. The stalks can bend but not break.	
6. The leaves are strong and tough.	
7. All bamboos are tall.	
8. The hard nodes make bamboos strong.	
9. All bamboos are hollow.	
10. Bamboo stalks are heavy.	
11. It only grows in mountains.	
12. Bamboos only grow in wet places.	
13. Bamboo is used to make many things.	
14. Bridges can be constructed from bamboo.	
15. Bamboo is used to make household items.	
16. A lot of bamboo is needed to make paper.	
17. Bamboo cannot be split.	
18. Bamboo shoots can be eaten.	
19. Pandas eat the stalks.	
20. Bamboos are very beautiful.	
21. Musical instruments are made from bamboo.	
22. Artists write about bamboo.	
23. Bamboo causes erosion.	
24. The roots are very strong.	
25. Soil erosion is a problem in some countries.	





Text reconstruction. Cut into strips and match the headings with the paragraphs.

Where do bamboos grow?

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What do bamboos look like?

What are bamboos ?

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Bamboo provides food for people and animals. People eat bamboo shoots and pandas love to eat the leaves. Bamboo is also used to make medicine.

In countries such as China, Indonesia and the Philippines, people plant bamboo to stop soil erosion. The roots are very strong and they hold the soil tightly so the soil does not erode.

What is bamboo used for?

BAMBOO

Who grows bamboo?

Consonants and consonant blends

- Some words begin with single letter sounds. [t] table
- Other words begin with consonant sounds *blended* together. [tr] triangle

Activity

Find words in the text **BAMBOO** that begin with the following consonants and consonant blends. Copy the letters in the numbered boxes to the boxes at the bottom of the page to solve the mystery sentence.

Word	
t	t [] [] [] [] 6
f	[] [] [] 3
p	[] [] [] [] [] 1
b	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] 12 10 15
sp	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] 5
l	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] 8
str	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] 14
fl	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] 9
gr	[] [] [] [] [] [] 11
h	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] 7
l	[] [] [] [] [] [] []
st	[] [] [] [] [] [] []
pl	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] 2
b	[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] 13 4



[]	[]	[]	d	[]	[]
1	2	3	4	5	

[]	[]	[]	[]
6	7	8	9

[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
10	11	12	13	14	15

Say It

	A	B	C
1	<p><i>Say</i> ten small things made from bamboo</p>	<p><i>Say</i> why bamboo is light and strong</p>	<p><i>Say</i> who eats bamboo and what parts they eat</p>
2	<p><i>Say</i> how you would cook rice in a bamboo stalk</p>	<p><i>Say</i> three large things made from bamboo</p>	<p><i>Say</i> five countries where bamboos grow</p>
3	<p><i>Say</i> why people grow bamboos in their gardens</p>	<p><i>Say</i> the five parts of a bamboo plant</p>	<p><i>Say</i> why bamboos can control soil erosion</p>



	A	B	C
1	<p><i>Say</i> ten small things made from bamboo</p>	<p><i>Say</i> why bamboo is light and strong</p>	<p><i>Say</i> who eats bamboo and what parts they eat</p>
2	<p><i>Say</i> how you would cook rice in a bamboo stalk</p>	<p><i>Say</i> three large things made from bamboo</p>	<p><i>Say</i> five countries where bamboos grow</p>
3	<p><i>Say</i> why people grow bamboos in their gardens</p>	<p><i>Say</i> the five parts of a bamboo plant</p>	<p><i>Say</i> why bamboos can control soil erosion</p>

Running Dictation



Bamboos are a type of grass.

They are the fastest growing plants on earth.

Bamboos grow in wet and dry places.

A bamboo stalk is strong and flexible.

Bamboo is used to make furniture.

Bamboo provides food for people and animals.

Nouns

BAMBOO

What is bamboo?

Bamboos are a type of **grass**. There are about 1,500 different **species**. **Bamboos** are the fastest growing **plants** on **earth** and some grow as tall as **trees**. They hardly ever flower.

What do bamboos look like?

Bamboos have stiff, flexible **stalks** and thin, graceful **leaves**. Some **bamboos** are very small. Some **species** grow up to thirty **metres** tall and they measure thirty centimetres in **diameter**. A **bamboo stalk** has hard **nodes** (joints) along it so it is very strong. Most **bamboos** are hollow so the **stalks** are very light.

Where do bamboos grow?

Bamboos grow in wet and dry **places**. They can grow at **sea level** or on **mountains** 4,000 metres high.

What is bamboo used for?

Bamboo is used to build **houses**, **bridges** and **rafts**. **Builders** use **bamboo** to make **scaffolding**. **Farmers** use the **canes** (stalks) for **water pipes**.

Bamboo is used to make **furniture**. It can be split to make **chopsticks**, **brushes**, **baskets**, **brooms** and **fans**.

Chinese artists paint **pictures** of **bamboo** because it is so beautiful. Many kinds of musical **instruments** are made from bamboo. In **India** and **China** large **quantities** are used to make **paper**.

Bamboo provides **food** for **people** and **animals**. **People** eat **bamboo shoots** and **pandas** love to eat the **leaves**. **Bamboo** is also used to make **medicine**.

In **countries** such as **China**, **Indonesia** and the **Philippines**, **people** plant **bamboo** to stop **soil erosion**. The **roots** are very strong and they hold the **soil** tightly so it does not erode.

NOUNS

Nouns name people, places and things.
Nouns can be *grouped* or *classified* in the following way.

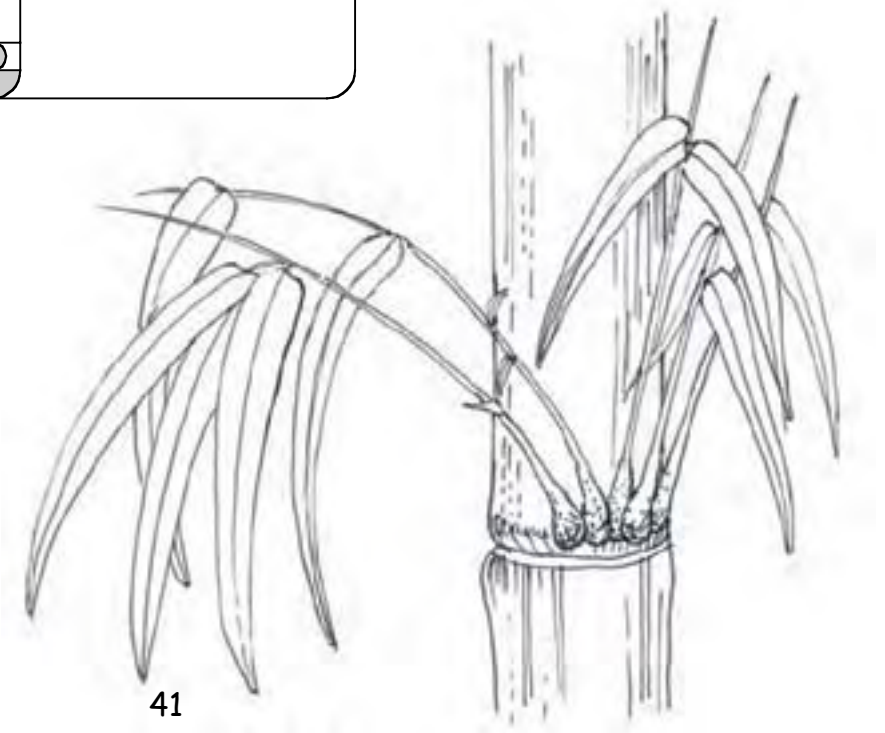
Count Nouns	Mass Nouns
(an) apple	furniture
(a) school	bread
(a) leaf	milk
(a) room	rice

- ! Find the **count nouns** and the **mass nouns** in the text Bamboo and write them in the scrolls.
- ! **Proper nouns** name people or places. They always have capital letters. Find the proper nouns in the text and write them in the scroll.

Count Nouns
use **a** and **an**

Mass Nouns

Proper nouns



Nouns

Nouns can be singular (plant) or plural (plants). We add an 's' to some words to change them from singular to plural.

□ Complete the following chart.

SINGULAR	PLURAL
plant	plants
mountain	
	baskets
broom	
fan	
	artists
picture	
	trees
bamboo	
	containers
instrument	
	rafts
	places
stalk	
	farmers

Sometimes we change the spelling of a word to change it from singular to plural.

leaf	
child	

Sometimes a word means both singular and plural. The spelling stays the same.

erosion	
furniture	
people	

BAMBOO

What is bamboo?

Bamboos **are** a type of grass. There **are** about 1,500 different species. Bamboos **are** the fastest growing plants on earth and some **grow** as tall as trees. They hardly ever **flower**.

What do bamboos look like?

Bamboos **have** stiff, flexible stalks and thin, graceful leaves. Some bamboos **are** very small. Some species **grow** up to thirty metres tall and they **measure** thirty centimetres in diameter. A bamboo stalk **has** hard nodes (joints) along it so it **is** very strong. Most bamboos **are** hollow so the stalks **are** very light.

Where do bamboos grow?

Bamboos **grow** in wet and dry places. They **can grow** at sea level or on mountains 4,000 metres high.

What is bamboo used for?

Bamboo **is used to build** houses, bridges and rafts. Builders **use** bamboo **to make** scaffolding. Farmers **use** the canes (stalks) for water pipes.

Bamboo **is used to make** furniture. It **can be split to make** chopsticks, brushes, baskets, brooms and fans.

Chinese artists **paint** pictures of bamboo because it **is** so beautiful. Many kinds of musical instruments **are made** from bamboo. In India and China large quantities **are used to make** paper.

Bamboo **provides** food for people and animals. People **eat** bamboo shoots and pandas **love to eat** the leaves. Bamboo **is also used to make** medicine.

In countries such as China, Indonesia and the Philippines, people **plant** bamboo **to stop** soil erosion. The roots **are** very strong and they **hold** the soil tightly so it **does not erode**.

TEACHER REFERENCE (and student notes).

Classifying and describing. Using simple sentences


- A sentence must make complete sense.
- The first word of a sentence must begin with a capital letter.
- Each sentence ends with a full stop.
- Each sentence must have a finite verb (one that is marked for tense).

Using linking verbs to classify and describe

Is / are and **has / have** are called relational or linking verbs. They give meaning about what things are (classifying) and what they have (describing).


We use **is** and **has** when we refer to one thing (singular) and **are** and **have** when we refer to more than one (plural).

Singular



A panda **is** an animal.
It **has** black and white fur.

Plural



Bamboos **are** a type of grass.
They **have** stiff, flexible stalks.
















- Examples.** Write two sentences using the linking verbs *is/are* and *has/have*. Students can write these out in their workbooks.

1. A panda **is** an animal. It **has** black and white fur.
2. Bamboos **are** a type of grass. They **have** flexible stalks.
3. A mountain **is** a very high area of land. It **has** steep sides.
4. A house **is** a building. It **has** walls, a floor, windows and a roof.
5. A brush **is** an object used for painting, sweeping, cleaning or tidying your hair. It **has** bristles and a handle.

- Students continue to practise simple sentences by classifying and describing fruit and vegetables. Activity 20.**

ACTIVITY 20

Label the illustrations and complete the sentences that classify and describe the fruit and vegetables.

an apple sweetcorn strawberries an orange a kiwifruit a lemon
 a pineapple a tomato a watermelon a potato an onion
 bananas a carrot an avocado peas

Simple sentences

<p>an apple</p> <p>An apple <u>is</u> a fruit.</p> <p>It <u>has</u> red skin and white flesh.</p>	<p>an apple</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>sweetcorn</p> <p>Sweetcorn is a vegetable.</p> <p>It <u>has</u> yellow seeds and green leaves.</p>	<p>sweetcorn</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>strawberries</p> <p>Strawberries are a fruit.</p> <p>They <u>have</u> red skin and red flesh.</p>	<p>strawberries</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>an orange</p> <p>An orange a fruit.</p> <p>It an orange skin and orange flesh.</p>	<p>an orange</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>a kiwifruit</p> <p>A kiwifruit a</p> <p>It brown skin and green flesh.</p>	<p>a kiwifruit</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>

a lemon

A lemon is a

It has a yellow skin and juicy flesh.

a lemon

.....

.....

.....

peas

Peas a vegetable.

The pods and the seeds are green.

peas

.....

.....

.....

a pineapple

A pineapple

It has yellow skin and sweet, yellow flesh.

a pineapple

.....

.....

.....

a tomato

A

It has soft, red skin and red flesh.

a tomato

.....

.....

.....

a watermelon

A

It hard, green skin and sweet, red flesh.

a watermelon

.....

.....

.....

a potato

A potato is a

It has brown skin and hard, white flesh.

a potato

.....

.....

.....

an onion

An is a

It has a brown and white flesh.

an onion

.....

.....

.....

bananas

Bananas

They yellow skin and soft, flesh.

bananas

.....

.....

.....

a carrot

A

It has orange skin and hard, orange flesh.

a carrot

.....

.....

.....

an avocado

An avocado

It has green flesh and a large stone.

an avocado

.....

.....

.....

Simple sentences

Action Verbs

Some verbs refer to actions. They are called **action** verbs. Action verbs are used in texts where actions or behaviours are being described.

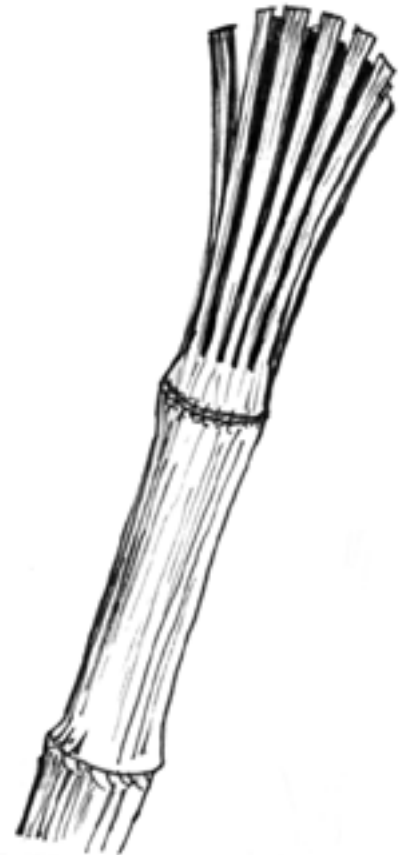
Bamboos **grow** in many countries.

People **cook** and **eat** bamboo shoots.

Choose an action verb to complete each sentence.

grow **splits** **eat** **plant** **build** **play** **paint** **hold**

1. Musicians _____ music on bamboo flutes and pipes.
2. Artists _____ pictures of bamboo plants.
3. Bamboos _____ very fast.
4. Pandas _____ the leaves.
5. People _____ bamboo to stop erosion.
6. Bamboo roots _____ the soil tightly.
7. People _____ bridges from bamboo.
8. A bamboo stalk _____ easily.



Simple sentences

Action Verbs

Some verbs refer to actions. They are called **action** verbs. Action verbs are used in texts where actions or behaviours are being described.

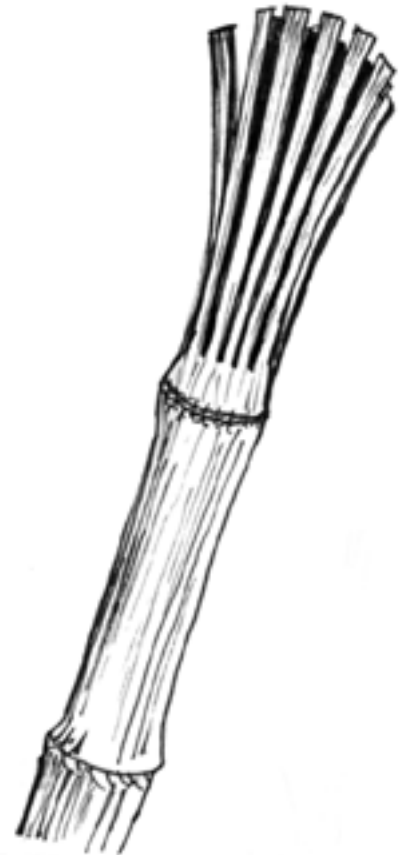
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5. People _____ bamboo to stop erosion.
6. Bamboo roots _____ the soil tightly.
7. People _____ bridges from bamboo.
8. A bamboo stalk _____ easily.



Sentence reconstruction

Action Verbs

Activity A - Teacher preparation required

- Cut up and place sentence parts into an envelope.
- Students work individually or in pairs to reconstruct and then write down each sentence.



People	cook	bamboo shoots.
Pandas	eat	the leaves.
The roots	absorb	water.
Artists	paint	pictures.
Builders	construct (build)	scaffolding out of bamboo.
Bamboos	grow	in wet and dry places.
Musicians	play	on bamboo flutes.
Many insects	live	in bamboo forests.

Sentence reconstruction

- Activity B - Student activity
- Cut up the sentence parts and combine to make eight sentences.



People	construct (build)	water.
Pandas	eat	pictures.
The roots	live	bamboo shoots.
Artists	cook	the leaves.
Builders	paint	scaffolding.
Bamboos	play	in wet and dry places.
Musicians	absorb	in bamboo forests.
Many insects	grow	on bamboo flutes.

Information reports

An information report is a factual text that gives information about a particular topic. The structure of an information report includes an introduction or opening statement. This is followed by a series of facts written in related groups of information.

Text organisation and grammar

Features of an information report:

- organised into paragraphs
- usually in the timeless present tense
- headings may be used
- linking and action verbs
- noun groups and descriptive adjectives
- technical/scientific words may be used

Activity 23 Homework assignment

- Carry out research on another plant and write an information report. Use headings the same as or similar to those in the *Bamboo* report.

TITLE

Classification What is/are?

Appearance What does it/do they look like?

Location Where does it/do they grow?

Uses What is it/are they used for ?

Suggestions coconut trees rubber trees cacao trees
 tea or coffee plants banana plants rice wheat

An Information Report

Text Structure	BAMBOO	Grammar
<p>Identifies and classifies</p> <p><i>General opening statement introduces the topic.</i></p>	<p>What are bamboos?</p> <p>Bamboos are a type of grass. There are about 1,500 different species. Bamboos are the fastest growing plants on earth and some grow as tall as trees. They hardly ever flower.</p>	<p>Technical terms</p>
<p>Appearance</p> <p><i>A series of facts about the topic organised into paragraphs under subheadings.</i></p>	<p>What do bamboos look like?</p> <p>Bamboos <u>have</u> stiff, flexible stalks and thin, graceful, leaves. Some species <u>are</u> very small. Some species grow up to thirty metres tall and they measure thirty centimetres in diameter. A bamboo stalk has <u>hard</u> nodes (joints) along it so it is very <u>strong</u>. Most bamboos are <u>hollow</u> so the stalks are very <u>light</u>.</p>	<p>Relational verbs</p> <p>Descriptive adjectives</p>
<p>Location</p>	<p>Where do bamboos grow?</p> <p>Bamboos grow in wet and dry places. They can <u>grow</u> at sea level or on mountains up to 4,000 metres high.</p>	<p>Action verbs</p>
<p>Uses</p>	<p>What is bamboo used for?</p> <p>Bamboo is used to build houses, bridges and rafts. Builders use bamboo to make scaffolding. Farmers use the stalks (canes) for water pipes.</p> <p>Bamboo is used to make furniture. It can be <u>split</u> to make chopsticks, brushes, baskets, brooms and fans.</p> <p>Chinese artists <u>paint</u> pictures of bamboo because it is so beautiful. Many kinds of musical instruments are made from bamboo. In India and China large quantities of bamboo are used to make paper.</p> <p>Bamboo provides food for people and animals. People eat bamboo shoots and pandas love to eat the leaves. Bamboo is also used to make medicine.</p>	<p>Action verbs</p>
<p>Background information</p>	<p>In countries such China, Indonesia and the Philippines, people plant bamboo to stop <u>soil erosion</u>. The roots are very strong and they hold the soil tightly so the soil does not <u>erode</u>.</p>	<p>Technical words</p>

Procedural Texts

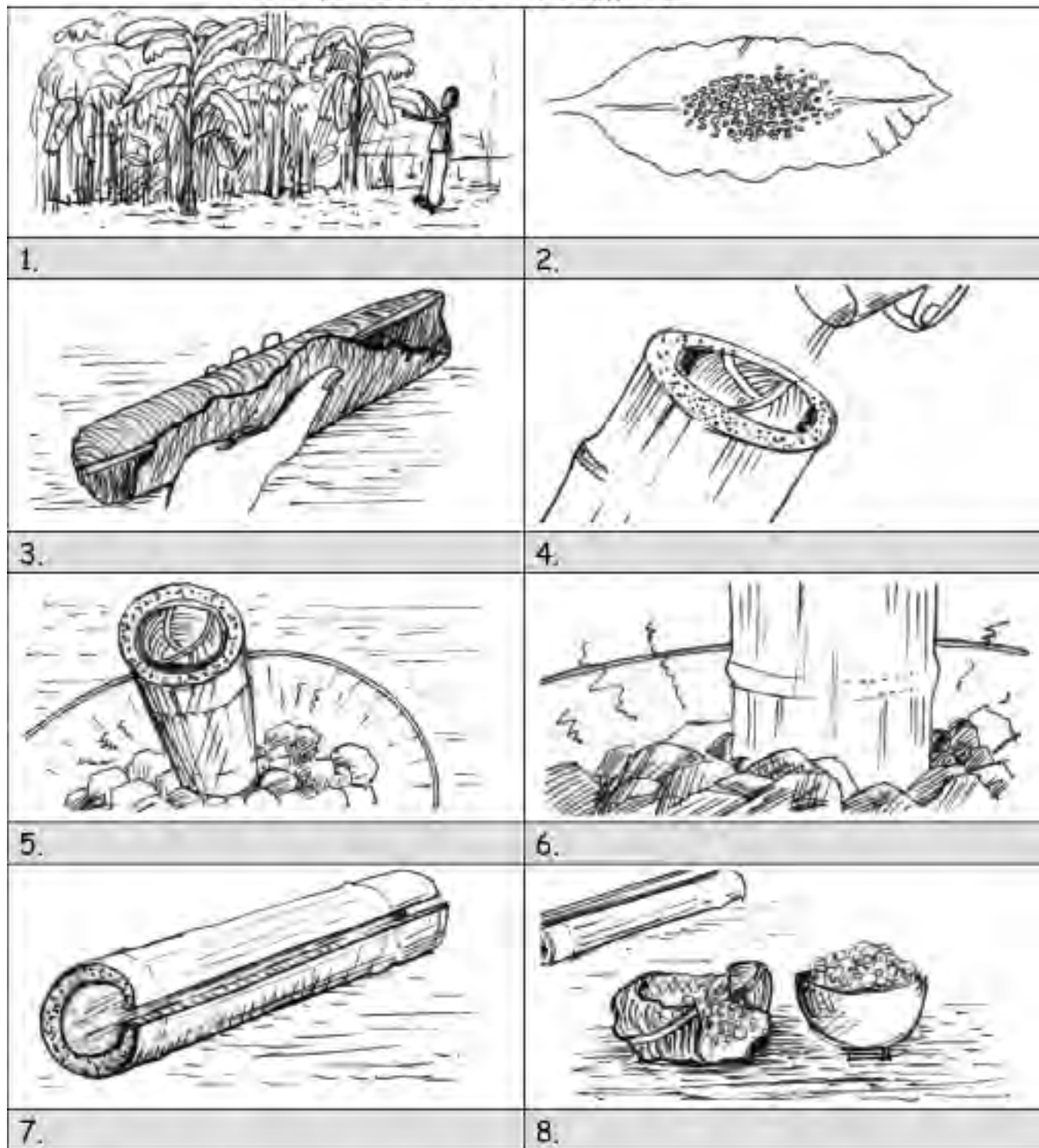
A procedural text has a set of instructions that tells us how to do or make something. The focus of the text is on a sequence of actions. The sentences are written as commands and usually begin with verbs.

A procedural text usually consists of :

- the aim or purpose
- the materials used
- the method (the steps to be taken)

Text structure		Grammar
aim	How to cook rice	
materials	Materials needed	precise information * how many * how long
a numbered set of instructions	Method	action verbs simple present tense
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cut a banana leaf from a banana plant. 2. Place the rice in the centre of the leaf. 3. Wrap the rice into a bundle. 4. Push the bundle into the bamboo. 5. Pour water into the bamboo. 6. Stand the bamboo upright in the hot coals. 7. Heat the bottom end of the bamboo and let the rice cook. 8. Split open the bamboo when the rice is cooked. 9. Unwrap the banana leaf. 10. Enjoy eating bamboo flavoured rice. 	

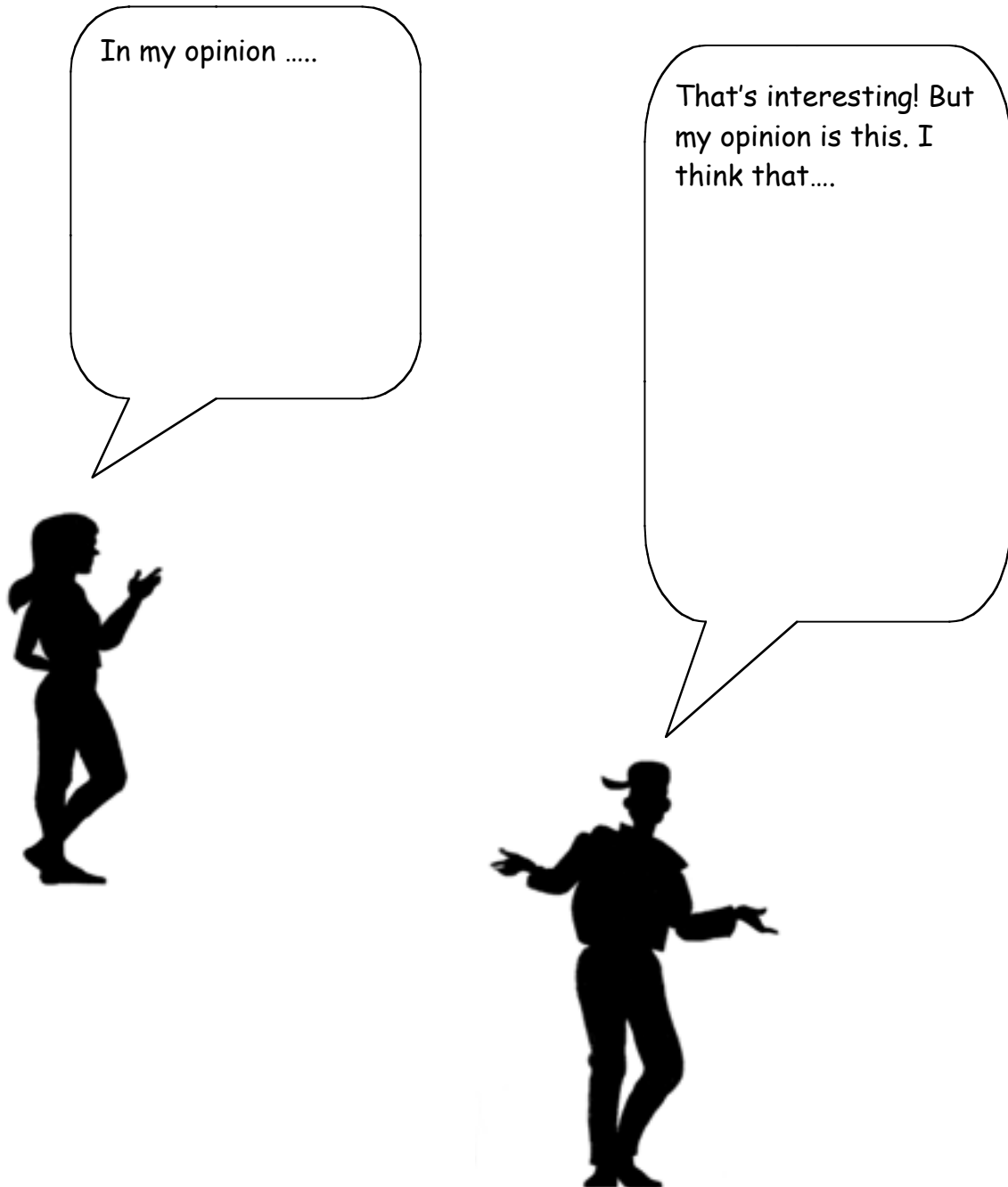
How to cook rice in bamboo



Push the banana leaf bundle into the bamboo and fill with water.	Heat up the bottom end of the bamboo in the coals.
Split open the bamboo when the rice is cooked.	Stand the bamboo upright in hot coals.
Wrap the rice into a bundle.	Place some rice on a banana leaf.
Unwrap the banana leaf and enjoy eating bamboo flavoured rice!	Cut a banana leaf from a banana plant.

What is an opinion?

Your opinion is your own idea about a particular topic or issue. Your opinion may be different from another person's opinion. You can **agree** or **disagree** with another person's opinion.



What's your opinion on:

- exams ?
- school uniforms ?
- canteen food ?

Bamboo - Having an opinion / Giving reasons

Bamboo has many different uses. It is also important to **conserve** bamboo. Rank the uses of bamboo in order of importance. Give your reasons. Use the conjunction '*because*'. Talk about your ideas with a partner, in a small group or with the whole class.

- () chopsticks
- () food for pandas (the leaves)
- () food for people (the shoots)
- () stops soil erosion
- () scaffolding
- () fishing rods
- () paper
- () hats



Complete this table by yourself

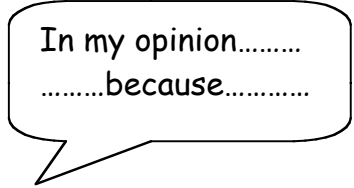
Rank	Bamboo Uses	Your reasons
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

TEACHER REFERENCE

Bamboo - Having an opinion / Giving reasons

Bamboo has many different uses. It is also important to **conserve** bamboo. Rank the uses of bamboo in order of importance. Give your reasons. Use the conjunction 'because'. Talk about your ideas with a partner, a small group or with the class.

- () chopsticks
- () food for pandas (the leaves)
- () food for people (the shoots)
- () stops soil erosion
- () scaffolding
- () fishing rods
- () paper
- () hats



Some suggestions

Rank	Bamboo Uses	Your reasons
1	food for pandas	bamboo leaves are pandas' only food
2	food for people	the shoots are very nutritious - provides food for millions of people
3	stops soil erosion	Soil must be looked after - people need soil to grow food
4	scaffolding	strong, flexible and safe for builders - safe in earthquakes
5	paper	can be grown in large quantities, grows quickly, sustainable, however, natural forests of bamboo threatened, needs to be commercially grown
6	fishing rods	bamboo makes excellent, flexible fishing rods - other materials may be used
7	hats	other materials could be used
8	chopsticks	people can make chopsticks from other materials

Homework activity

Partnership Dictation

- Students prepare one dictation for homework each night. It is copied three times, with attention to the spelling of the more difficult words. Students practise reading aloud, noting the plural endings and syllabification.
- The next day, each student dictates to their partner, and in turn, listens and writes the dictation. The students check each other's work, and record spelling errors in their homework books for further practice.
- Students may be assigned new partners each week.
- The week's dictations can be pasted into homework books.

Example of a Partnership Dictation.

<p>A. Before the Chinese invented paper, they wrote on thin strips of bamboo. Early Chinese history is recorded on these bamboo 'books'.</p>	<p>B. Bamboo is very flexible. Storms and rain may bend it low to the ground but it will not break. It provides strong material for building.</p>
<p>C. Bamboo shoots are harvested before they break through the soil. They are very nutritious and are an important part of the Asian diet.</p>	<p>D. Bamboo is the fastest growing plant in the world. It has many environmental uses. Bamboo makes excellent wind breaks, sound and dust barriers.</p>

FLAX

Flax / Harakeke

Orientation

Introducing the topic

- Show students some flax plants. Look for animals and insects in and around a flax bush.
- Explain how the leaves are taken from the outside bush. The centre leaves are the new growth.
- Collect some leaves. Using shells, students scrape away the inside green part of the leaf to expose the fibres. It then can be shown how strong these fibres are.
- Present and discuss items made from flax, pictures, seed pods, flax flowers, cosmetic items made from flax and handmade flax paper.
- Borrow a piupiu so students can see how they are made. See, Junior Journal 7: 1992. Making a piupiu. This article is also in Selections. Making it Happen (students book) item number 30087 Learning Media.
- Make some flax items ie, *Putiputi* Flowers of flax. School Journal, Part 4, No 1.
- There are many items made from harakeke on display in the Auckland Museum. Guided tours can be arranged.
- Excellent poster and reference material in New Zealand Geographical 1999, Number 42 April-June.
- Websites.

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/Community/002~Events/Conservation-Week...004~Native-Flax.as>

Key word list

FLAX

flax

sandals

harakeke

rafts

species

nectar

stalk

medicine

mountain

bind

long

exported

tough

oil

tall

soap

altitude

shampoo

coastal

hand cream

Maori

paper

cloaks

landscape

clothing

New Zealand

kete

Australia

ropes

Europe

cords

settlers

bird traps

seeds

fishing nets

seed pods

FLAX

Match each word with a picture.



a kete mountains a fishing net a bird trap flax seeds a shell
 a rope a tui a sail flax flowers a cloak a seed pod a fish
 a piupiu a mat coastline a raft sandals flax fibres
 flax leaves

What is flax?

Flax, or *harakeke* in Maori, is an important New Zealand plant. There are two species of flax in New Zealand. The first species is the *common* flax. The second species is the *mountain* flax.

What does flax look like?

Flax has long, tough leaves and tall flower stalks. Flax flowers can be red, yellow or orange. The *common* flax grows taller than the *mountain* flax.

Where does flax grow?

The *common* flax grows throughout New Zealand. *Mountain* flax grows at high altitudes and along coastal areas.

What is flax used for?

Flax was very important to the early Maori. Flax fibre was used to make clothing, sandals, mats, sails, kete (baskets), ropes and cord, bird traps, fishing lines and fishing nets. Bundles of flower stalks were used to make rafts.

OHT 2

FLAX

The early Maori drank nectar from the flax flowers and used it to sweeten food. Flax was used to make medicine and the leaves were used to bind broken bones.

In the 1800s, European settlers used flax to make rope and wool-pack cloth. Flax fibre was exported to Australia and Europe to be made into rope.

Nowadays, flax is still used by weavers to make kete and mats. It is used to make small quantities of hand-made paper. Flax oil is used to make soap, shampoo and hand cream.

Key word list

Flax

Word	English dictionary	First Language
flax noun		
species noun		
mountain noun		
tough adjective		
fibre noun		
coastal adjective		
altitude noun		
a sail noun		
a settler noun		
rope noun		
cord noun		
sandals noun		
a raft noun		
a bundle noun		
nectar noun		
to bind verb		
to export verb		

FLAX

What is flax?

Flax, or harakeke in Maori, is an important New Zealand plant. There are two species of flax in New Zealand. The first species is the common flax. The second species is the mountain flax.

What does flax look like?

Flax has long, tough leaves and tall flower stalks. Flax flowers can be red, yellow or orange. The common flax grows taller than the mountain flax.

Where does flax grow?

The common flax grows throughout New Zealand. Mountain flax grows at high altitudes and along coastal areas.

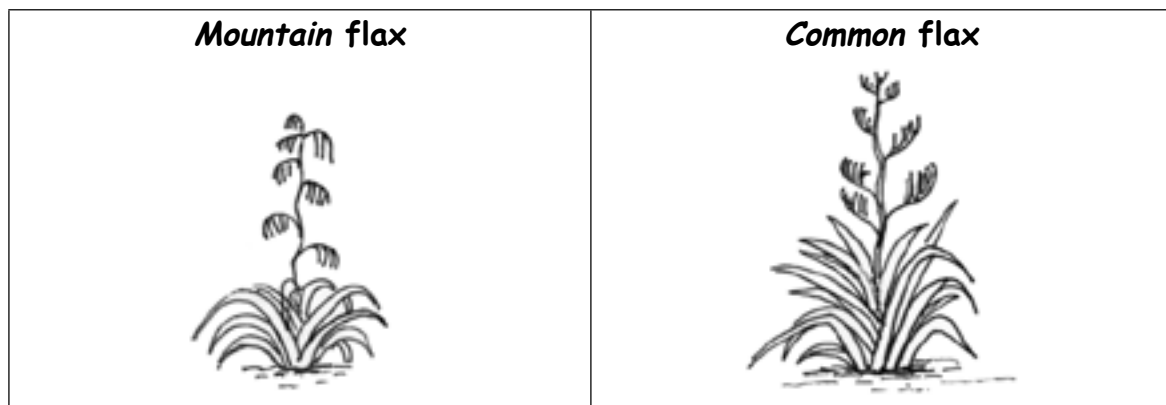
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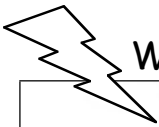
The early Maori drank nectar from flax flowers and used it to sweeten food. Flax was used to make medicine and the leaves were used to bind broken bones.

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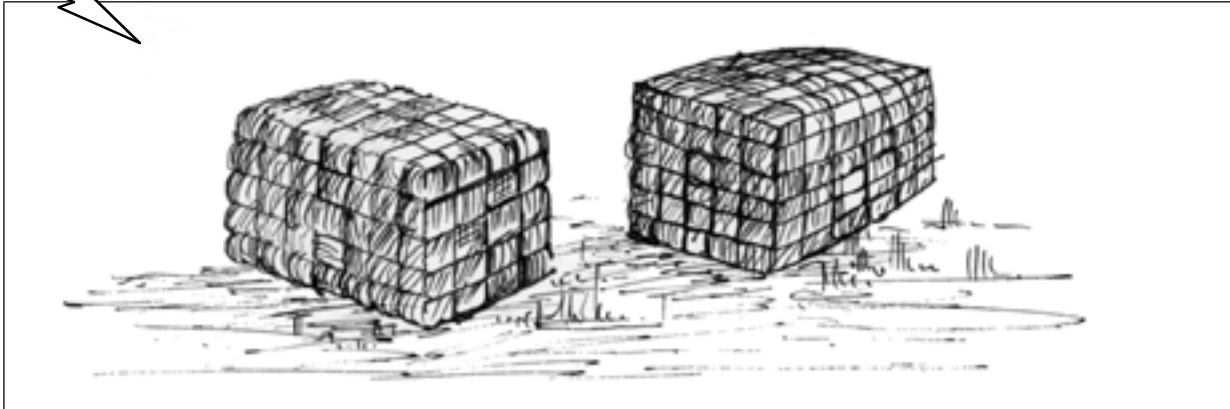
Nowadays, flax is still used by weavers to make kete and mats. It is used to make small quantities of hand-made paper. Flax oil is used to make soap, shampoo and hand cream.



Can you see the differences between the mountain flax and the common flax?



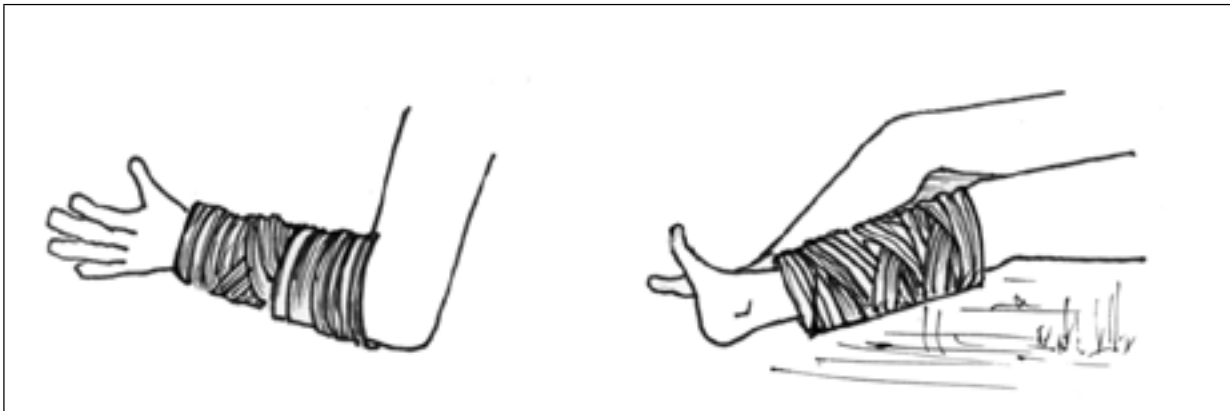
WORD FOCUS



woolpacks: When the wool was shorn from the sheep it was cleaned and then wrapped in material made from flax. These large bales were called woolpacks.
(noun)

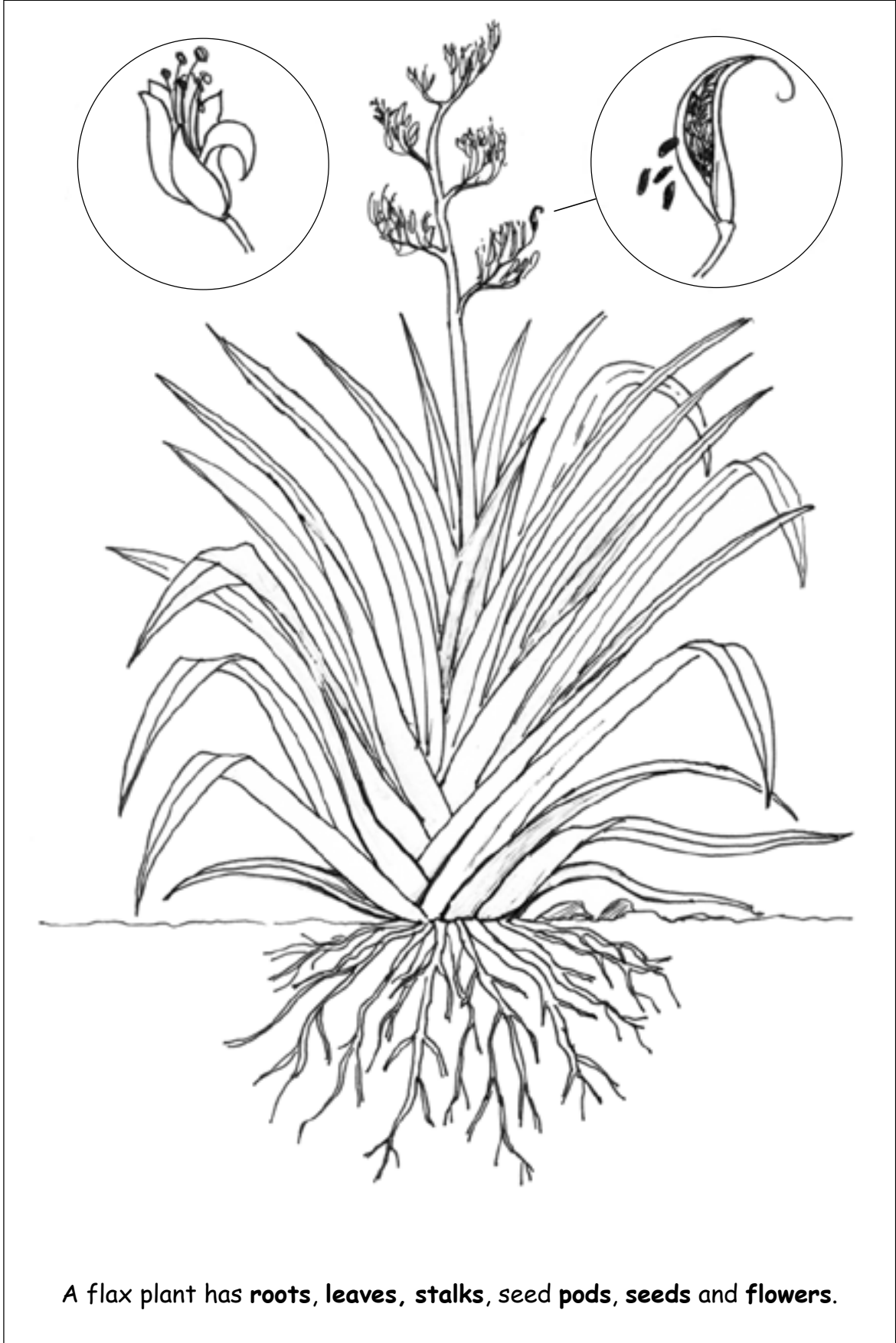


weavers: People who weave items such as kete or mats are called weavers.
(noun) Similarly, people who make pots are called potters.



to bind: The early Maori used to bind broken bones with flax leaves so the bones could grow back together. Nowadays, doctors use plaster.
(noun)

The parts of a flax plant



A flax community

You will need a microscope to see these!

A **community** is a group of plants, animals and micro-organisms that live together in a particular place. A community can be large such as all the living things in a rainforest. A community can be small such as the creatures living on and amongst a flax plant. What do these animals, birds and insects use the flax plant for?

- Read the following sentences. Match each sentence to a picture.
- What do these animals, birds and insects use the flax plant for?

The tui **sips** the nectar.

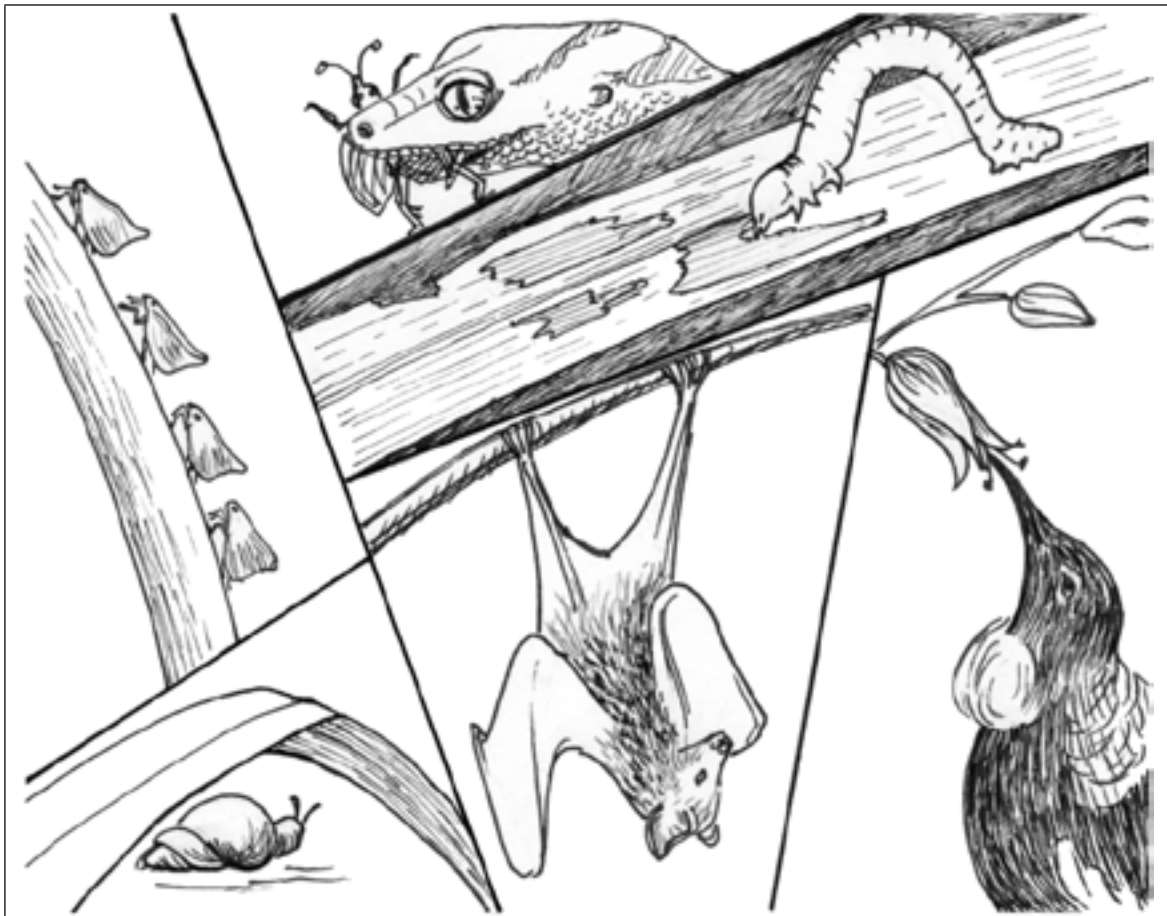
The window making caterpillar **chews** a leaf.

The green leaf hoppers **climb** the stalk.

The flax snail **shelters** under a leaf.

The bat **hangs** upside down.

The gecko **eats** an insect.



Listen Up!

Listen carefully to the text as it is read to you. Put a tick by each word in the list when you hear that word. Count the number of ticks and check with the text to see if you have the correct number.

Maori

New Zealand

species

plant

leaves

fibre

stalks

rope

flax

kete

metres

grow



Cover the list and write down all the words you can remember.

Text reconstruction

- Cut out the headings and paragraphs and construct a report on flax. There is one extra heading.

What is flax used for?

Where does flax grow?

The *common* flax grows throughout the country. *Mountain* flax grows at high altitudes and in coastal areas.

What is flax?

Flax has long, tough leaves and tall flower stalks. Flax flowers can be red, yellow or orange. The common flax grows taller than the mountain flax

Flax was a very important plant to the early Maori. Flax fibre was used to make clothing, sandals, mats, sails, kete (baskets), ropes and cords, birdtraps, fishing lines and fishing nets. Bundles of flower stalks were used to make rafts.

The early Maori drank nectar from flax flowers and used it to sweeten food. Flax was used to make medicine and the leaves were used to bind broken bones.

In the 1800s, European settlers used flax to make rope and woolpack cloth. Flax fibre was exported to Australia and Europe to be made into rope.

Nowadays, flax is still used by weavers to make kete and mats. It is used to make small quantities of hand-made paper. Flax oil is used to make soap, shampoo and hand-cream.

Flax, or harakeke in Maori, is an important New Zealand plant. There are two species of flax in New Zealand. The first species is the *common* flax. The second species is the *mountain* flax.

What does flax look like?

Flax

Who grows flax?

Disappearing Dictation

NAME.....

Flax is an important New Zealand _____. It has long, tough leaves and _____ flower stalks. Flax flowers can be _____, yellow or orange. Flax bushes provide _____ and shelter for birds, lizards, bats, _____ and snails. A group of animals that _____ together in a particular place is called a _____.

.....Fold.....

_____ is an important New Zealand plant. It has _____, tough leaves and tall _____ stalks. Flax _____ can be red, _____ or orange. Flax bushes provide food and _____ for birds, lizards, bats, insects and _____. A group of _____ that live together in _____ particular place is called _____ community.

.....Fold.....

Flax is an _____ New Zealand plant. It _____ long, tough leaves _____ tall flower stalks. Flax flowers _____ be red, yellow _____ orange. Flax _____ provide food and shelter for _____, lizards, _____, insects and snails. A _____ of animals _____ live together _____ a _____ place is _____ a community.

.....Fold.....

.....
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Compare and Contrast

To **compare** is to show how things are alike
To **contrast** is to show how things are different.

Words to show comparison

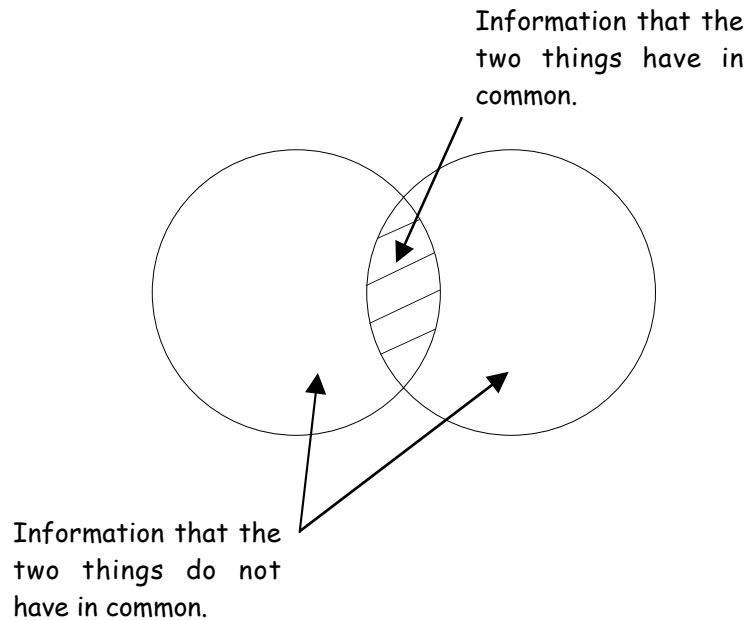
both **the same as** **similar to**

Words to show contrast

but **whereas** **however**

ORGANIZATION CHART

Venn Diagram



A **Venn Diagram** is used to **compare** and **contrast**.

Compare and Contrast

Myself and my friend

ACTIVITY 37

- Compare and contrast yourself and your best friend.
- Use a Venn diagram to organise your ideas.
- Write sentences to describe how you are alike and how you are different.
- Use words from the boxes.

Example

Myself and my friend

Compare

My friend comes from Thailand **the same as** I do. We **both** speak Thai and English. **Both** my friend and I enjoy playing basketball. He likes to **study the same as** I do. His family lives in a house that is **similar to** my house.

Contrast

My friend likes to go fishing at the beach **but** I like to swim. He likes to cook, **however** I don't like cooking. I walk to school every day **whereas** my friend drives his car.

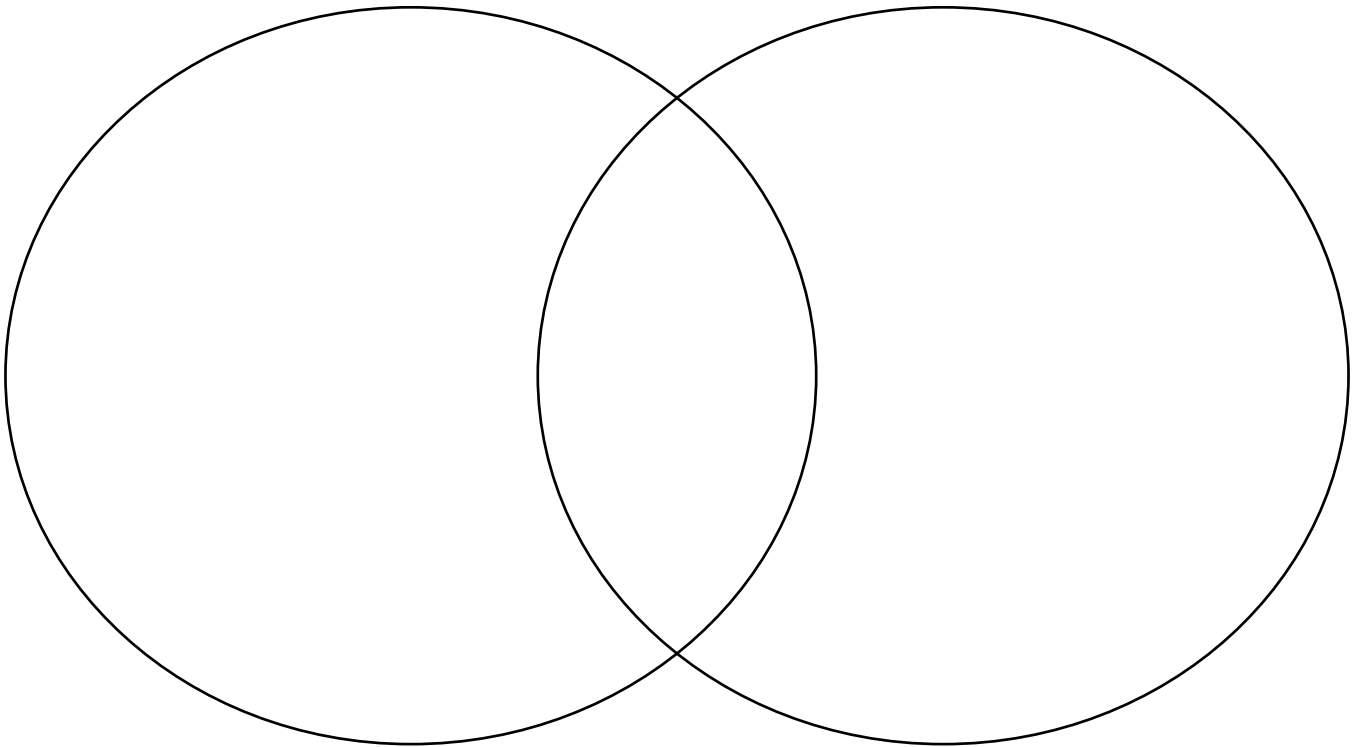
Auckland and (another city)

ACTIVITY 38

- Compare and contrast Auckland and another city.
- Use a Venn diagram to organise your ideas.
- Write sentences to describe how they are alike and different.
- Use words from the boxes.

Compare and Contrast

ACTIVITY 37, 38



Teacher reference

Bamboo and flax**Compare and contrast**

- ! In pairs, read the texts and the list and do a Venn diagram to compare and contrast bamboo and flax.
- ! Write sentences to show the similarities and differences between bamboo and flax and their uses.
- ! Use the centre section of the Venn diagram to write sentences that show comparison, for example:
 - " **Both** bamboo and flax are useful plants.
 - " Bamboo is a useful plant **similar to** flax.
- ! Use the outside sections of the Venn diagram to write sentences that show contrast, for example:
 - Bamboo has small, delicate leaves **but** flax has large tough leaves.
 - Bamboo grows in many countries **however** flax only grows in New Zealand.



Bamboo

What are bamboos?

Bamboos are a type of grass. There are about 1,500 different species. Bamboos are the fastest growing plants on earth and some grow as tall as trees. They hardly ever flower.

What do bamboos look like?

Bamboos have stiff, flexible stalks and thin, graceful leaves. Some bamboos are very small. Some species grow up to thirty metres tall and they measure thirty metres in diameter. A bamboo stalk has hard nodes (joints) along it so it is very strong. Most bamboos are hollow so the stalks are very light.

Where do bamboos grow?

Bamboos grow in wet and dry places. They can grow at sea level or on mountains up to 4,000 metres high.

What is bamboo used for?

Bamboo is used to build houses, bridges and rafts. Builders use bamboo to make scaffolding. Farmers use the canes (stalks) for water pipes.

Bamboo is used to make furniture. It can be split to make chopsticks, brushes, baskets, brooms and fans.

Chinese artists paint pictures of bamboo because it is so beautiful. Many kinds of musical instruments are made from bamboo. In India and China large quantities of bamboo are used to make paper.

Bamboo provides food for people and animals. People eat bamboo shoots and pandas love to eat the leaves. Bamboo is also used to make medicine.

In countries such as China, Indonesia and the Philippines, people plant bamboo to stop soil erosion. The roots are very strong and they hold the soil tightly so it does not erode.

Flax

What is flax?

Flax, or *harakeke* in Maori, is an important New Zealand plant. There are two species of flax in New Zealand. The first species is the *common flax*. The second species is the *mountain flax*.

What does flax look like?

Flax has long, tough leaves and tall flower stalks. Flax flowers can be red, yellow or orange. The *common flax* grows taller than the *mountain flax*.

Where does flax grow?

The *common flax* grows throughout the country. *Mountain flax* grows at high altitudes and along coastal areas.

What is flax used for?

Flax was very important to the early Maori. Flax fibre was used to make clothing, sandals, mats, sails, kete (baskets), ropes and cord, bird traps, fishing lines and fishing nets. Bundles of flower stalks were used to make rafts.

The early Maori drank the nectar from flax flowers and used it to sweeten food. Flax was used to make medicine and the leaves were used to bind broken bones.

In the 1800s, European settlers used flax to make rope and wool-pack cloth. Flax fibre was exported to Australia and Europe to be made into rope.

Nowadays, flax is still used by weavers to make kete and mats. It is used to make small quantities of handmade paper. Flax oil is used to make soap, shampoo and hand cream.

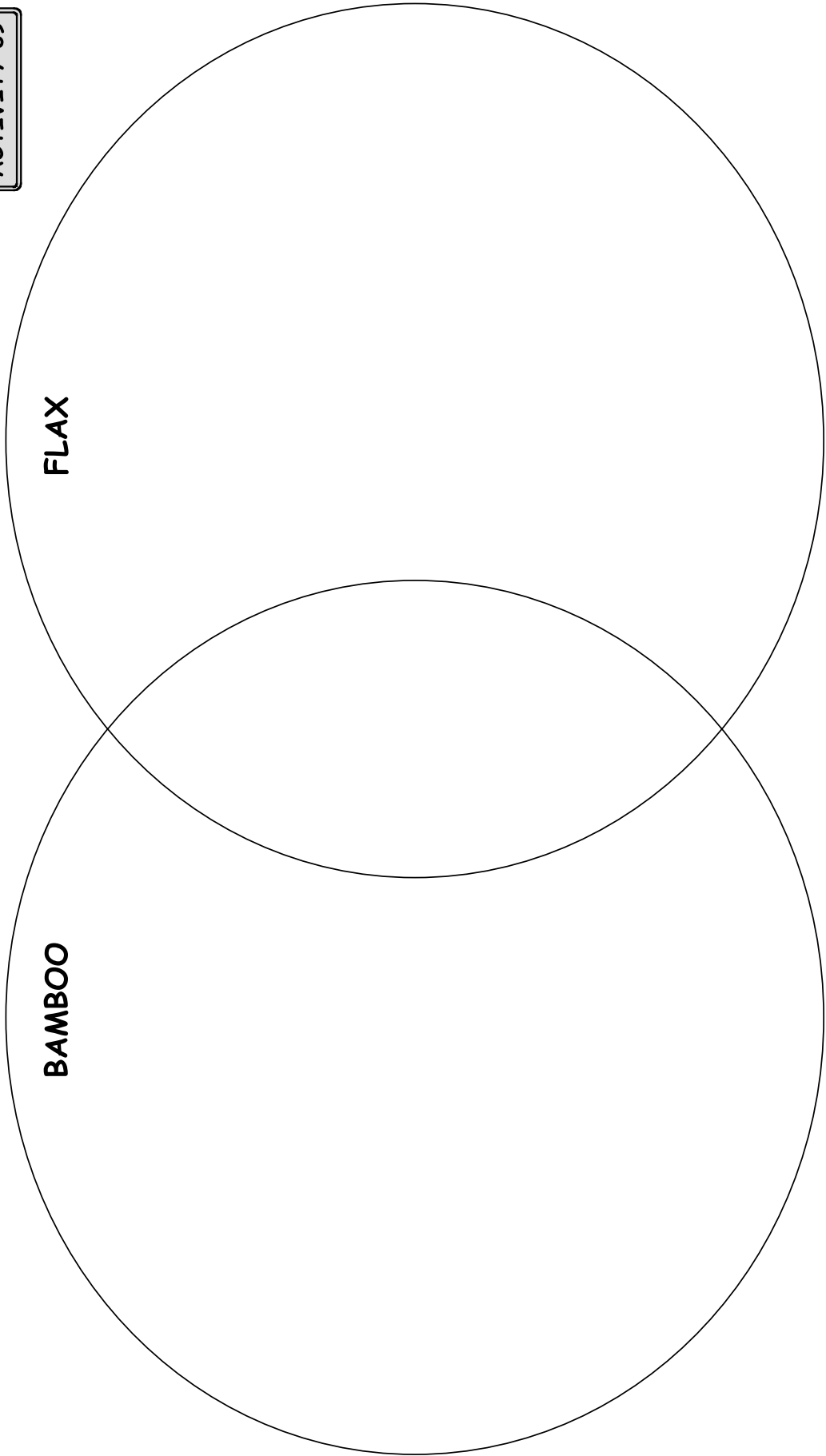
Bamboo and flax

Compare and contrast

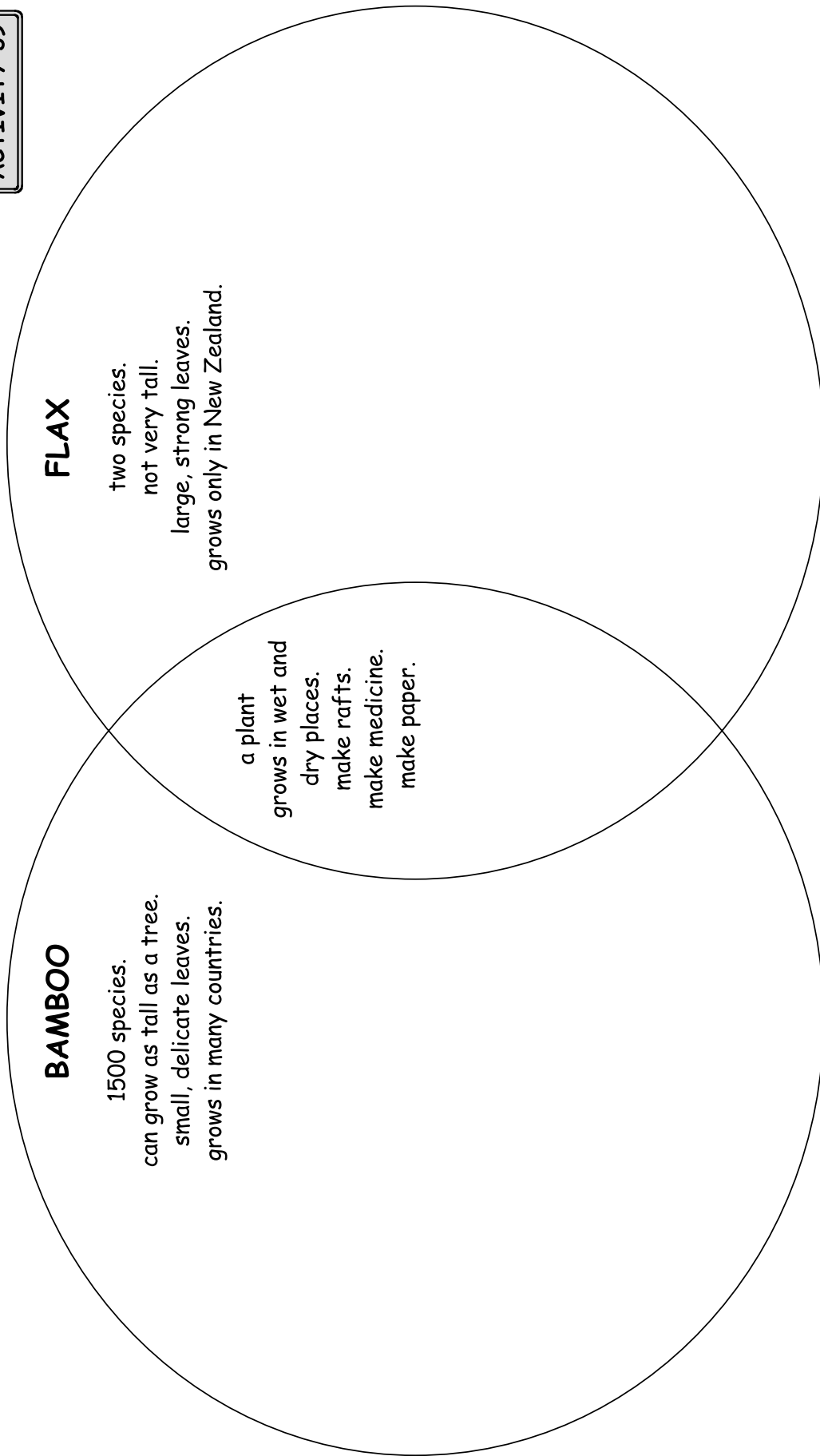
Read the list of words and phrases and then do a Venn diagram. Write each word or phrase in either the compare or contrast part of the Venn diagram.

a plant	fishing lines and nets
a type of grass	food for people
two species	food for animals
1500 species	food for birds
as tall as a tree	make brooms
not very tall	planted to stop erosion
small, delicate leaves	flowers every year
large, strong leaves	hardly ever flowers
grows only in New Zealand	make scaffolding
grows in many countries	make musical instruments
grows in wet and dry places	make wool- pack cloth
build houses	make sandals
make rafts	soap, shampoo and hand-cream
make medicine	make sails
make paper	make water pipes
make furniture	can grow in mountainous places
make chopsticks	can grow at sea-level
make baskets	is a very useful plant
make clothing	cooking container

ACTIVITY 39



ACTIVITY 39



! When their diagram is complete students write sentences that compare and contrast.

Assessment activity **Compare and contrast**

Write compare or contrast after each sentence.

1. The sun is a star but the earth is a planet.	
2. The sun is a ball of gas whereas the earth is solid.	
3. Both the sun and the earth are part of the solar system.	
4. An island is surrounded by water but a lake is surrounded by land.	
5. Tuis enjoy drinking nectar the same as lizards do.	
6. Both bamboo and flax are used to make rafts.	
7. Flax is used to make baskets and mats. In contrast , bamboo is used to make houses and bridges.	
8. Bamboo leaves are small and delicate whereas flax leaves are large and tough.	
9. Both these spiders are harmless.	
10. This snake is harmful however this one is harmless.	
11. A pineapple is a fruit but peas are a vegetable.	
12. I like rice although my friend prefers noodles.	
13. I live in New Zealand but my friend lives in Peru.	
14. He enjoys playing soccer the same as I do.	
15. Flax flowers every year however bamboos rarely flower.	

Prepare and present a short talk on Bamboo or Flax

- ❑ Prepare a two minute talk and present your talk to your partner.
- ❑ You may use small prompt cards to help you remember your key points.
- ❑ Your talk should include topic vocabulary and be logically organised.
- ❑ Make at least **5** main points about the topic.

My name :

Self evaluation

- ❑ Did I speak too quickly? Y N
- ❑ Did I speak too slowly? Y N
- ❑ Was I too loud? Y N
- ❑ Was I too soft? Y N
- ❑ Did my voice sound interesting? Y N
- ❑ Did I look at my partner? Y N
- ❑ Did I look at my notes all the time?
- ❑ Did I make at least 5 main points? Y N
- ❑ Did I use the topic vocabulary? Y N

My name:

My Partner's name:

Partner evaluation

- ❑ Did my partner pause too often? Y N
- ❑ Did my partner speak too quickly? Y N
- ❑ Did my partner speak too loudly? Y N
- ❑ Did my partner speak too softly? Y N
- ❑ Did my partner's voice sound interesting? Y N
- ❑ Did my partner look at me when he/she was talking? Y N
- ❑ Did my partner make at least **5** main points? Y N
- ❑ Did my partner use the topic vocabulary? Y N
- ❑ Did I understand what my partner was saying? Y N

Other comments : _____
