

Unit 1

I. Vocab List

Images	Vocabulary
	aroma [ə'roumə] <i>n.</i> An aroma is a scent or smell. <i>I love the aroma of coffee in the morning.</i>
	beverage ['bevərɪdʒ] <i>n.</i> A beverage is a drink. <i>The waiter brought our beverages first. Then he brought our food.</i>
	cluster ['klʌstər] <i>n.</i> A cluster of things is a small group of them placed close together. <i>She held a large cluster of grapes in her hand.</i>
	combine [kəm'baɪn] <i>v.</i> To combine is to join together to make a single thing or group. <i>Mina combined peanut butter and jelly to make a sandwich.</i>
	condensed [kən'denst] <i>adj.</i> When a liquid is condensed, it is made thicker. <i>One way to make a dessert thick and sweet is to use condensed milk.</i>
	contemporary [kən'tempərəri] <i>adj.</i> When something is contemporary, it is related to the present time. <i>Contemporary scientists have learned quite a bit about DNA.</i>
	cultivate ['kʌltəveɪt] <i>v.</i> To cultivate plants is to care for them and help them grow. <i>A research company is cultivating new kinds of rice to aid poor countries.</i>
	divine [dɪ'vaɪn] <i>adj.</i> When something is divine, it is related to gods. <i>Legends say that music was given to humans as a divine gift from the gods.</i>

	humid ['hju:mid] <i>adj.</i> When it is humid, there is a lot of water in the air. <i>It is very humid inside a sauna.</i>
	odor ['oodər] <i>n.</i> An odor is a very distinct smell. <i>He knew there was a leak when he noticed the strong odor of natural gas.</i>
	palate ['pælit] <i>n.</i> The palate is the top part of the mouth. <i>You can touch your palate with your tongue.</i>
	paradise ['pærədəis] <i>n.</i> Paradise is the place or condition of happiness where things are perfect. <i>My vacation in Hawaii was like being in paradise.</i>
	plantation [plæn'teɪʃən] <i>n.</i> A plantation is a big farm that only grows certain kinds of crops. <i>In the 1800s, there were many cotton plantations in the southern US.</i>
	rapid ['ræpid] <i>adj.</i> When something is rapid, it moves or changes very quickly. <i>His mother was surprised by her son's rapid growth.</i>
	rate [reɪt] <i>n.</i> A rate is the speed at which something happens. <i>Grass tends to grow at a very slow rate.</i>
	soothing ['su:ðɪŋ] <i>adj.</i> When something is soothing, it makes you calm or relaxed. <i>The soothing music helped the baby fall asleep.</i>
	subtle ['sʌtl] <i>adj.</i> When something is subtle, it is not easy to see or notice. <i>The handsome man has a subtle smile.</i>

	texture [ˈtɛkstʃər] <i>n.</i> The texture of something is the way its surface looks and feels. <i>The texture of a rock found in the water is typically very smooth.</i>
	toxic [ˈtɒksɪk] <i>adj.</i> When something is toxic, it is poisonous and very dangerous. <i>Please check the label to see if the product is toxic.</i>
	vary [ˈvəri] <i>v.</i> To vary means to be different from another thing in size or amount. <i>The heights of the people in my class vary by a large amount.</i>

II. Exercises

A. Write the word that best fits each blank.

1. rapid / rate

The population growth in the city was incredibly _____. It is quite surprising that people settled there at such a fast _____.

2. contemporary / vary

Many _____ laws make it illegal for business to compete in unfair ways. However, the specific laws in different countries _____ greatly.

3. humid / toxic

Because it is quite _____ on the island, various kinds of plants grow well there. However, some of these plants are _____ to humans.

4. texture / aroma

The cheese has a smooth _____. However, some people find it hard to eat because of its powerful _____.

5. cluster / combined

A _____ of people suggested that nearby cities could fight the invaders if they cooperated with each other. As a result, everyone _____ their efforts and defeated the invaders.

6. soothing / subtle

The artist uses _____ differences of color in her landscapes. This has an overall calming and _____ effect on the viewer.

7. cultivated / odor

A huge garden was _____ in the middle of the city. However, a species of rare plants gave off an unpleasant _____.

8. beverage / palate

During a four-course meal, one should drink something to clean the _____ between courses. The perfect _____ for this is, of course, water.

9. condensed / divine

I can explain the basic story in a simple, _____ way. A boy is given a _____ message, and he begins an exciting adventure.

10. plantations / paradise

The island of Oahu is not a natural _____ like Maui. However, tourists still have plenty to enjoy on Oahu, from visits to pineapple _____ to traditional celebrations.

B. Match the phrases to make complete sentences.

a. was surprisingly fast

f. several species of flowers as a hobby

b. includes work from the 21st century

g. to insects and small animals

c. feels so smooth

h. twenty workers who grew cotton

d. covered almost a third of the country

i. is good for a sore throat

e. was too strong to be enjoyable

j. the shoulder of Taurus the Bull

1. A **soothing** cup of tea _____.2. The **odor** of the cheese _____.3. The pot's **texture** _____.4. The chemical is **toxic** _____.5. The **contemporary** fiction class _____.

6. The **rate** at which these flowers grew _____.
7. My mother **cultivates** _____.
8. The **plantation** had _____.
9. The thick and **humid** forest _____.
10. That **cluster** of stars in the sky makes _____.

C. Match the clauses to make complete sentences.

- | | |
|---|--|
| a. so economic growth was rapid | f. and she smelled the aroma of cookies |
| b. and Jim thought it was a divine message | g. so they combined the chemicals |
| c. people call it a paradise | h. because it has a subtle taste of chocolate |
| d. the effects of the medicine will vary | i. but I wanted my own beverage |
| e. and she looked at his palate | j. but the condensed version was shorter |

1. The scientists wanted to find a cure for the sickness, _____.
2. He offered to share his water, _____.
3. I prefer mocha to coffee _____.
4. Many new jobs were created, _____.
5. The report was ten pages long, _____.
6. The doctor asked him to open his mouth, _____.
7. She walked in the door, _____.
8. Because the island is so warm and beautiful, _____.
9. Because patients' bodies are so different, _____.
10. It didn't rain all summer, _____.

III. Reading comprehension

The History of Chocolate

Many people believe that chocolate originally came from Europe. However, chocolate, called the "food of the gods," was first made in the Americas. The first chocolate was very different from **contemporary** chocolate.

Wild chocolate trees can grow easily in the **humid** Amazon rainforest. **Clusters** of flowers growing on these trees turn to seeds. About 20 to 60 cacao beans can be found in each seed. Cacao beans are the ingredient needed to create sweet, **soothing**, and delicious chocolate treats.

The Mayan and Aztec cultures both thought that chocolate trees were brought from **paradise** by gods. The Mayans and Aztecs used the beans from this **divine** tree to create a special **beverage** with a very pleasant **odor**. Surprisingly, the Aztecs believed that it was **toxic** to women and children.

In the 1500s, the Spanish explorer Cortes met the Aztecs. Cortes became quite interested in the **plantations** where the Aztecs **cultivated** chocolate trees. When he returned to Europe, he took cacao beans with him. He introduced the people of Spain to the Aztecs' chocolate beverage.

Over the next 100 years or so, kings, queens, and other members of the upper class enjoyed drinking chocolate. They enjoyed it even more once they learned to add sugar to the beverage! Soon, chocolate had spread all across Europe. New machines allowed chocolate makers to perfect their products and produce them at a very **rapid rate**. Preparing the beans in special ways brought out the **aroma** of chocolate. The beans were **combined** with **condensed** milk to give the chocolate a smooth **texture**.

Today, contemporary chocolates with **subtle** flavors fill the shelves of chocolate shops. The different types of chocolate available today **vary** widely. True chocolate lovers can tell which is best, though. They will tell you that the flavor of high-quality chocolate stays on the **palate** long after you finish it.

Part. A. Mark each statement T for true or F for false.

1. ____ Wild chocolate trees grow well in humid weather.
2. ____ The Mayans and Aztecs said chocolate was a divine plant brought from paradise.
3. ____ The Mayans cultivated chocolate trees on plantations.
4. ____ Beans were combined with condensed milk to give chocolate a smooth texture.
5. ____ The first chocolate beverages were made in Europe.
6. ____ The different types of chocolate available today vary widely.

Part B. Answer the questions.

1. What is the passage about?
 - a. Ways of preparing chocolate
 - b. Chocolate-making machines
 - c. Chocolate in Europe
 - d. Cacao plants
2. According to the passage, how can you tell if chocolate is high-quality?
 - a. It contains a lot of sugar.
 - b. It has a pleasant aroma of flowers.
 - c. The flavor stays on the palate long after you finish it.
 - d. It is made from cacao beans grown in Europe.
3. Why are chocolate trees valuable to Mayans and Aztecs?
 - a. They believed the trees came from the gods.
 - b. They used the trees to build their homes.
 - c. The trees were the main source of food for their people.
 - d. The trees were traded for gold and silver.