Now look at the passage on Cuba's organic revolution and answer the questions that follow.

Cuba's Organic Revolution



Organic agriculture has been adopted as the official government strategy for all new agriculture in Cuba, after its highly successful introduction just seven years ago. In less than a decade, the use of chemical pesticides has dropped by 80%.

The catalyst which revolutionised the Cuban approach was economic necessity after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Now the island is self-sufficient in organic fruit and vegetables, and organic livestock is also being reared successfully.

Even cabbage, which could not be grown in the past because it was impossible to control the diamond black moth, now has yields of 60 tonnes per hectare without using fertilisers or pesticides.

To meet the demands of a more labour-intensive system of agriculture, the Cuban government has increased rural wages and is providing favourable housing for farm workers, which also helps solve the problem of severe housing shortages and overcrowding in the cities. It is also making available abandoned land in urban areas for local communities to farm.

In one co-operative, 40 members are providing food for their own families, with plenty of surplus to provide for community elders, invalids and day care centres. Over 40 countries were represented at a recent Pesticide Action Network (PAN) conference in Cuba to challenge the view that pesticides are essential for agriculture.

The Cuban experience added strength to their conviction that organic agriculture has a great deal to offer and has been unjustifiably ignored by agricultural researchers.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Questions 1–6

Complete the sentences below.

Choose ***NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER*** *from the passage for each answer.*

1. Cuba has used organic farming for _____.
2. The fall of the Soviet Union created an _____ to grow food.
3. The cultivation of cabbage was made possible after the _____ was killed.
4. Encouraging the development of agriculture has helped reduce _____.
5. A conference in Cuba promoted the view that pesticides were not _____ in farming.
6. _____ should focus more on organic farming.

LIVEWORKSHEETS