Tamkeen Program

(Practice 2)

Read the text and answer the questions.

A Special Tree

"Grandfather, can I ask you about ghaf trees? My friend and I are going to write a report on it for class, but we don't know much about it," said Khalid.

His grandfather began to speak, "I know some interesting facts about these trees. They grow here in the Middle East, but also in Asia and Africa. Plant them, and they will easily grow. They can live for more than 120 years in the desert. It's interesting that they grow without much water. In the past, travellers used the ghaf tree to make medicine. Farmers also used the leaves for animal food.

In the hot and dangerous desert, travellers were sometimes hurt by snakes and scorpions. When that happened, their hope was to find a ghaf tree. They could use the water from the tree to clean their cuts. Travellers could also lie down to sleep under the tree during the night if they were travelling far.

Today, people still love ghaf trees. They plant ghaf trees in hot deserts to help animals like goats and camels. The desert eagle owl lives in the ghaf and the oryx and desert fox rest near them. The wood is used to build houses and for fires. People even eat the leaves in salads. This type of salad is very special. The ghaf is so important that it is the national tree of the UAE."

When his grandfather finished, Khalid said, "I hope to make sure more of them grow. Thank you, grandfather, I will tell my friend you helped us a lot."



1. Why does Khalid ask his grandfather for help?
   - To get information for his lesson
   - To report a problem with a tree
   - To learn how to help his friend

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2. The ghaf tree grows .....
   - o only in Africa
   - o just in the Middle East
   - o many places, including Asia

3. This tree is special because it doesn't.....
   - o grow very easily
   - o need a lot of water
   - o live for a long time

4. According to the text, why is the ghaf tree interesting?
   - o It was used to help sick travellers
   - o Travellers rested under it during the day
   - o Animals easily find food near it

5. What do people use the ghaf tree for? (Bonus)
   - o to keep away wild animals
   - o to make homes
   - o to keep goats

6. How are the leaves of the ghaf tree used today?
   - o People make food with them
   - o They are burnt in fires
   - o Animals live in them

7. Khalid wishes to ..... a ghaf tree one day.
   - o plant and take care of
   - o tell his friend to plant
   - o help his grandfather plant

8. What is the text about?
   - o how to plant a ghaf tree
   - o where to find trees in the UAE
   - o the most important tree in the UAE



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