top tip

Dealing With a New Text

When we need to find out the **gist** of a text, we use **skimming**. We often skim a text before deciding if we want to read it in more detail.

When skimming, we glance through the text as quickly as possible. We can use headings, sub-headings, and illustrations (diagrams, pictures, photographs, tables, charts, and graphs) to help us identify the key information and main ideas.

3 **Match each of these headings to the appropriate paragraph in the text in Activity 2. Find the topic sentence of each paragraph – the sentence that gives the main idea. Write each topic sentence into your exercise book.**

a 2 The Emergence of Oil
b 2 The History of Trading
c 2 The Arabs as Traders
d 2 The Frankincense Trade

4 **Find words in the text in Activity 2 that have a similar meaning to the words or phrases below. Write the words and their meanings into your exercise book.**

Example: very good (paragraph 2) = excellent

1 people who buy and sell goods (paragraph 1)
2 suddenly and greatly (paragraph 1)
3 position (paragraph 2)
4 ways from one place to another (paragraph 2)
5 sold to another country (paragraph 3)
6 religious ceremonies (paragraph 3)
7 relating to trade and money (paragraph 4)
8 enormous (paragraph 4)

TIME TO TALK

World Trade

List five everyday items that come from other countries, and write down the names. Think about things that you eat, wear, and use. Compare your list with the lists of two or three other students.

Work with another student. Choose a personal item, eg. your watch, and trade it for something of your partner's. Here are some phrases to help you.





1. What will you give me for my [watch]?
2. Are you willing to trade your [pen]?
3. Sorry, but my [watch] is worth more than your [pen].
4. I'll make you a good offer for your [book].
5. You must be joking!
6. OK, that's a fair deal.
7. No way!

