CPE 1 – Test 1

FLAVOUR - MATURE - COMPETE RECOGNISE - EXTEND - KNOW - SUPPLY - THREAT - CONSEQUENCE - EMERGE - RIPE

VANILLA

Thanks to the ubiquitous use of vanilla as a **(0)** flavouring in ice creams and cakes the world over, its taste is more **(16)** ..... to the majority of people than the appearance of the plant.

The plant itself is actually a native of the tropical forests of Central America and is the only variety of orchid to be grown on a commercial scale. Its delicate white flowers open in the early morning and, after pollination by insects or humming birds, a narrow bean-like pod forms and **(17)** ..... , taking a period of five to seven months to reach **(18)** ..... . It is this pod which is harvested to provide the food crop we know as vanilla.

Despite its American origins, for decades it was only cultivated **(19)** ..... on the Indian Ocean island of Madagascar, where it was introduced at the end of the nineteenth century. It soon became clear that the vanilla grown there was of a quality **(20)** ..... in other areas, and the island quickly became one of the world's major **(21)** ..... .

In recent years, however, new **(22)** ..... have entered the vanilla market and, **(23)** ..... , Madagascar's importance has started to slip. Of course, the **(24)** ..... of new producers means a smaller market share, whilst the development of artificial substitutes is **(25)** ..... to undermine demand for the real thing.

LIVEWORKSHEETS