UNIT 4

Listening

A talk





1 Match the objects with their definitions. Then check (✓) which items you think the Chinese invented. Listen and check your answers.

1 ☐ compass		a something that protects you from the rain
2 ☐ kite		b something that tells the time
3 ☐ paper money		c a toy that children fly in the air
4 ☐ gunpowder		d something we use to buy things
5 ☐ umbrella		e an item that helps you find your way
6 ☐ diabolo		f small balls that children use to play games with
7 ☐ clock		g a substance used to make an explosion such as fireworks
8 ☐ marbles		h a toy that children spin on a string
9 ☐ bamboo		i a tall plant that pandas like to eat

Subskill: Listening for the information you need

Before you listen, read through the exercise to see what information you need to find out. This will help you know if you need to listen for names, places, numbers or other facts.

2 Read the questions and decide what information you need. Listen again and answer the questions.

1 What are the four great Chinese inventions?

_____

2 How long ago did a carpenter make the first umbrella?

_____

3 What did the Chinese use for the brush of the toothbrush?

_____

4 When did the Chinese make the first marbles?

_____

5 What material did people use to make the first kites?

_____

6 When did the diabolo become popular all over China?

_____

3 Read the notes and decide what information is required in each space. Complete the notes. Then listen and check.

The story says that a carpenter invented the 1 _____.

The first forks appeared among remains of a tribe that lived from 2400 to 2 _____ BC. The Chinese later used chopsticks because they cut food into 3 _____ pieces so that it cooked faster.

The Chinese military used kites to send 4 _____ and measure distances before they became popular as toys.

The diabolo is a toy which has two cups joined together and you use 5 _____ sticks to move it on a string. Today the diabolo is 6 _____ in acrobatic shows.

4 Answer the questions for you.

1 Did any of the inventions surprise you? If so, why?

_____

2 What do you know about an invention from your country? Give details.

_____

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