

elite, consumption, demand for, merchant, guard, rival, overland, have monopoly of, virtual, exorbitantly, couple something with something, spur, eager, cultivation, ethnic group, peel, pliable, curl, associate with, tribute

1. The Portuguese managed to \_\_\_\_\_ the spice trade in the Indian Ocean during the 16th century.
2. These sandals are made of \_\_\_\_\_ leather, which makes them very flexible and comfortable.
3. She paid an \_\_\_\_\_ high price for the bag—much more than it was worth.
4. You should \_\_\_\_\_ your password with a two-step verification process for better security.
5. The long journey was done \_\_\_\_\_, crossing deserts and mountains with camels.
6. Cinnamon sticks tend to \_\_\_\_\_ when they dry, forming their signature spiral shape.
7. The soldiers were ordered to \_\_\_\_\_ the palace gates during the royal ceremony.
8. That museum is \_\_\_\_\_ empty—it seems like no one has visited in days!
9. In ancient China, neighboring states were required to pay annual \_\_\_\_\_ to the emperor.
10. The growing middle class led to an increased \_\_\_\_\_ luxury goods like silk and tea.
11. She's very \_\_\_\_\_ to try the new dish after seeing it featured in a cooking show.
12. Rice \_\_\_\_\_ requires flat land, water, and specific weather conditions.
13. The fruit is easy to \_\_\_\_\_ and is often used in desserts.
14. The clothing style is traditionally worn by a specific \_\_\_\_\_ in Southeast Asia.
15. The two companies have been fierce \_\_\_\_\_ in the mobile phone market for years.
16. He is a wealthy \_\_\_\_\_ who sells rare gemstones around the world.
17. These training programs are designed for the business \_\_\_\_\_, not for beginners.
18. Higher prices tend to \_\_\_\_\_ innovation as companies compete to provide better products.
19. Fast food \_\_\_\_\_ has increased sharply in the last few decades.
20. In many cultures, owls are often \_\_\_\_\_ wisdom or knowledge.