**Worksheet 1**  

**Introduction to Tea**

Tea is part of everyday life in many countries. In a lot of English-speaking societies, people say 'Have a nice cup of tea!' when someone has a problem. Workers often stop for 'tea-breaks' during the day. Most of us know how to make a cup of tea. Easy, isn’t it? But how much do you really know about tea? It’s a fascinating story: history, geography, science, economics and politics are all part of it. What do you know about tea?

**Write down ten facts here.**

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At the end of this webquest, compare the things you discover during it with these facts. Your personal knowledge is important, too!
Worksheet 2  
Facts about Tea

Let’s find out some essential facts about tea.  
Go to www.plantcultures.org/plants/  
On the home page, click on Tea  
Tick the correct answer.

1. What is tea?  
   - a flower  
   - a vegetable  
   - a fruit  
   - a shrub

2. Which part is used to make the drink?  
   - the berry  
   - the leaves  
   - the roots  
   - all the plant

3. How many tonnes of tea are grown each year?  
   - 1 million  
   - 2 million  
   - 3 million  
   - 4 million

4. Where has tea been part of a social ritual for many centuries?  
   - Japan  
   - Western Europe  
   - France  
   - Britain

5. Tea is important as...  
   - a drink  
   - a medicine  
   - a product traded in the world economy  
   - all of these things
Worksheet 3  The Tea Plant

Let’s find out about the tea plant.
Go to: www.plantcultures.org/plants/
On the home page, click on Tea
Then click on Plant profile to read more about growing tea.
Tick the correct answer.

1. How tall can a tree plant grow?
   □ 7 metres
   □ 10 metres
   □ 17 metres
   □ 20 metres

2. To what height are tea plants cut in order to encourage new shoots?
   □ 2 metres
   □ 3 metres
   □ 4 metres
   □ 5 metres

3. Two of these statements are true. Which ones?
   □ Tea plants are evergreen.
   □ The flowers have no smell.
   □ The plants do not produce fruit.
   □ The leaves are bright green.

Next click on Production & trade to discover how the plant is picked and packed.

4. Tea plants grow...
   □ in forests
   □ on hillsides
   □ in fields
   □ near rivers

5. The young leaves are picked:
   □ by people in the summer
   □ by machines in the autumn
   □ by people once a year
   □ by people every few days
6. The pickers put the leaves into:

- baskets
- boxes
- packets
- bags

7. How many kilograms can an experienced picker take in a day?

- 5
- 15
- 25
- 35

8. Which country or region grows 30% of the world’s tea?

- India
- Pakistan
- Sri Lanka
- East Africa
- China
- Indonesia

Still using information found on Production & trade complete this table of tea facts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEA FACTS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The type of tea that is considered to be the best-tasting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experts grade tea according to three criteria:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factors that determine the flavour and appearance of tea</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Characteristic of a good tea</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Characteristic of a poor quality tea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of years a tea plantation can remain in production</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- a ________________
- b ________________
- c ________________
- d ________________
- e ________________
- f ________________
- g ________________
- h ________________
- i ________________
- j ________________
- k ________________
- l ________________
- m ________________

PHOTOCOPIABLE
CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM WEBSITE
Worksheet 4  The History of Tea

Now click on History. Tick the correct answer.

1. Where was tea drunk first?
   - Burma
   - China
   - Britain
   - India

2. European countries began to import tea in the 17th century. Where did all this tea come from?
   - China
   - India
   - Russia
   - North America

3. Which two countries had the monopoly of the tea trade with China in the 18th century?
   - The Netherlands and France
   - Spain and France
   - The Netherlands and Britain
   - Spain and the Netherlands

4. In 1834, one company lost this monopoly. It began to import tea from a different country. Where?
   - Burma
   - India
   - Sri Lanka
   - Indonesia

5. Two of these statements are true. Which ones?
   - They planted seeds from Chinese tea here.
   - There were no tea plants here before this date.
   - The area which produced tea remained the same during the 19th and 20th centuries.
   - The tea produced here tasted stronger than Chinese tea.
Worksheet 5  Tea in Different Countries

Still on the History page follow the link to Tea in China and Japan and find out when people began to drink tea in these two countries. Then complete the sentences.

In China tea has been used as a (1)____________ _________, for (2)__________ and as a pickle for over (3)_________ years.

Tea was introduced into Japan in about (4) ___ AD by (5) __________ (6) __________ returning home after (7) _________ in China.

On the History page follow the link Discovery of tea in India. Which two types of tea were combined to make Indian tea? Write their names here:

Indian tea was made from:
(8) ________________________ and (9) _______________________

Now for some more History and Geography. Go to another website: www.tealiving.com. Follow the link to About Tea at the bottom of the screen. Click on History of Tea. Then choose the correct date.

10. China

a  Tea was used in exchange for horses. 476/1476
b  Tea houses began to spread through China. 10th century/12th century
c  The Yixing teapot was invented. 1492/1892

11. Japan

a  A monk named Dengyo Daishi brought tea plant seeds from China. 805/1805
b  The Emperor ordered tea to be grown near the capital. 810/1810
c  A Japanese monk named Eisei returns from China, bringing back tea plants for the Japanese people. 1190/1200

12. Russia

a  The Chinese sent tea as a present to the Tsar. 618/1618
b  Boxes of tea were carried to Russia by camels/horses.
c  The journey took 6-8 months/16-18 months.
d  Trans-Siberian Railway opened in 1903, so tea arrived within 1 week/1 month.
13. North America

a. The British Parliament put a tax on tea imported into North America, 1667/1767.
b. The Americans refused to pay this tax. They threw 340 boxes of tea into Boston Harbour in 1673/1773.
c. The American War of Independence ended in 1677/1776.

While you’re on this webpage, find out about three more things. Make a note of them here.

14.

a. When was the first tea room was opened in London? ______________
b. When did tea dances begin in London? ______________
c. What was the favourite dance? ______________

15. Complete this table to keep a record of these places, events and dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The first tea was discovered.</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>2700 BC</td>
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<td>Tea houses began to spread through the country.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tea from this country became the first internationally traded commodity</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Chinese Emperor sent tea to the ruler of this country.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The tax on tea caused a special tea party here.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Worksheet 6  

Tea and Science

What about science? And nutrition? Is tea good or bad for us? Tea, coffee and cocoa all contain caffeine. Go back to the www.plantcultures.org/plants website. Follow the links through Tea to Stimulant. Then choose the correct fact in each pair.

1.

a. After an hour, it enters some of the body/all parts of the body.
b. It stays in the body/is excreted in urine.
c. It keeps people awake because it produces adrenaline/is bad for them.
d. Caffeine produces extra energy because it releases more sugar into the blood/stops people from sleeping.
e. There is more/less caffeine in tea than coffee.
f. Green tea has more/less caffeine than black tea.

2. Traditional medicine often uses tea as a cure for digestion and fever problems. It is used in Western medicine, too. Click on Western medicine. Choose the correct fact in each pair.

a. Tea contains a few/more than 2,000 substances.
b. One of these, theophylline, is used in medicines to treat asthma/heart disease.
c. Another group of substances, flavonoids, can help to fight cancer and heart disease/indigestion.
d. Some people think that tea helps reduce bad skin/tooth decay.

3. What about the dangers of drinking too much tea? Read the paragraph on safety. Make a note of two possible problems here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBSTANCE</th>
<th>PROBLEMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caffeine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>theophylline</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Worksheet 7  

Tea and Politics

You’ve explored the links between tea and history, geography, daily life and science. What about tea and politics? Do you remember the Boston Tea Party? Why is it famous?

1.   Tick the correct statement.

☐ It increased the sale of tea to the U.S.
☐ It was an important social occasion.
☐ It showed that the American colonies would not pay British taxes.
☐ People threw bad tea into the harbour.

To check your answer and to find out more about the Boston Tea Party, go to this website again: www.tealiving.com. Click on About Tea at the bottom of the page. Then select The Boston Tea Party in the right-hand panel. Read the facts and decide if you selected the correct answer above.

2. Make a note of any other interesting facts here.

NOTES
Worksheet 8

Tea around the World

Tea is drunk all over the world. It is part of lots of different cultures. By finding out about tea cultures, we can discover something about history, geography and lifestyles too. Take a look at this website: www.blissborne.com

Click on Teas of the World Interactive Map. Identify these places on it. Tea is important in all of them!

Choose two places from this list and write their names below. Make a note of anything you know or can guess about the tea culture in each one.

PLACE A: ________________________________
TEA CULTURE: ________________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

PLACE B: ________________________________
TEA CULTURE: ________________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________
Click on the two links on the map for your two countries. Make detailed notes of the things you discover for both places.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE A</th>
<th>TEA CULTURE IN ____________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TYPE OF TEA</td>
<td>__________________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAYS OF MAKING IT</td>
<td>__________________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADDED INGREDIENTS</td>
<td>__________________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION</td>
<td>__________________________________________</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>PLACE B</th>
<th>TEA CULTURE IN ____________________________</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TYPE OF TEA</td>
<td>__________________________________________</td>
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<tr>
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<td>__________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION</td>
<td>__________________________________________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Compare the information you found on the website with your own notes. Write anything that surprised you here.
Worksheet 9  Tea and Economics

Tea is a major agricultural crop for many countries. In fact, over 3 million tonnes are produced every year. Much of this exported. So tea can earn money for growers and shippers, and foreign currency for the exporting country.

In 2003, India was the largest producer of tea in the world, and China was in second place. However, by 2004-5, these positions had changed. China became the world’s largest tea producer.

As well as these two countries, eleven others are in the list of the top tea producers. The names in this list are:

Vietnam  Argentina  Bangladesh  Turkey  Uganda  China  Indonesia  Malawi  Kenya  Iran  Japan  Sri Lanka  Turkey  Uganda

In 2004-5, six countries from this list produced 80% of the world’s tea.

1. Mark the top six countries on the list. Use your knowledge of climate and cultural life to help you. If you do not know – guess!


3. Now complete this chart of the top six countries.

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Is this similar to your own top six ideas? Which countries are different?
4. The information is presented through percentages in this Wikipedia table. The differences show up more clearly in a pie chart. First of all, construct a pie chart for the top six countries and the other seven countries listed, to show the percentage shares in 2004-5. Remember, the rest produced just 21% of the total.

THE TOP SIX TEA PRODUCERS 2004-5
WEBQUEST
WORLD OF TEA PROJECT

Choose one area from the Time for Tea webquest that interests you.

Write this here:

___________________________________
___________________________________
___________________________________

Decide what is important about this area. Make notes here.

What is the best way to present this information to other people? How can you get them interested too? Choose one of these:

☐ a poster
☐ a magazine feature
☐ the home page of a website
Look carefully at the design of some posters and magazine articles, and of the webpages you’ve visited. Decide which ones get their message over clearly. Use the facts you’ve discovered during this webquest and any other information to present your own version of the story of tea. Good luck!

USEFUL WEBSITES:

www.plantcultures.org/plants
www.tealiving.com
www.blissborne.com
www.wikipedia.org
www.enjoyingtea.com
www.stashtea.com
www.tea.co.uk
WEBQUEST
TIME FOR TEA

Answer Key

Worksheet 2
1. a shrub
2. the leaves
3. 3 million
4. Japan; Britain
5. all of these things

Worksheet 3
1. 17 metres
2. 2 metres
3. Tea plants are evergreen. The leaves are bright green.
4. on hillsides
5. by people every few days
6. baskets
7. 35
8. India
9. answers from tea facts table:
   a) loose-leaf tea; b) strength; c) flavour; d) colour; e) plant variety;
   f) the size; g) age; h) part of the leaf picked; i) region of origin;
   j) processing method; k) bright appearance; l) muddy colour; m) 50

Worksheet 4
1. Burma
2. China
3. The Netherlands and Britain
4. India
5. They planted seeds from Chinese tea here. The tea produced here tasted stronger than Chinese tea.

Worksheet 5
1. medicinal infusion
2. chewing
3. pickle
4. 4000
5. 600
6. Buddhist priests
7. studying
8. China tea
9. Assam tea
10. a) 476; b) 12th century; c) 1492
11. a) 805: b) 810; c) 1200
12. a) 1618; b) camels; c) 16-18 moths; d) 1 week
13. a) 1767; b) 1773; c) 1776
14. a) 1804; b) 1913: c) tango
15.

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<td>805 A.D.</td>
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<td>1700 A.D.</td>
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<td>Russia</td>
<td>1618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The tax on tea caused a special tea party here.</td>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>1773</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Worksheet 6

1. a) After an hour, it enters all parts of the body.
   b) It is excreted in urine.
   c) It keeps people awake because it produces adrenaline.
   d) Caffeine produces extra energy because it releases more sugar into the blood.
   e) There is less caffeine in tea than coffee.
   f) Green tea has less caffeine than black tea.

2. a) Tea contains more than 2,000 substances.
   b) One of these, theophylline, is used in medicines to treat asthma.
   c) Another group of substances, flavonoids, can help to fight cancer and heart disease.
   d) Some people think that tea helps reduce tooth decay.

3.

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caffeine</td>
<td>headaches and anxiety may affect breast-feeding mothers and the infant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>theophylline</td>
<td>heart problems such as palpitations, sickness, insomnia and convulsions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Worksheet 7

1. It showed that the American colonies would not pay British taxes.
2. Students’ own notes.

Worksheet 9

3. The top six countries are; China, India, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Turkey and Indonesia.