

A.

Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

POPCORN AND POTATO CHIPS

Corn and potatoes are two vegetables from the New World which are now part of the world's diet. There is hardly a corner of the world where these vegetables are not grown and eaten. Ironically, until the discovery of the Americas the world had not known of these two crops. These food items, however, were first harvested by the native Indians who lived on the land and were later introduced into Europe by the early **explorers**. The potato, however, is probably indigenous to the Andes and was not introduced into North America until 1621 when it was brought to Virginia from Bermuda.



- 10 Corn, a grain called maize, was **cultivated** long before the Europeans reached the New World. Native Americans raised many varieties; for example, sweet corn, popcorn, colored corn and corn for cornmeal. Corn can be eaten either fresh or ground for meal. As popular as it is for human consumption, it is used mainly as animal **fodder** in America. Corn is very versatile. It can be transformed into a myriad of different forms for daily consumption and finds its way on the table in a variety of offerings. Probably the most popular breakfast food in America is corn flakes with milk and sliced bananas. Gravies for most meats are made with corn starch and an evening dinner may well be complemented with corn bread or corn muffins. Corn is the base used for making bourbon, an alcoholic drink native to America. Corn is also an excellent source of **nourishment** and, like the potato can be stored for a long time.



- The humble potato, like corn, is also prepared in a vast array of imaginative dishes. They can be baked, boiled, fried, mashed or scalloped. For breakfast what serving of eggs would be complete without a generous side order of hash browns? The potato can also be processed and dehydrated and made into a powdered form. The potato is probably even more popular than corn and its fame had spread from the Americas to become a staple food in other countries far removed from the New World. Potatoes like corn can be stored for a long period of time and in a processed, dehydrated form they can easily be prepared by just adding water and bringing to a boil. With its high carbohydrate content, the potato has become a staple for many Western countries. The Irish had become so dependent on the potato that they faced death and starvation during the potato famine of 1846-48. Ironically, this drove millions of them to **emigrate** to America, a land where the potato is indigenous.



Yet, corn and potatoes have become so much a staple of the American diet that hardly a day passes when one or the other of these foods is not **consumed**. Not only do they serve to complement to meat or fish portion of a dinner plate, but have been converted into those

40 two most popular of all finger foods, the popcorn and the potato chip. What American can
 sit in front of a TV without a bag of potato chips or a bowl of freshly popped corn covered
 with melted butter and seasoned with salt? Besides their utilitarian use as a staple of the
 American diet both corn and potatoes have been proven to be also high in nutrition. The
 potato for example, is an excellent source of starch needed for energy. Since most of the
 45 vitamins are near the skin, fried potato skins make a nutritious snack. They also contain a
 good supply of Vitamin C needed for good health.

Section 1 (10 x 1 mark)

Directions: On your answer sheet, circle the letter for the best answer to each question.

Example: This article is mainly about:

- a. Why people eat corn and potato.
- b. The origins of corn and potato as food.
- c. Recipes using corn and potato.
- d. Why people do not like corn and potato.

e.g.	A	B	C	D
1	A	B	C	D
2	A	B	C	D

1. Which two vegetables, originally from America, are now a part of the world's diet?
 - a. Corn and maize
 - b. Popcorn and potato chips
 - c. Corn and potatoes
 - d. Sweet corn and corn meal

2. Which group of people first harvested corn and potatoes?
 - a. The early explorers.
 - b. The Native Americans.
 - c. The early settlers.
 - d. People from Europe.

3. Which crop was probably indigenous from the Andes of South America?
 - a. Potato
 - b. Corn
 - c. Maize
 - d. Millet

4. Besides being used for human consumption what is another main use for corn?
 - a. It is used as compost.
 - b. It is used for fuel.
 - c. It is used as animal fodder.
 - d. It is used as fertilizer.

5. Which kind of strong alcohol is made from corn?
 - a. Corn wine.
 - b. Scotch.
 - c. Corn beer.
 - d. Bourbon.

6. What is a common useful feature of both corn and potatoes after they are harvested?
 - a. They can be stored for a long time and do not spoil.
 - b. They are plentiful and inexpensive.
 - c. They are easy to grow.
 - d. They are grown mostly by Native Americans.

7. The Irish people made the potato a staple of their diet. They almost faced starvation when they were not able to grow the potato. In what years was the Irish Potato Famine?
 - a. 1843 – 1844
 - b. 1848 – 1850
 - c. 1843 – 1849
 - d. 1846 – 1848

8. What are the two most popular finger foods in the American diet?
 - a. Potatoes and corn.
 - b. Popcorn and potato chips.
 - c. Sushi and pretzels.
 - d. Peanuts and pumpkin seeds.

9. Which of the following is probably not true of the potato?
 - a. It is a staple vegetable for many people.
 - b. It can be prepared in many different ways.
 - c. It is low in nutrition.
 - d. It can be stored for a very long time.

10. Which of the following statements is true of potatoes and corn?
 - a. They are the staple foods from most people in the world.
 - b. They both contain vitamin E.
 - c. They were originally indigenous to the New World.
 - d. They are found in every corner of the world and eaten in every country.

Section 2 (5 x 1 mark)

Directions: On your answer sheet, fill in the table (OR chart) using the number of words indicated for each space from information in the text.s

e.g.

e.g.	harvested
1	
2	

Product	Comments
Corn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> first ____ (e.g.) ____ (1 word) and used by the _____ (1) _____ (2 words) later introduced into ____ (2) ____ (1 word)
Potato	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> believed to be first grown in the ____ (3) ____ (1 word) said to have been brought from ____ (4) ____ (1 word) to ____ (5) ____ (1 word) in 1621

Section 3 (5 x 1 mark)

Directions: For each of the following questions, circle the answer on your answer sheet that is closest in meaning to the underlined words found in the passage.

Example: explorers (line 7)

- people who spend their whole lives in one place
- people who travel through an unknown area to find out about it
- people who fight wars in order to gain a land
- people who prefers to be alone or who has no friends at all

e.g.	A	B	C	D
1	A	B	C	D
2	A	B	C	D

1. **cultivated** (line 10)

- grown and cared for by people
- burnt or destroyed by people
- eaten and sold by people
- transported from one place to another

2. **fodder** (line 13)

- a substance used to make tyres, boots etc
- food for farmers
- food for farm animals
- a substance used for growing crops

3. **nourishment** (line 20)

- a. type of food that is liked by a lot of people
- b. food that needs a lot of preparation time
- c. tasty food that can be easily prepared
- d. food needed to live, grow, and stay healthy

4. **emigrate** (line 35)

- a. leave your own country in order to live in another country
- b. leave all your belongings in one place
- c. leave a lot of your possessions in another country
- d. leave some of your family in a foreign country

5. **consumed** (line 38)

- a. cooked or prepared
- b. used or eaten
- c. discarded or thrown away
- d. bought or sold

Section 4 (10 x 1 mark)

Directions: For each of the following questions, circle the answer on your answer sheet that is closest in meaning to the underlined words in each sentence.

Example: Government advertising was everywhere but business ads were **non-existent**.

- a. all in one place
- b. nowhere
- c. a small amount
- d. not important

e.g.	A	B	C	D
1	A	B	C	D
2	A	B	C	D

1. I sat in the car and **cursed** the heavy traffic.

- a. say/think good things about someone/ something because they have made you happy
- b. say/think rude things to someone/something because you don't like them
- c. say/think bad things about someone/ something because they have made you angry
- d. say/think nice things to someone/ something because you like them

2. The mother fainted when she saw the **lifeless** body of her son floating in the pool.

- a. dead or appearing to be dead
- b. alive or appearing to be alive
- c. swimming or floating on water
- d. diving under water

3. Amna was **reluctant** to talk about the accident

- a. unwilling
- b. happy
- c. angry
- d. eager

4. The Qatari Minister of Education met with his Bahraini **counterpart** last week.
- someone that has a different job in the same place
 - someone that has the same job in a different place
 - someone that has applied to work in the same office or company
 - someone that works for in the same office or company
5. David Beckham is a **renowned** for both his skill as a soccer player and his good looks.
- hated and scolded
 - hired by a team or company
 - famous and admired
 - fired from a job or position
6. The day we flew to Sydney, the situation at the airport was completely **chaotic**.
- happy and enjoyable
 - calm and quiet
 - sad and depressing
 - confused and disorderly
7. Her engagement ring had a **flawless** diamond surrounded by five small rubies
- big and sparkling
 - without any marks or mistakes
 - genuine
 - fake
8. Be careful with that vase, it is very **fragile**.
- already broken or damaged
 - can easily cause someone harm
 - difficult to break or damage
 - can be easily broken or damaged
9. Zahra is an intelligent girl, but she is unable to get good grades because of her frequent **lapses** in concentration.
- long periods of time during which you fail to do something well or properly
 - short periods of time during which you fail to do something well or properly
 - short periods of time during which you are able to do something well or properly
 - long periods of time during which you are able to do something well or properly
10. When the **ferocious** lion roared loudly, the hunter dropped his gun and ran.
- calm, happy and playful
 - rude, loud and restless
 - violent, dangerous and frightening
 - quiet, gentle and lovable

Download Quiz 2 Answer Key to check your answers 😊