

1. Zimbabwean tea

Talk about these questions.

- Do you like tea? Why? / Why not?
- Can you guess what the woman in the picture is doing?

Read the text and answer the questions.



Many people enjoy drinking tea, and some people drink several cups of it every day. Zimbabwe produces excellent tea. Much of it is drunk in Zimbabwe, but more than 10,000 tonnes is sold every year to other countries. We all know what tea looks like in the cup, but where does it come from? Firstly, the best tea comes from places which are high and have a lot of rain. Zimbabwe has plenty of this type of land.

The tea plant is a bush, but not all the leaves make good tea. Tea pickers pick just the new leaves from the top of the bush. Almost all tea picking is done by hand, because machines aren't good at choosing the best leaves. This means a lot of tea pickers are needed.

As soon as the tea has been harvested, it must be dried. There are two main types of tea. Green tea is dried for a shorter time, and has a milder flavour.

Black tea has been dried for longer, and this gives it a stronger flavour. Green tea is usually drunk without milk. Black tea can be drunk with or without milk, and some people put sugar in it too.

Choose the correct words to complete the sentence.

1. Zimbabwe...
 - a. needs more tea.
 - b. sells tea to other countries.
 - c. is not a good place to grow tea.
 - d. buys a lot of tea from other countries.
2. The best land for growing tea...
 - a. is hot and dry.
 - b. is cool and dry.
 - c. has plenty of rain.
 - d. has plenty of open space.
3. Tea pickers take leaves from...
 - a. all of the bush.
 - b. just the top of the bush.
 - c. different parts of the bush.
 - d. only the youngest bushes.
4. Most tea is picked by hand because...
 - a. machines can't do it well.
 - b. machines are too expensive.
 - c. a lot of people need the work.
 - d. it is traditional to pick the tea by hand.
5. As soon as it has been picked, the tea is...
 - a. mixed with water.
 - b. put into packets.
 - c. drunk with milk and sometimes sugar.
 - d. dried.
6. Black tea...
 - a. tastes better than green tea.
 - b. has been dried for less time than green tea.
 - c. has a stronger taste than green tea.
 - d. is more expensive than green tea.

