

Spelling Test

Do not turn over this page until your teacher tells you to.

The Silk Trade

Silk is a fabric which _____ consider to be a _____ material. It is incredibly soft and _____ to touch and is used to make expensive _____ of clothing. The Chinese first made silk in approximately 3000 BC.

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When silk was first _____ it was reserved for the _____ use of the Emperor of China. Only his close relatives and the highest dignitaries were given _____ to wear silk. Gradually, silk came into more general use and _____ men and women began to wear it as well.

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It may seem _____, but silk was also put to industrial use by the Chinese. It was used to make parts of musical instruments, fishing lines and even an _____ kind of paper, called rag paper.

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Silk became _____, desired by other countries and was used as a _____ to trade with. From India to Italy, the exchange of silk for other goods, such as pomegranates and grapevines, was _____.

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For centuries _____ travelled the route known as 'The Silk Road'. It linked the East to the West, and gave the _____ for the trading of a variety of goods and ideas.

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Silk production in the world has doubled _____ the last thirty years, _____ silk being replaced by artificial _____ for some uses. China _____ one of the principal exporters of silk, and with Japan is _____ for over half of the silk that is manufactured in the world today.

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Total

Spelling mark