

COMPREHENSION

What is artificial silk?

Pure silk is produced by special caterpillars or silkworms as they are called, which feed on mulberry leaves. When the caterpillar is ready to change into a moth, it makes a cocoon by weaving coarse silk round sticks, twigs or bits of leaves.

Once the cocoon is completed, the caterpillar proceeds to line the inside by emitting a finer fluid from two spinnerets.

This fluid turns into pure silk when contact is made with air. The silk can two to three hundred metres long and is unwound by the silk farmer to be washed, dyed and woven into cloth. The gathering and handling of this silk makes it expensive.

In 1883, the English inventor and chemist Sir Joseph Swan was the first to patent artificial silk that could be made in a factory. He invented a machine that squirted an emulsion of cellulose nitrate in acetic acid through minute holes into alcohol. The alcohol coagulated the emulsion into a thread.

The new filament was lustrous and reasonably strong, and Swan succeeded in making it fine enough to be twisted into threads. So now manufacturers of garments can choose whether they buy the real silk made from caterpillars or a similar product, but not quite as delicate, from manufacturers of artificial silk.

1. Is a cocoon often made around bits of tree or plant? _____
2. From what parts of the caterpillar is thread ejected?

3. Which word tells us that the process of collecting silk was not cheap?

4. Was artificial silk first made by an Australian? _____
5. Is artificial silk as fragile in texture as natural silk? _____
6. Which word means 'a suspension of one liquid in another'?

7. Which word means the same as 'goes ahead'?

8. Which means the same as 'rough'?

9. Which word means the same as 'bright and shiny'?

10. Circle the synonym of the word 'emitting' from the words below
exhaling discharging breathing ventilating

Year 8 Homework Sheet for Week 8

Name: _____

Critical Reading

Includes – Novels, non-fiction books, magazines, newspapers and as negotiated with teacher

Book: _____

Author: _____

In your own words, summarise your reading for this week.

Spelling		
a	b	c
cereal	substance	disclosure
bread	assertive	maintaining
balance	tobacco	relationships
calcium	illicit	accessibility
serving	paranoia	Schizophrenia
selection	financial	resilience
choice	education	embarrassment
fruit	negative	counselling
change	abandoning	stereotypes
safety	strategies	nutritious

Nouns

Write the noun for the name of the person who:

- cares for the sick
- cares for people's teeth
- searches for new lands/countries
- sells fruit and vegetables

Common Curriculum Elements

CCE Number 8 is **Using correct spelling, punctuation, grammar**. You use this CCE in nearly everything that you write! This week, you need to find the incorrectly spelt word in each of the sentences below. Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

- He won a prize at a performing arts feistival for singing.
- I will definately be at the party.
- There are great advanzes in technology.
- They sat at seperate tables.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Who is the target audience? How can you tell?

Would you recommend this reading to your friends?

Why/why not?

Parent Comment & Signature:

Teacher Comment & Signature: