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Level 6

New TomTato plant grows potatoes and tomatoes

1st October, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

A horticultural company in the U.K. is marketing a revolutionary new plant that grows both tomatoes and potatoes. It is called the TomTato and yields up to 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes and a healthy crop of white potatoes. Britain's Daily Mail newspaper joked you can now get ketchup and fries from the same plant. The company, Thompson and Morgan, began research into the possibility of grafting together tomato and potato plants over 15 years ago. Paul Hansord, horticultural director at the company, said the great thing about the plant is that it is not genetically modified in any way. He said he knew it was possible to graft the two plants together because they belong to the same plant species.

Mr Hansord explained how the commercial concept developed. He said: "At the start, we thought it'd just be a novelty thing to do. But as the trials developed, we realised what we had produced was really high yield, had fantastic flavour and could be done commercially for the first time. The TomTato is being dubbed as "veg plot in a pot". Hansord said it can be grown inside or outside, in a large flower pot or in a bag. It is selling at around \$25 on the company's website. Britain's Telegraph newspaper said: "'Double-crop' plants like the TomTato could be extremely useful in the future, as they help populations grow more food in smaller spaces."

Sources: <http://www.thompson-morgan.com/vegetables/vegetable-plants/all-vegetable-plants/tomtato/t47176TM>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2432094/TomTato-plant-produces-potatoes-tomatoes-sale-UK.html#ixzz2gK2vh3PG>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/gardening/howtogrow/fruitandvegetables/10332908/TomTato-mutant-plant-that-grows-tomatoes-and-potatoes-unleashed.html>

WARM-UPS

1. TOMTATOES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about TomTatoes. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

horticultural / marketing / revolutionary / tomatoes / potatoes / genetically-modified / commercial / novelty / high yield / flavour / flower pot / double-crop plants / useful

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. DOUBLE-CROP: You are the marketing manager of a company that produce these double-crop plants? Complete this table with your manager partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Grafting of...	Plant name	Benefits
Strawberry and melon		
Rice and chili pepper		
Coconut and pineapple		
Cocoa and grape		
Sugar cane and onion		
Wheat and garlic		

4. GRAFTING: Students A **strongly** believe it is no problem to graft different plants together to create new plants; Students B **strongly** believe it's a big problem. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. PRODUCE: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the most useful produce at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- rice
- potatoes
- garlic
- coconuts
- onions
- tea
- wheat
- apples

6. PLANT: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "plant". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. A pharmaceutical company produced the new TomTato plant. | T / F |
| b. The TomTato plant can produce up to 500 tomatoes. | T / F |
| c. The TomTato company has been researching this concept for 50 years. | T / F |
| d. The tomato and potato belong to different species of plant. | T / F |
| e. The project started out as a serious piece of research. | T / F |
| f. The company slowly realised they could make money from TomTatoes. | T / F |
| g. One TomTato plant will cost around \$25. | T / F |
| h. A paper suggested TomTatoes could be one solution to food crises. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. horticultural | a. nicknamed |
| 2. marketing | b. joining |
| 3. crop | c. cultivate |
| 4. grafting | d. gardening |
| 5. in any way | e. notion |
| 6. concept | f. harvest |
| 7. yield | g. exceedingly |
| 8. dubbed | h. advertising |
| 9. extremely | i. return |
| 10. grow | j. at all |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. marketing a | a. tomato and potato plants |
| 2. a healthy crop | b. like the TomTato |
| 3. the possibility of grafting together | c. same plant species |
| 4. genetically | d. concept developed |
| 5. they belong to the | e. of white potatoes |
| 6. how the commercial | f. yield |
| 7. a novelty | g. revolutionary new plant |
| 8. high | h. "veg plot in a pot" |
| 9. being dubbed as | i. modified |
| 10. Double-crop plants | j. thing |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

A horticultural company in the U.K. is (1) _____ a revolutionary new plant that grows both tomatoes and potatoes. It is called the TomTato and (2) _____ up to 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes and a healthy (3) _____ of white potatoes. Britain's Daily Mail newspaper (4) _____ you can now get ketchup and fries from the same plant. The company, Thompson and Morgan, began research into the possibility of (5) _____ together tomato and potato plants over 15 years ago. Paul Hansord, horticultural director at the company, said the great thing about the plant is that it is not (6) _____ modified in any way. He said he knew it was possible to graft the two plants together because they (7) _____ to the same plant (8) _____.

grafting
crop
species
genetically
marketing
belong
yields
joked

Mr Hansord explained how the commercial (9) _____ developed. He said: "At the start, we thought it'd just be a (10) _____ thing to do. But as the trials developed, we realised what we had produced was really high (11) _____, had fantastic flavour and could be done (12) _____ for the first time. The TomTato is being (13) _____ as "veg (14) _____ in a pot". Hansord said it can be grown inside or outside, in a large flower (15) _____ or in a bag. It is selling at around \$25 on the company's website. Britain's Telegraph newspaper said: "'Double-crop' plants like the TomTato could be (16) _____ useful in the future, as they help populations grow more food in smaller spaces."

commercially
extremely
yield
concept
plot
pot
novelty
dubbed

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

- 1) _____ company in the U.K. is marketing a revolutionary new plant
 - a. A horticultural
 - b. A horticulture
 - c. A forty-cultural
 - d. A haughty cultural
- 2) It is called the TomTato and _____ 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes
 - a. fields up to
 - b. wiends up to
 - c. yields up to
 - d. welds up to
- 3) research into the possibility _____ together tomato and potato plants
 - a. of grafts
 - b. of grafting
 - c. of grafted
 - d. of graft
- 4) the great thing about the plant is that it is not _____
 - a. genetic-key modified
 - b. genetic limb odd fried
 - c. genetically modified
 - d. genetically modifiable
- 5) it was possible to graft the two plants together because they belong to the _____
 - a. same plant specials
 - b. same plant species
 - c. same plant specimens
 - d. same plant specifics
- 6) Mr Hansord explained how the commercial _____
 - a. concepts developed
 - b. conceptual developed
 - c. con sapped developed
 - d. concept developed
- 7) At the start, we thought it'd just be _____ to do
 - a. a novel tea thing
 - b. a novel tee thing
 - c. a novelty thing
 - d. a novelties thing
- 8) But _____ developed, we realised what we had produced was really high yield
 - a. as the trails
 - b. as the trial
 - c. as the trail
 - d. as the trials
- 9) The TomTato is _____ "veg plot in a pot"
 - a. being dabbed as
 - b. being dubbed as
 - c. being dibbed as
 - d. being drubbed as
- 10) 'Double-crop' plants like the TomTato could be _____ in the future
 - a. extremely useless
 - b. extremity useful
 - c. extremely usefulness
 - d. extremely useful

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

A horticultural company in the U.K. is (1) _____ new plant that grows both tomatoes and potatoes. It is called the TomTato and yields up to 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes and (2) _____ white potatoes. Britain's Daily Mail newspaper joked you can now get ketchup and (3) _____ plant. The company, Thompson and Morgan, began research into the possibility (4) _____ tomato and potato plants over 15 years ago. Paul Hansord, horticultural director at the company, said the great thing about the plant is that it is not genetically (5) _____. He said he knew it was possible to graft the two plants together because (6) _____ plant species.

Mr Hansord explained (7) _____ concept developed. He said: "At the start, we thought it'd just (8) _____ to do. But as the trials developed, we realised what we had produced was really high yield, had fantastic flavour and could (9) _____ for the first time. The TomTato is being (10) _____ plot in a pot". Hansord said it can be grown inside or outside, in a large flower pot or in a bag. It is selling at around \$25 on the company's website. Britain's Telegraph newspaper said: "(11) _____ like the TomTato could (12) _____ in the future, as they help populations grow more food in smaller spaces."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

1. What kind of company created the TomTato?

2. How many tomatoes can grow on one TomTato plant?

3. What did a British newspaper joke about?

4. How much research went into the TomTato?

5. What process is not part of creating the TomTato?

6. What did the company think when it started the TomTato project?

7. What did the company decide was fantastic about the TomTato?

8. What is the TomTato's slogan?

9. Where can you buy TomTatoes?

10. What term did the Telegraph use to describe the TomTato?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

1. What kind of company created the TomTato?
 - a) an agrinomical one
 - b) a horticultural one
 - c) a haute couture one
 - d) an agricultural one
2. How many tomatoes can grow on one TomTato plant?
 - a) 50
 - b) 15
 - c) 5,000
 - d) 500
3. What did a British newspaper joke about?
 - a) creating a French fires plant
 - b) squeezing ketchup from the plant
 - c) getting ketchup and fries from one plant
 - d) tomato-tasting cherries
4. How much research went into the TomTato?
 - a) 15 years
 - b) 16 years
 - c) 17 years
 - d) 18 years
5. What process is not part of creating the TomTato?
 - a) photosynthesis
 - b) genetic modification
 - c) any kind of grafting process
 - d) watering the plant
6. What did the company think when it started the TomTato project?
 - a) it was a novelty
 - b) it wanted to graft a tomato plant and cherry tree
 - c) it would make a billion dollars
 - d) it would have a fantastic taste
7. What did the company decide was fantastic about the TomTato?
 - a) the potatoes last for 3 years
 - b) the colour
 - c) the flavour
 - d) the TV commercials
8. What is the TomTato's slogan?
 - a) "Veg plot in a pot"
 - b) "Grow your own ketchup and fries"
 - c) "Ketchup and fries fresh from the garden"
 - d) "Veg pot in a plot"
9. Where can you buy TomTatoes?
 - a) in a supermarket
 - b) from a farm
 - c) on Amazon.com
 - d) from the company's website
10. What term did the Telegraph use to describe the TomTato?
 - a) a "double-plant" crop
 - b) a "crop-plant" double
 - c) a "double-crop" plant
 - d) a "plant-double" crop

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

Role A – Strawberry/melon

You think a strawberry/melon plant is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their plants. Also, tell the others which is the least attractive of these (and why): rice/chili pepper, sugar cane/onion or wheat/garlic.

Role B – Rice/chili pepper

You think a rice/chili pepper plant is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their plants. Also, tell the others which is the least attractive of these (and why): strawberry/melon, sugar cane/onion or wheat/garlic.

Role C – Sugar cane/onion

You think a sugar cane/onion plant is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their plants. Also, tell the others which is the least attractive of these (and why): rice/chili pepper, strawberry/melon or wheat/garlic.

Role D – Wheat/garlic

You think a wheat/garlic plant is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their plants. Also, tell the others which is the least attractive of these (and why): rice/chili pepper, sugar cane/onion or strawberry/melon.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'tomato' and 'potato'.

tomato	potato

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• both• 500• joked• 15• way• belong	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• start• trials• first• large• website• smaller
--	--

TOMTATOES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

Write five GOOD questions about TomTatoes in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

TOMTATOES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'plant'?
- c) What do you think of the idea of a TomTato plant?
- d) Is the TomTato plant a good or bad idea?
- e) What other combinations of plants would you like to see?
- f) Do you think the TomTato is the first of many hybrid plants?
- g) What do you think of the name TomTato?
- h) What's wrong with genetically modifying plants?
- i) Should the company graft a spinach plant to the TomTato to make a SpinTomTato?
- j) How interesting would it be to be part of the TomTato research?

New TomTato plant grows potatoes and tomatoes – 1st October, 2013
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TOMTATOES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Would you like a TomTato plant?
- c) Are there any dangers in creating things like a TomTato plant?
- d) Why do you think the company thought the TomTato was a novelty at the beginning?
- e) How successful do you think the TomTato will be?
- f) Would the TomTato sell well in your country? Why?
- g) What do you think of the "veg plot in a pot" slogan?
- h) What are the benefits of double-crop plants?
- i) Are double-crop plants the key to future food shortages?
- j) What questions would you like to ask the TomTato's creator?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

A (1) _____ company in the U.K. is marketing a revolutionary new plant that grows both tomatoes and potatoes. It is called the TomTato and (2) _____ up to 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes and a healthy (3) _____ of white potatoes. Britain's Daily Mail newspaper joked you can now get ketchup and fries from the same plant. The company, Thompson and Morgan, began research (4) _____ the possibility of grafting together tomato and potato plants over 15 years ago. Paul Hansord, horticultural director at the company, said the great thing about the plant is that it is not genetically modified in any (5) _____. He said he knew it was possible to graft the two plants together because they belong to the same plant (6) _____.

Mr Hansord explained how the commercial concept developed. He said: "At the start, we thought it'd just be a novelty thing to do. But as the (7) _____ developed, we realised what we had produced was really (8) _____ yield, had fantastic flavour and could be done commercially for the first time. The TomTato is being (9) _____ as "veg plot in a pot". Hansord said it can be (10) _____ inside or outside, in a large flower pot or in a bag. It is selling at around \$25 on the company's website. Britain's Telegraph newspaper said: "'Double-crop' plants (11) _____ the TomTato could be extremely useful in the future, (12) _____ they help populations grow more food in smaller spaces."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | (a) haute couture | (b) hot cultural | (c) horticultural | (d) high-cultural |
| 2. | (a) yields | (b) wiolds | (c) fields | (d) shields |
| 3. | (a) clap | (b) crop | (c) crap | (d) clop |
| 4. | (a) from | (b) of | (c) by | (d) into |
| 5. | (a) weigh | (b) weight | (c) way | (d) weighs |
| 6. | (a) specials | (b) species | (c) specimens | (d) specifics |
| 7. | (a) trials | (b) trolls | (c) trails | (d) toils |
| 8. | (a) weighty | (b) large | (c) big | (d) high |
| 9. | (a) daubed | (b) drubbed | (c) dubbed | (d) dabbled |
| 10. | (a) grower | (b) grew | (c) growth | (d) grown |
| 11. | (a) akin | (b) like | (c) similar | (d) resemble |
| 12. | (a) as | (b) is | (c) was | (d) has |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

Paragraph 1

1. A aucoulrrthitl company in the U.K.
2. a lnootvyeiuar new plant
3. leisdy up to 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes
4. tgfginra together tomato and potato plants
5. it is not genetically fomddiie in any way
6. they belong to the same plant sseiepc

Paragraph 2

7. how the lermoamcci concept developed
8. it'd just be a ntlveoy thing to do
9. we silraeed (UK) / elierzad (USA) what we had produced
10. fantastic rvfaolu (UK) / rlaovf (USA)
11. The TomTato is being uebbdd as "veg plot in a pot"
12. ymxeeltre useful

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () of grafting together tomato and potato plants over 15 years ago. Paul Hansord, horticultural director
- () in any way. He said he knew it was possible to graft the two plants together because they belong to the same plant species.
- () or in a bag. It is selling at around \$25 on the company's website. Britain's Telegraph
- () crop of white potatoes. Britain's Daily Mail newspaper joked you can now get ketchup and fries
- () newspaper said: "'Double-crop' plants like the TomTato could be extremely
- () useful in the future, as they help populations grow more food in smaller spaces."
- () Mr Hansord explained how the commercial concept developed. He said: "At the start, we thought it'd just
- () as "veg plot in a pot". Hansord said it can be grown inside or outside, in a large flower pot
- () be a novelty thing to do. But as the trials developed, we realised what we had produced was really high
- () at the company, said the great thing about the plant is that it is not genetically modified
- () yield, had fantastic flavour and could be done commercially for the first time. The TomTato is being dubbed
- () from the same plant. The company, Thompson and Morgan, began research into the possibility
- (**1**) A horticultural company in the U.K. is marketing a revolutionary new plant that grows both
- () tomatoes and potatoes. It is called the TomTato and yields up to 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes and a healthy

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

1. Marketing that a grows revolutionary both new plant.

2. 500 cherry . sweet - tomatoes , sized to up Yields

3. from fries and ketchup get now can You plant same the.

4. in is any not way genetically modified It.

5. was it knew He together plants two the graft to possible.

6. just we the thing be thought start a it'd , At novelty.

7. we high had yield produced was What really.

8. dubbed TomTato pot plot" as is . in being The a "veg

9. like extremely the useful TomTato could Plants be.

10. grow spaces more food Help in populations smaller.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

A *horticultural / haute couture* company in the U.K. is marketing a *revolutionary / revolutionise* new plant that grows *all / both* tomatoes and potatoes. It is called the TomTato and yields *up / along* to 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes and a healthy crop of white potatoes. Britain's Daily Mail newspaper *joking / joked* you can now get ketchup and fries from the same plant. The company, Thompson and Morgan, began research *onto / into* the possibility of grafting *combined / together* tomato and potato plants over 15 years ago. Paul Hansord, horticultural director at the company, said the great thing about the *plant / planet* is that it is not genetically modified in any way. He said he knew it was *possibility / possible* to graft the two plants together because they belong to the same plant *specifics / species*.

Mr Hansord explained how the *commercial / commercialised* concept developed. He said: "At the *starting / start*, we thought it'd just be a *novelty / novel* thing to do. But as the trials developed, we realised what we had produced was really *high / height* yield, had fantastic flavour and could be *done / doing* commercially for the first time. The TomTato is being *daubed / dubbed* as "veg plot in a pot". Hansord said it can be grown inside or outside, in a large flower pot or in a *bog / bag*. It is *selling / sale* at around \$25 on the company's website. Britain's Telegraph newspaper said: "'Double-crop' plants *similar / like* the TomTato could be extremely useful in the future, as they help *populations / populace* grow more food in smaller spaces."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

_ h_r_t_c_l_t_r_l_c_m_p_n_y _ n _ th_ _ .K. _ s _ m_r_k_t_n_g _
r_v_l_t_ _ n_r_y n_w_p_l_n_t _ th_ t_ g_r_w_s b_ th_ t_ m_ t_ _ s _ n_d
p_t_t_ _ s. _ t_ _ s _ c_l_l_d _ th_ T_mT_t_ _ n_d y_ _ lds _ p_t_ _
500 sw_ _ t, ch_rry-s_z_d t_m_t_ _ s _ n_d _ h_ _ lthy cr_p
_ f_w_h_t_ _ p_t_t_ _ s. Br_t_ _ n's D_ _ ly M_ _ l n_wsp_p_r
j_k_d y_ _ c_n n_w_g_t k_tch_p _ n_d fr_ _ s fr_m th_ _
s_m_ _ pl_nt. Th_ _ c_m_p_n_y, Th_mps_n _ n_d M_rg_n,
b_g_n r_s_ _ rch _ n_t _ th_ p_ss_b_l_t_y _ f_ gr_ft_n_g
t_g_th_r t_m_t_ _ n_d p_t_t_ _ pl_n_t_s _ v_r 15 y_ _ rs _ g_ .
P_ _ l H_ns_r_d, h_r_t_c_l_t_r_l d_r_c_t_r _ t th_ _ c_m_p_n_y,
s_ _ d th_ gr_ _ t th_n_g _ b_ _ t th_ pl_n_t _ s th_ t_ t_ s n_t
g_n_t_c_lly m_d_f_ _ d _ n _ ny w_y. H_ s_ _ d h_ kn_w _ t
w_s p_ss_b_l_ t_ gr_ft th_ tw_ pl_n_t_s t_g_th_r b_c_ _ s_ _
th_y b_l_n_g t_ th_ s_m_ _ pl_n_t sp_c_ _ s.

Mr H_ns_r_d _ xpl_ _ n_d h_w th_ _ c_m_m_r_c_ _ l c_n_c_p_t
d_v_l_p_d. H_ s_ _ d: " _ t th_ st_r_t, w_ th_ _ ght _ t'd j_st
b_ _ n_v_lty th_n_g t_ d_ . B_t _ s th_ tr_ _ ls d_v_l_p_d,
w_ r_ _ l_s_d wh_t w_ h_d pr_d_c_d w_s r_ _ lly h_ gh
y_ _ ld, h_d f_n_t_st_c fl_v_ _ r _ n_d c_ _ ld b_ _ d_n_ _
c_m_m_r_c_ _ lly f_r th_ f_rst t_m_ . Th_ T_mT_t_ _ s
b_ _ n_g d_bb_d _ s "v_g pl_t _ n _ p_t". H_ns_r_d s_ _ d _ t
c_n b_ gr_wn _ ns_d_ _ r_ _ ts_d_ , _ n _ l_rg_ fl_w_r p_t
_ r _ n _ b_g. _ t _ s s_l_l_n_g _ t _ r_ _ n_d \$25 _ n th_ _
c_m_p_n_y's w_b_s_t_ . Br_t_ _ n's T_l_g_r_p_h n_wsp_p_r
s_ _ d: "'D_ _ bl_ -cr_p' pl_n_t_s l_k_ th_ T_mT_t_ _ c_ _ ld b_ _
_ xtr_m_ly _ s_f_l _ n th_ f_t_r_ , _ s th_y h_lp
p_p_l_t_ _ ns gr_w m_r_ f_ _ d _ n sm_ll_r sp_c_ _ s."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

a horticultural company in the uk is marketing a revolutionary new plant that grows both tomatoes and potatoes it is called the tomtato and yields up to 500 sweet cherry-sized tomatoes and a healthy crop of white potatoes britain's daily mail newspaper joked you can now get ketchup and fries from the same plant the company thompson and morgan began research into the possibility of grafting together tomato and potato plants over 15 years ago paul hansord horticultural director at the company said the great thing about the plant is that it is not genetically modified in any way he said he knew it was possible to graft the two plants together because they belong to the same plant species

mr hansord explained how the commercial concept developed he said "at the start we thought it'd just be a novelty thing to do but as the trials developed we realised what we had produced was really high yield had fantastic flavour and could be done commercially for the first time the tomtato is being dubbed as "veg plot in a pot" hansord said it can be grown inside or outside in a large flower pot or in a bag it is selling at around \$25 on the company's website britain's telegraph newspaper said "'double-crop' plants like the tomtato could be extremely useful in the future as they help populations grow more food in smaller spaces"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato.html>

A horticultural company in the U.K. is marketing a revolutionary new plant that grows both tomatoes and potatoes. It is called the TomTato and yields up to 500 sweet, cherry-sized tomatoes and a healthy crop of white potatoes. Britain's Daily Mail newspaper joked you can now get ketchup and fries from the same plant. The company, Thompson and Morgan, began research into the possibility of grafting together tomato and potato plants over 15 years ago. Paul Hansord, horticultural director at the company, said the great thing about the plant is that it is not genetically modified in any way. He said he knew it was possible to graft the two plants together because they belong to the same plant species. Mr Hansord explained how the commercial concept developed. He said: "At the start, we thought it'd just be a novelty thing to do. But as the trials developed, we realised what we had produced was really high yield, had fantastic flavour and could be done commercially for the first time. The TomTato is being dubbed as "veg plot in a pot". Hansord said it can be grown inside or outside, in a large flower pot or in a bag. It is selling at around \$25 on the company's website. Britain's Telegraph newspaper said: "'Double-crop' plants like the TomTato could be extremely useful in the future, as they help populations grow more food in smaller spaces."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about TomTatoes. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. TOMTATOES: Make a poster about TomTatoes and how they could help (or not) the world. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. DOUBLE-CROP: Write a magazine article about double-crop plants like the TomTato. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against them.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to a horticultural expert. Ask him/her three questions about TomTatoes. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b T c F d F e F f T g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. horticultural | a. gardening |
| 2. marketing | b. advertising |
| 3. crop | c. harvest |
| 4. grafting | d. joining |
| 5. in any way | e. at all |
| 6. concept | f. notion |
| 7. yield | g. return |
| 8. dubbed | h. nicknamed |
| 9. extremely | i. exceedingly |
| 10. grow | j. cultivate |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A horticultural one
2. (Up to) 500
3. You can get ketchup and fries from one plant
4. 15 years
5. Genetic modification
6. It was just a novelty
7. Its flavour
8. Veg plot in a pot
9. From the company's website
10. A "double-crop" plant

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. d 10. c

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)