

Wednesday 14th April 2021

LO: To summarise the key information



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Re-read the text.

When you are done, cover the text and re-tell the events to your partner (take it in turns)



Now, we are going to summarise the text in our own words.

I
Do

How can we tell which information is important?

An extraordinary endeavour to bridge East and West, this snaking trade route also became a conduit of culture, religion and ideas.

What was the Silk Road?

The Silk Road was a trading route – or network of trading routes – that connected China with the West in ancient times. The name 'Silk Road' was only coined in the 19th century, but originated around the second century BC.



How did the Silk Road come into being?

In 138 BC the Chinese emperor dispatched an envoy called Zhang Qian to make contact with a tribal group in central Asia. When Zhang arrived, he was captured and kept as a prisoner for several years, but was eventually freed and returned to China where he told, among other things, of the magnificent Arabian horses he had encountered.

The Chinese authorities were keen to acquire these horses and so began a process of long-distance trade with central Asia. Meanwhile, from the west, central

The Silk road was a network of trading routes which connected ancient China with the West. It was first created in 138 BC when Zhang Qian was captured in Asia. On his return to China he told of Arabian horses. China started trading to acquire these.

Now, we are going to summarise the text in our own words.

How can we tell which information is important?

with central Asia. Meanwhile, from the west, central Asia had come into contact with European civilisations, initially through the conquests of Alexander the Great who reached as far as India in the fourth century BC.



Later on, it was the growing Roman Empire that was coming to dominate the region and so the emerging Silk Road acted as a bridge between the East and the West, through central Asia and the Middle East.

Why is it called the Silk Road?

It's because silk was one of the key goods traded along the route. The Chinese had learned how to manufacture this luxurious material from silkworms perhaps as early as the third millennium BC and, for a long time, they were the only people who could produce it. It was highly prized by other civilisations – especially Ancient Rome – and so it became one of China's main exports and the currency by which they often paid for the goods that they required.

The name Silk Road is a little misleading, though, because silk was only one of a large number of different items that were traded on the network, which also included textiles, precious metals, spices and furs.

We
Do

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You
Do

Summarise the rest of the text.

Think about:

- The key information.
- Make your words/phrases clear.
- Not copying straight from the text.

