

**CAREER
PATHS**

Agriculture

Neil O'Sullivan
James D. Libbin



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Tel.: (0044) 1635 817 363

Fax: (0044) 1635 817 463

e-mail: inquiries@expresspublishing.co.uk

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Scope and sequence

Unit	Topic	Reading context	Vocabulary	Function
1	History of agriculture	Textbook Passage	agriculture, produce, plant, crop, harvest, farm, irrigation, cultivate, water supply, domesticate	Asking questions politely
2	Plant products	Flyer	fruit, vegetable, harvest, tuber, melon, grain, industrial crop, legume, cereal, farmer's market	Asking about prices
3	Animal products	Magazine Article	meat, milk, protein, wool, leather, by-product, fats, bone, hooves, render, tallow	Getting someone's attention
4	Soil	Column	soil, soil structure, aeration, soil texture, sand, silt, clay, loam, humus, parent material, dense	Giving advice
5	Water	Newspaper Article	water cycle, drought, irrigate, ditch, rainfall, arid, groundwater, rain-fed, drought-resistant	Making suggestions
6	Seeds	Seed Catalog	seed, bulk, dormancy, hard coat, germinate, seedling, sow, seed vigor, hybrid, days to maturity, sowing method	Asking for repetition
7	Plant growth	Magazine Article	Quinoa, photosynthesis, roots, growth chart, bud, flower, leaf, branch, seedhead, stalk	Talking about future events
8	Harvest	Harvest Report	reap, mature, yield, threshing, chaff, ton, harvest, bale, bushel, package type	Giving compliments
9	Storage	Email	storage, cool, mold, leveling, aeration, moisture, dry, tower silo, bunker silo, silage bag	Describing a place
10	Feed and nutrients	Job Posting	ration, nutrient, feed, carbohydrate, fat, protein, mineral, vitamin, animal nutritionist	Introductions
11	Housing animals	Blog Post	barn, comfort zone, critical temperature, heat stress, cold stress, space requirements, waste management, slotted floor, pen, coop	Agreeing with an opinion
12	Breeding	Advertisement	breeding, heritability, breeding value, trait selection, feed efficiency, rate of gain, expected progeny difference, sire summary, pedigree	Requesting more information
13	Slaughter and processing	Website	slaughter, process, butcher, head, inspect, kill fee, offal, hide, cut, humane	Clarifying information
14	Cultivation and planting equipment	Classified Ads	rototiller, cultivator, cultipacker, chisel plow, harrow, tractor, stone picker, broadcast seeder, seed drill, planter, transplanter	Asking for someone on the telephone
15	Harvest equipment	Website	chaser bin, combine harvester, conveyor belt, forage harvester, gleaner, gravity wagon, hay conditioner, grain auger, baler, bale wrapper	Stating a goal

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Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- When did farming first begin in your country?
- What did farmers first grow in your country?

Chapter 1 The Development of Agriculture

Agriculture began in the area known as the Fertile Crescent. The area is a hot, dry desert. But it has two of the requirements for **farming**: good soil and a **water supply**.

Many early farmers used the Nile River as a water supply. The Nile River floods at the same time every year. Farmers **planted crops** before the floods. This helped their plants to survive in the desert. Later, farmers created **irrigation ditches**. They moved water from the Nile River to their fields. They could **cultivate** crops any time of the year and **harvest** extra food.

Producing extra food was important. Later, farmers fed animals with it. These **domesticated** animals became another important part of agriculture.



Reading

2 Read the textbook passage. Then, mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

- ___ Crops cannot grow in deserts.
- ___ The Nile River floods every year.
- ___ Farmers raised animals before plants.

Vocabulary

3 Match the words (1-6) with the definitions (A-F).

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 ___ agriculture | 4 ___ produce |
| 2 ___ crop | 5 ___ domesticate |
| 3 ___ cultivate | 6 ___ plant |

- A a large group of cultivated plants
 B to put seeds in soil
 C growing plants and raising animals
 D to make something
 E to raise a crop from seeding to harvest
 F to tame an animal

4 Read the sentence pair. Choose where the words best fit the blanks.

1 water supply / irrigation

- A The river is the farmer's _____.
 B _____ helps farmers grow crops in areas with little rainfall.

2 harvesting / farming

- A _____ includes raising animals and crops.
 B Farmers wait until crops are mature to start _____.

5 Listen and read the text book passage again. Then, say three things you have learnt from the text.



Listening

6 Listen to a conversation between a student and teacher in a history class. Choose the correct answers.

1 What is the conversation mainly about?

- A a way to predict floods
- B an early irrigation method
- C the number of early farmers
- D the most common early crops

2 How did farmers control water?

- A They put gates in ditches.
- B They filled ditches with dirt.
- C They carried water in buckets.
- D They planted far from the river.

7 Listen again and complete the conversation.

Student: 1 _____, Mrs. Anderson.
I have a question about the first farmers.

Teacher: Great. What is it?

Student: Well, they were in a desert. How did they irrigate their 2 _____?

Teacher: Oh, with 3 _____. They connected their fields and the Nile River.

Student: Okay. So, 4 _____ moved through the ditches to the fields.

Teacher: Exactly.

Student: Then, I have another question. How did they 5 _____ the water?

Teacher: The ditches had 6 _____. They opened and water flowed through.

Speaking

8 With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then, switch roles.

USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:

Excuse me.

How did early farmers ...

They connected ...

Student A: You are a student learning about early agriculture. Ask Student B about:

- water supply
- watering fields
- controlling water

Student B: You are a History teacher. Answer Student A's questions.

Writing

9 Use the conversation from Task 8 to fill out the student's notes.

Name:	_____	Date:	_____
Class:	_____		
Subject:	_____		
Farmers got water from _____			

Water came to the fields in _____			

They controlled water by _____			
