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## **Level 4**

### **New TomTato plant grows potatoes and tomatoes**

**1st October, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato-4.html>

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**Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato-4.html>

A gardening company is selling a revolutionary new plant that grows up to 500 tomatoes plus a crop of potatoes. It is called the TomTato. A newspaper joked you can now get ketchup and fries from the same plant. The company began its research 15 years ago. Its horticultural director said the great thing is that it is not genetically modified. He said he knew it was possible to join the plants together because they are from the same species.

The director explained how the idea grew. He thought at first that it would just be a "novelty thing" but soon understood the plant could produce hundreds of tasty tomatoes. He then knew it could make money. The TomTato is called the "veg plot in a pot" and costs \$25. It can grow inside or outside, in a flower pot or in a bag. Double-crop plants like the TomTato will be useful in the future as people 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>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. gardening             | a. from the same plant |
| 2. a crop                | b. together            |
| 3. get ketchup and fries | c. modified            |
| 4. it is not genetically | d. the same species    |
| 5. join the plants       | e. company             |
| 6. they are from         | f. of potatoes         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. how the idea               | a. thing                   |
| 2. it would just be a novelty | b. plants like the TomTato |
| 3. produce hundreds           | c. in smaller spaces       |
| 4. could make                 | d. grew                    |
| 5. double-crop                | e. of tasty tomatoes       |
| 6. people grow more food      | f. money                   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato-4.html>

A gardening company is selling (1) \_\_\_\_\_ plant that grows up to 500 tomatoes (2) \_\_\_\_\_ potatoes. It is called the TomTato. A newspaper (3) \_\_\_\_\_ get ketchup and fries from the same plant. The company (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 15 years ago. Its horticultural director said (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that it is not genetically modified. He said he knew it was possible to join the plants together because (6) \_\_\_\_\_ same species.

The director explained (7) \_\_\_\_\_. He thought at first that it would just (8) \_\_\_\_\_ but soon understood the plant could produce (9) \_\_\_\_\_ tomatoes. He then knew it could make money. The TomTato is called the "(10) \_\_\_\_\_" and costs \$25. It (11) \_\_\_\_\_ outside, in a flower pot or in a bag.

Double-crop plants like the TomTato will (12) \_\_\_\_\_ future as people grow more food in smaller spaces.

# TOMTATOES SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1310/131001-tomtato-4.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.

# WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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# WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

