Spelling Test
*The Silk Trade*
Teacher’s version
Silk is a fabric which _______people_______ consider to be a ______luxury_______ material. It is incredibly soft and ______delicate_______ to touch and is used to make expensive ______articles_______ of clothing. The Chinese first made silk in approximately 3000 BC.

When silk was first ______discovered_______ it was reserved for the ______exclusive_______ use of the Emperor of China. Only his close relatives and the highest dignitaries were given ______permission_______ to wear silk. Gradually, silk came into more general use and ______ordinary_______ men and women began to wear it as well.

It may seem ______amazing_______, but silk was also put to industrial use by the Chinese. It was used to make parts of musical instruments, fishing lines and even an ______unusual_______ kind of paper, called rag paper.
Silk became ______precious______, desired by other countries and was used as a ______currency______ to trade with. From India to Italy, the exchange of silk for other goods, such as pomegranates and grapevines, was ______common______.

For centuries ______individuals______ travelled the route known as ‘The Silk Road’. It linked the East to the West, and gave the ______opportunity______ for the trading of a variety of goods and ideas.

Silk production in the world has doubled ______during______ the last thirty years, ______despite______ silk being replaced by artificial ______fibres______ for some uses. China ______remains______ one of the principal exporters of silk, and with Japan is ______responsible______ for over half of the silk that is manufactured in the world today.