BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Take Away English 随身英语

Coffee under threat

咖啡种植业面临威胁



• 請注意: 中文文字内容只提供簡體版

Vocabulary: coffee 词汇: 咖啡

Do you like drinking coffee? I certainly do. In fact you could say I'm an **addict** because I have to drink a cup every morning to **kick-start** my day and get my brain working! Latte, cappuccino, espresso – you name it, I'll drink it. And I'm not alone – it seems like everyone has a coffee cup glued to their hands as they rush to the office. So how would we survive if there was a **coffee drought**?

Well, experts are warning that our favourite caffeine shot could really be under threat. Our love for coffee could mean that demand **outstrips** supply. This, of course, could **hit us in the pocket** but there's even worse news – we could face poorer-tasting coffee. This is the view of scientists at London's Kew Gardens who are blaming **global warming** for this possible hot **beverage** crisis.

Demand for coffee has certainly increased as people have become more **affluent**. **Consumption** has doubled in the last 35 years. Last year 9.5 billion kilos were consumed. But as we drink more, the areas where coffee is grown is predicted to shrink. The International Coffee Organisation says that bean production in South East Asia, for example, will decrease by 70% by 2050. The BBC spoke to Dr Tim Schilling, director of the World Coffee Research institute, who says: "The supply of high-quality coffee is severely threatened by climate change, diseases and pests, land pressure, and labour shortages - and demand for these coffees is rising every year."

This is a **sobering** thought for those of us who rely on a **caffeine fix** everyday but more worrying for people who work in the industry. Coffee provides a **livelihood** for about 16% of Ethiopia's population. And across the globe, extreme weather events are proving a challenge to coffee growers in places such as Brazil and Vietnam.

There is some hope. Technology is helping to protect the future of coffee such as 'breeding' the Arabica bean plants to increase its diversity and making it resistant to climatic changes. It's also possible to relocate the coffee-growing areas – although this sometimes leads to areas being deforested. Dr Aaron Davis, coffee researcher at Kew, says: "There is the potential to mitigate some of the negatives and actually increase the coffee-growing area by four and a half times compared with maintaining the status quo." But will this come quick enough before our coffee turns bitter and we look for a cheaper alternative?

词汇表

addict	对上瘾的人		
kick-start			
coffee drought			
outstrip	(数量、程度) 超过		
hit someone in the pocket	使某人掏尽腰包		
global warming	全球气候变暖		
beverage	饮料 (统称)		
affluent	富裕的		
consumption	消耗量		
sobering	发人深省的		
caffeine fix	一份含咖啡因的提神饮品		
livelihood	生计来源		
breeding	(植物的) 培植		
diversity	多样性		
resistant	耐的,有能力抵抗的		
mitigate	减轻(危害)		
status quo	现状		

测验与练习

- 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。
- 1. According to experts, how will global warming affect how we experience coffee?
- 2. What has happened to the amount of coffee drunk over the last 35 years?
- 3. Which word did Dr Tim Schilling, director of the World Coffee Research Institute, use to mean insects or small animals that damage plants or supplies of food?
- 4. True or false: People who work in the coffee industry have to have a caffeine fix every day.
- 5. Some new areas for growing coffee have been developed but what has this caused in certain places?
- 2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

I. The government	hopes to the o	economy by dropping	interest rates.	
kick-off	kick-up	kick-start	kick-back	
2. Poor diet, high ald cholesterol.	cohol, smokin	g and inactivity are also	o linked with high	
beverage	consumption	sobering	breeding	
3. Many factory workers could lose their because of falling orders for cars.				
lives	diversity	caffeine fix	livelihoods	
4. The bank lost so many customers because it was to change and they thought in was old-fashioned.				t
resisting	resistance	resistant	resisted	
5. Tourism is so popular on the island now that something needs to be done to the effects.				
mitigate	kick-start	status quo	outstrip	
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答案

- 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。
- I. According to experts, how will global warming affect how we experience coffee? It will cost more money and not taste as good.
- 2. What has happened to the amount of coffee drunk over the last 35 years? Coffee consumption has doubled in the last 35 years.
- 3. Which word did Dr Tim Schilling, director of the World Coffee Research Institute, use to mean insects or small animals that damage plants or supplies of food? Pests.
- 4. True or false: People who work in the coffee industry have to have a caffeine fix every day.

 False. Coffee drinkers rely on a caffeine fix but people who produce coffee don't.
- 5. Some new areas for growing coffee have been developed but what has this caused in certain places?

Deforestation.

- 2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。
- 1. The government hopes to **kick-start** the economy by dropping interest rates.
- 2. Poor diet, high alcohol **consumption**, smoking and inactivity are also linked with high cholesterol.
- 3. Many factory workers could lose their **livelihoods** because of falling orders for cars.
- 4. The bank lost so many customers because it was **resistant** to change and they thought it was old-fashioned.
- 5. Tourism is so popular on the island now that something needs to be done to **mitigate** the effects.