Tapescripst:

TEXT 1

**Trendy names make vegetables look tastier**

Researchers have discovered that people eat more vegetables if the veggies have trendy labels. A research team from Stanford University in the USA found that sales of vegetables increased by 25 per cent after they were given trendy-sounding names. The researchers conducted their research on 600 diners for several months at the university canteen. They labelled all vegetable dishes in four different ways each day. Diners could select vegetable dishes with a "basic" label (for example with just the word "carrots"), a "healthy restrictive" label ("carrots with sugar-free citrus dressing"), a "health positive" label ("smart-choice vitamin C citrus carrots") or a trendy label ("twisted citrus-glazed carrots").

Researchers gave diners a wide choice of vegetables to see how effective the trendy labels were. They used beetroot, butternut squash, carrots, corn, courgettes, green beans and sweet potato in their test. These had names like "twisted garlic-ginger butternut squash wedges," or "dynamite chilli," and "tangy lime-seasoned beets". They found that the vegetable dishes with the trendy labels were by far the most popular. These dishes were 25 per cent more popular than those with the "basic" labelling, and 41 per cent more popular than those with the "healthy restrictive" labelling. A researcher said: "Labels really can influence our sensory experience, affecting how tasty and filling we think food will be."

MULTIPLE CHOICE 1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. a 10. d

TEXT 2

Drones used to battle tortoise-killing ravens

High-tech drones are flying to the defence of tortoises in California's Mojave Desert. The desert tortoises in the western Mojave are under threat of being wiped out by ravens. The raven is a larger version of the crow. Its population in the Mojave has increased by more than 700 per cent in the past 25 years and this is having a catastrophic impact on the desert tortoises. Allison Fedrick, a local conservationist, observed that in some places, "where there used to be 10 ravens, there are now 15,000". Ms Fedrick noted that if nothing was done to help the tortoises, they would be completely wiped out. Their numbers have plummeted by more than 90 per cent since 1990. Technology is coming to the rescue of the tortoises. A team of biologists and drone operators has come up with a strategy to reduce the raven population. They are using drones and the use of the method of "egg oiling". This involves flying drones up to the ravens' nests, removing fertilized eggs, coating them with a film of corn oil, and then replacing them. The oil blocks oxygen from entering the egg, effectively ending the life of the embryo inside. Biologist Mercy Vaughn said: "If ravens figure out that their eggs are rotten, they are likely to eat them and nest someplace else." Conservationist John Griffin said oiling was justified as "part of a comprehensive approach that...addresses all other factors".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. The western part 2. A crow 3. 25 years. 4. 15,000

.5. 90%. 6. Technology. 7. Biologists. 8. A film of corn oil

 9. Eat them and nest. 10. A comprehensive approach

TRUE / FALSE a F b F c T d F e F f T g T h T

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Task 1* | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| *The western part* | *A crow* | *25 years* | *15,000* | *90%* |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| *Technology* | *Biologist* | *A film of corn oil* | *Eat them and nest* | *A comprehensive approach* |
| *Task 2* | 11 | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* |
| F | F | T | F | F |
| 16 | 17 | 18 |  |  |
| T | T | T |  |  |
| *Task 3* | 29 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| b | d | a | c | b |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| a | c | a | a | d |