

AUDIO SCRIPT

[M1 student and F1 student]

M1: Hey, Lin. Sorry I'm late. I see you've already started researching. How's it going?

F1: Hey, Kai. It's going well. I found a lot of interesting information.

M1: Seriously? It sounds so boring. How did we get stuck with "Endangered Medicinal Plants"?

F1: Initially, I thought the topic would be boring, too, Kai. But it's not. I found some interesting facts on the Internet. Listen to this: The Chinese have used medicinal plants for at least 4,000 years. They use more than 5,000 different plant species. Today, a lot of people in the world don't have access to modern healthcare, so they depend on traditional medicine.

M1: Hmm, that is interesting.

F1: Between 50,000 and 80,000 flowering plants are used for medicinal purposes worldwide. At least 15,000 of them could face extinction due to overharvesting and habitat loss.

M1: What does overharvesting mean?

F1: It means taking more plants from the land than it can replace. If people use too many plants too quickly, they can become extinct. Plants need time to grow and reproduce. Experts think that we're losing at least one plant-based drug every two years because of extinction.

M1: That's too bad. Uh ... What are some examples of medicinal plants?

F1: Let's see. There's slippery elm. It's used to treat coughs, stomach problems, and skin issues. There's ginseng—a root that's used for many different health issues. There's yew...

M1: Me?

F1: Not *you*, silly. Yew – Y-E-W. Yew trees are used to produce a powerful anti-cancer drug called taxol. It saves tens of thousands of lives every year. Some other medicinal plants are black cohosh, goldenseal ... The list goes on.

M1: Well, we can't cover ALL that in our presentation, Lin. It's too much information. We have to narrow it down.

Inside Listening and Speaking Intro

Unit 3 Assessment

INSIDE LISTENING AND SPEAKING INTRO

F1: You're right. How about we focus on two issues. 1. Medicinal plants that are used to produce life-saving drugs, and 2. the extinction issue.

M1: OK. You've already done most of the research, Lin. What can I do?

F1: Could you find some photographs of the plants and put together a slideshow?

M1: Sure, Lin. What else?

F1: Could you create a visually interesting chart that lists all the endangered plants, where they come from, and what they're used for?

M1: No problem. Would you like me to embed the photographs in the chart?

F1: That'd be great. Can you do that?

M1: Yeah, it's easy.

F1: Great. I'll email the list of plants to you as soon as I've finished my research.

M1: Thanks, Lin. I'm glad you're my partner! See you later.

F1: OK. See you tomorrow, Kai.