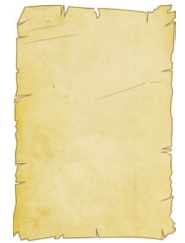
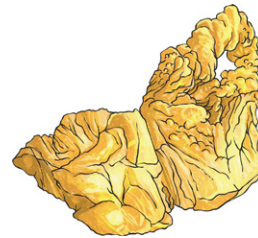
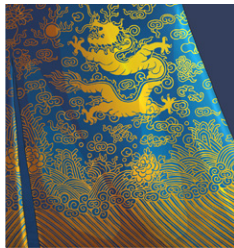


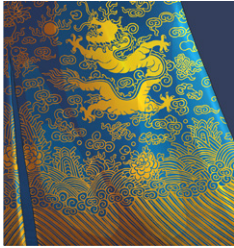

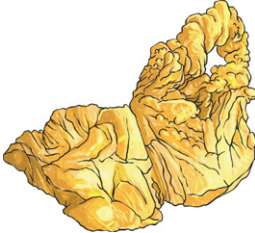

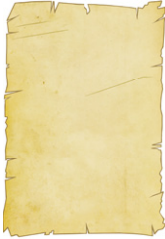
Trading Items



					
What is this item?					
Where do you think the people came from who offered this item for trade?					
Why was this item considered to be valuable for trade?					
How is the item used today?					

What other items do you think may have been traded also? Why?

Trading Items - Answers

					
What is this item?	silk	spices	gold	ivory	paper
Where do you think the people came from who offered this item for trade?	India China	Central Asia India Different spices came from different regions.	Europe China	India China	China Egypt
Why was this item considered to be valuable for trade?	Could create lightweight silky fabric which was considered a luxury, especially in the West.	Added richness and flavour to food. Medicinal properties. Create fragrance, incense.	Used to make ornaments, vessels and jewellery.	Used to make ornaments, vessels and jewellery.	Lightweight, convenient way to create documents. Previously writing inscribed on stone tablets.
How is the item used today?	For making fine clothing, scarves, blankets.	In a very similar way. The difference now being that almost all spices are available everywhere throughout the world.	Mainly used in the production of jewellery and for ornamentation.	The hunting of endangered animals for their ivory (made from tusks and teeth - mainly elephants') is illegal. While the manufacture of ivory items still continues, concerns for the welfare of animals has prompted the development of alternative products to replicate ivory, such as plastic.	Mass produced for wide range of uses, including writing, printing and packaging.

Trading Items - Answers

What other items do you think may have been traded also? Why?

Some examples of other items traded along the Silk Road include:

Woollen items and camels were exported to China from Asia. The Chinese did not know the technique for making wool and weaving and camels proved a valuable resource for carrying trading goods.

India offered rice, dyes and semi-precious stones. These were sought after by Europeans who did not have access to such materials and appreciated their beauty and luxury.

Europe traded animal furs and skins, honey and slaves which created a comfortable lifestyle for their owners.

Egypt produced glass bottles which were sought for their practical uses.

Fine porcelain from China was highly regarded and expensive as the Chinese were the only people who knew how to produce it at the time.