

# Green jeans?

## 1 Growing your jeans

- a) What do you know about these countries? Are they rich or poor? Do they have more industry or more farming? Make a few notes.

China

USA

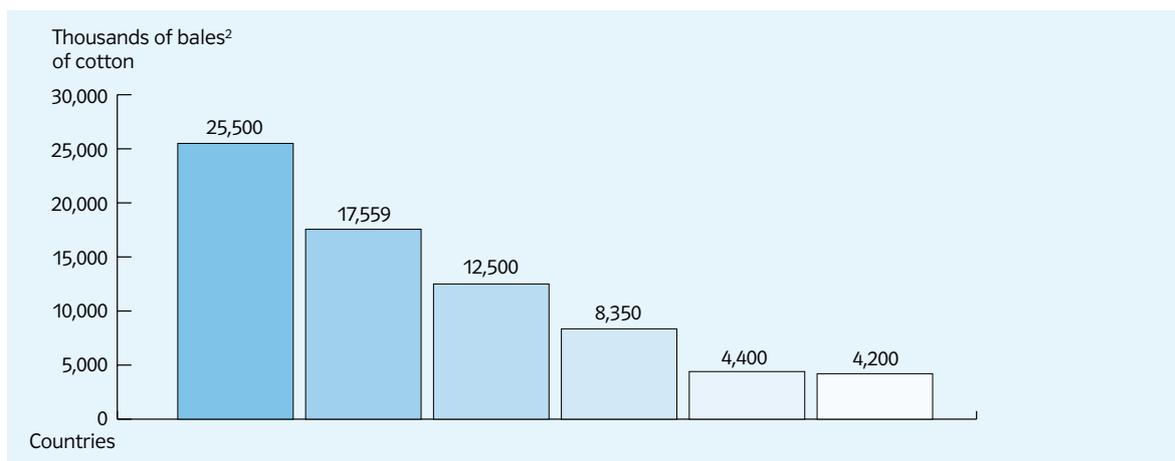
India

Pakistan

Brazil

Turkey

- b) All these countries grow cotton<sup>1</sup>. How much do you think they grow and who grows the most? Put the names of the countries into this chart.



<sup>1</sup>cotton ['kɒtən] – Baumwolle • <sup>2</sup>bale [beɪl] – Ballen

- c) Read this text about growing cotton. Then answer the questions below.

Cotton often needs extra water to grow – the normal rainfall is not enough. This can be a problem for the countries that grow cotton. The World Wildlife Fund says “It can take more than 20,000 litres of water to produce 1kg of cotton.” (That is enough for a T-shirt and a pair of jeans.)

Cotton can be grown without extra water if the area is not too dry and hot, but more water generally produces more cotton.

In the USA fewer farmers are growing cotton in the dry western states of California, Arizona and New Mexico. And in other areas they have

discovered that just a little extra water at the correct time is all the cotton plant needs.

Farmers also use lots of dangerous materials to kill the insects that attack cotton plants. It gets into the land and the water and can also make the farm workers ill.



1. What is difficult about growing cotton (two things)?
2. Which of the main cotton-growing countries do you think have problems with water?
3. Explain how and why cotton growing has changed in the USA.

Lösungen: 1b) China: 25,500; United States: 17,559; India: 12,500; Pakistan: 8,350; Brazil: 4,400; Turkey: 4,200; c) 1. Cotton needs a lot of water and the insects that attack it must be killed. 2. India and Pakistan and some parts of the USA. 3. Cotton is now grown mainly where there are no problems with water.

## 2 Making jeans

It takes a lot of work to make a pair of jeans. Put the things in the right order.



A

Cotton is picked and cleaned by machines.



B

The material is made into jeans.



C

The thread<sup>3</sup> is dyed<sup>4</sup> – colour is added.



D

The jeans are for sale in a shop.



E

Machines make the cotton into thread.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>3</sup>thread [θred] – Faden • <sup>4</sup>dyed [daɪd] – gefärbt

## 3 Poor old jeans!

You love wearing your jeans, you wear them all the time. Then, suddenly, one day your favourite jeans are too short or too small. What do you do with your old jeans? Here are some ideas. Which idea do you like best? Say why.

I give all my clothes that don't fit to our church. They send them to poor people in the third world. Perhaps somebody else can wear them, even if they're too small for me.

I grew a lot last year. All my jeans were too short, so I cut off most of the leg and made shorts. They're great in hot weather.

My older sister has just had a baby. I made a teddy-bear for the baby from a pair of my old jeans.

My mum makes rag rugs<sup>5</sup> from old clothes. I've got a great rag rug on the floor of my room – it's very colourful and Mum made it from old jeans and T-shirts.



<sup>5</sup>rag rug [ˌræg ˈrʌg] – Flickenteppich

Lösungen: 2 A, E, C, B, D