

Cactus Garden

Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

Estanislao Gonzáles Ferrer was a plant expert, called a botanist, who collected lots of cactus plants from different parts of the world. He gave his collection to the famous artist, architect and environmentalist César Manrique (born in 1919) who created the cactus park in Lanzarote. The park is set inside an old, circular quarry, which is a deep pit like a mine where rock, stone or other material has been taken from. The park has an upper and lower layer around the perimeter to show the plants at their best. There are over 10 000 plants on show with over 1000 different species covering a huge variety of colour, size, shape and country of origin. As Lanzarote is a volcanic island belonging to Spain with no rivers, streams or lakes, the cactus plants are ideal as they require so little water and they can store the water they do need in their fleshy, thick body or leaves. This means that cacti (the word for more than one cactus) can survive in very dry places.

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The cactus park is a miniature world of peace and calm where little lizards run freely and the only noise is from the gentle chatter of visitors as they sit under the shade in the small café. The cactus garden took 20 years to perfect and was completed in 1990. Manrique himself died just two years after completing the park.

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For a wonderful experience, the Jardín de Cactus is somewhere that everyone should visit at least once in their life. You would be amazed at how beautiful a cactus garden can be. Until then, there are some fantastic photographs of the park online.

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Did you know...?

Cactus plants have spines that do a range of important jobs:

- 1 They provide protection to stop the plant being eaten by animals.
- 2 They help the cactus to remain camouflaged.
- 3 They help to create water by trapping air around the surface of the cactus.
- 4 They can reduce the loss of water by providing shade for the cactus which lowers the temperature of the plant.

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Ⓐ How did Ferrer help César Manrique? [1]

Ⓑ What shape is the cactus park? [1]

Ⓒ *The park has an upper and lower layer around the **perimeter** to show the plants at their best.*

Tick the word below which is closest in meaning to the word *perimeter* in this sentence.

Tick **one**. [1]

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| centre | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| area | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| edge | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| top | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Ⓓ *He **gave** his collection to the famous artist, architect and environmentalist César Manrique*

Which word below could be used to replace the word *gave* in this sentence?

Tick **one**. [1]

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| stole | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| donated | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| sold | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| bought | <input type="checkbox"/> |

E Use a line to join the dates to the events. [1]

César Manrique dies	1919
The Jardín de Cactus is completed	1970
César Manrique is born	1990
The creation of the Jardín de Cactus is begun	1992

F Why are cactus plants well-suited to Lanzarote? [2]

G Find and copy a group of **nine** words that shows how someone can see the cactus park without having to visit Lanzarote. [1]

H Tick the following statements to show whether they are **true** or **false**. [1]

	True	False
César Manrique cared about the environment.		
Lanzarote belongs to Canada.		
There are beautiful lakes on Lanzarote.		
The spines on cactus plants help the plant's survival.		

- ① Look again at the ‘Did you know...?’ text and find the sentence: *They help the cactus to remain **camouflaged***

Tick the word below which is closest in meaning to the word *camouflaged* in this sentence.

Tick **one**. [1]

safe

vulnerable

protected

disguised

- ② How is the cactus park described as a quiet place?

Find and copy **three** words or short phrases. [1]

- ③ Give **two** reasons why the author thinks that everyone should visit the cactus park. [2]

- ④ *There are over 10 000 plants on show with over 1000 different **species** covering a huge variety of colour, size, shape and country of origin.*

Tick the word below which is closest in meaning to the word *species* in this sentence.

Tick **one**. [1]

types

animals

trees

special

Unit 1

- Ⓐ Ferrer gave his cactus collection to César Manrique. [1]
- Ⓑ Circular / round [1]
- Ⓒ edge [1]
- Ⓓ donated [1]
- Ⓔ All correctly matched for 1 mark: César Manrique dies = 1992 / The Jardín de Cactus is completed = 1990 / César Manrique is born = 1919 / The creation of the Jardín de Cactus is begun = 1970. [1]
- Ⓕ 1 mark each for any two: Cactus plants do not need much water / They can store water in their thick, fleshy stems / Lanzarote has no water other than the sea. [2]
- Ⓖ *There are some fantastic photographs of the park online* [1]
- Ⓗ All correct for 1 mark: True, False, False, True [1]
- Ⓘ disguised [1]
- Ⓙ All correct for 1 mark (in any order): *peace / calm / gentle chatter* [1]
- Ⓚ 1 mark for each: The cactus park is a *wonderful experience* / It is a *beautiful* place. [2]
- Ⓛ type [1]