PART 1

Read the text below and answer questions 1–13.

THE GLOBAL JOURNEY OF COFFEE

A

Coffee's story is often traced to the highland forests of Ethiopia, where wild Coffea arabica still grows. A popular legend tells of a goat herder, Kaldi, who noticed his animals becoming unusually lively after eating red berries from a particular shrub. Curious, he brought the berries to a nearby religious community, where a drink made from them helped monks remain alert during long hours of prayer. Whether or not the legend is accurate, Ethiopia's role as coffee's early home is widely accepted. The next critical step occurred across the Red Sea in Yemen, where coffee began to be cultivated more systematically. By the 15th century, Yemeni ports exported beans to the wider Arabian Peninsula, and the beverage became associated with learning and devotion as well as trade.

B

In Yemen, coffee drinking was linked to Sufi practice in some accounts, with gatherings where worshippers sought to stay awake for late-night rituals. Demand encouraged merchants to standardise roasting and brewing methods, and coffee started to move along the same commercial routes as spices and textiles. Over time, "coffee" became not merely a plant but a social habit—one that could travel with traders, pilgrims, and scholars. By the 16th century, coffee had reached Persia, Egypt, Syria, and the Ottoman territories. It was in this region that coffee was roasted and brewed in ways recognisable today, and public spaces dedicated to drinking it began to multiply. The first coffeehouses—often referred to in Arabic as qahveh khaneh—could be lively and crowded, and their popularity sometimes alarmed political and religious authorities. In several cities, officials attempted to restrict or ban them, usually on the grounds that gatherings might encourage dissent or idleness. Yet prohibitions rarely lasted; the venues returned because they met a social need and because the beverage itself had become culturally embedded.

C

Coffee entered Europe through trade networks, especially via Venetian merchants in the early 17th century. Early reactions ranged from fascination to suspicion, and the drink was occasionally condemned as a dangerous novelty. However, once coffee gained elite acceptance, it rapidly became fashionable, particularly in port cities where merchants and travellers were exposed to new tastes. European coffeehouses soon developed their own character. In Venice they were associated with commerce and urban sociability; in Paris they became spaces for literary culture; and in England they were nicknamed penny

universities because, for the price of a cup, customers could listen to debates and exchange ideas. Some coffeehouses grew into institutions that shaped finance and insurance, with networks of information that were valuable for trade.

D

Rising demand encouraged European powers to control supply, and coffee became part of colonial agriculture. The Dutch successfully cultivated coffee outside the Arab world in regions such as Ceylon and later Java, turning the crop into a plantation commodity. As botanical specimens moved between courts and colonies, a single plant could become the ancestor of vast new growing regions. A famous transfer involved a coffee plant from Java being presented to the French court and later used as a source for cultivation in the Caribbean. From there, coffee production expanded into Central and South America. The industry grew rapidly in Brazil, where climate and land availability supported enormous plantations and eventually helped the country become the world's leading producer. This expansion had human costs. Plantation systems depended on coerced labour in many regions, and profits often flowed disproportionately to colonial powers and large landowners rather than to farm workers. Even after legal systems changed, structural inequalities in trade persisted, shaping who benefited from global coffee consumption.

E

In the 20th and 21st centuries, coffee became one of the most traded commodities in the world, supporting the economies of dozens of countries and the livelihoods of millions of farmers. Yet the market is volatile: prices can swing sharply, and smallholders often struggle to absorb risk. Meanwhile, climate change threatens suitable growing zones through shifting rainfall patterns, rising temperatures, and increased pest pressure. In response, the industry has pursued sustainability and fairness through multiple strategies. Shade-grown coffee aims to preserve forest canopy and biodiversity, while certification schemes such as fair-trade seek to improve conditions and pricing for producers. At the same time, consumer tastes have diversified: "specialty" coffee markets reward traceability and quality, showing that coffee's global journey continues to evolve rather than reaching a final endpoint.

Questions 1–5

Choose the correct heading for each paragraph.

List of Headings

i Environmental challenges and the push for sustainability
ii Coffeehouses as social hubs and targets of official suppression
iii Global cultivation and its social consequences

iv The mythical origins and early trade of coffee
v Arrival in Europe and the creation of intellectual spaces

vi The role of coffee in replacing established European drinks
vii Scientific advances that increased coffee production

1 Paragraph **A**

2 Paragraph **B**

3 Paragraph **C**

4 Paragraph **D**

5 Paragraph **E**

Questions 6–9

Complete the summary below. Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the text for each answer.

The Spread and Development of Coffee

Coffee's origins are often connected with Ethiopia, including the legend of a herder called **6** ..... . Cultivation then developed across the Red Sea in Yemen, and later coffeehouses became widespread in the Ottoman world; these venues were known as **7** ..... . In England, coffeehouses became known as **8** ..... because even a cheap drink gave customers access to discussion and debate. Today, attempts to make coffee production fairer include certification such as **9** ..... .

Questions 10–13

Choose **TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information given in the text, choose **FALSE** if the statement contradicts the information, or choose **NOT GIVEN** if there is no information on this.

10 Coffee was already being shipped from Yemen to other parts of Arabia during the 15th century.

11 The passage indicates that attempts to ban coffeehouses in some cities were usually short-lived.

12 The passage gives an exact figure for the percentage of global coffee produced in Brazil today.

13 Growing coffee under shade is presented as a way of protecting both tree cover and biological diversity.

Answer Key

1. iv
2. ii
3. v
4. iii
5. i
6. Kaldi
7. qahveh khaneh
8. penny universities
9. fair-trade
10. TRUE
11. TRUE
12. NOT GIVEN
13. TRUE