
ANSWER KEY

Unit 5**A**

- 1 She collects the envelopes that tea bags come in.
- 2 Her dad used to travel for work a lot and she always used to ask him to buy her presents. He didn't want to spend too much money on things, so started bringing back tea bags from hotels.
- 3 When she was a young child.
- 4 To begin with, she just used to buy different kinds of tea from her local shop, then she started going to foreign food stores near her house and then moved on to the Internet.
- 5 She's got about four and a half thousand.
- 6 She keeps them all in a special book – and has them catalogued on the Internet.

D

- 1 You do what
- 2 that you put in a cup
- 3 You're kidding, right
- 4 from all over the world
- 5 How did you get interested in
- 6 used to travel a lot
- 7 would tell me stories
- 8 have you been collecting
- 9 must be quite serious
- 10 must take a lot of space

VIDEO SCRIPT

- Nicholas So what do you do in your free time? Do you have any strange or unusual hobbies?
- Yvonne Well, it's not very strange, but I collect tea bags.
- Nicholas You do what?
- Yvonne I collect tea bags.
- Nicholas You mean the little bags for making tea that you put in a cup with hot water?
- Yvonne Yes. Well, not really the bags, actually. I collect the ... I'm not sure of the word ... the envelopes.
- Nicholas Seriously? This is something you really do?
- Yvonne Yes.
- Nicholas No! You're kidding, right?
- Yvonne Is it really so strange? Lots of people collect things.
- Nicholas Yes, but nobody collects tea bag envelopes!
- Yvonne Lots of people do. You've just never met them. I'm a member of an online collectors' forum and I've made friends from all over the world there – from Iceland, Brazil, Canada, Israel. We keep in touch and we exchange things from our countries. It's nice.
- Nicholas It's weird!
- Yvonne Everyone is weird. In different ways.
- Nicholas Yes, maybe. But I'm still shocked. Really! So ... um ... how did you start this? How did you get interested in tea bags? I feel very strange asking this question!
- Yvonne It's a good question! When I was a young child, my father used to travel a lot for work to lots of different countries and I always asked him to buy me presents. I think he didn't want to spend too much money every time he went somewhere, so he started to bring back tea bags from hotels for me and he would tell me stories about each country and each hotel, so I started thinking that tea bags were a kind of symbol. Like a little piece of different places.
- Nicholas OK. I can understand how that could happen. And how long have you been collecting? Since you were a child?
- Yvonne Yes, more or less. To begin with, I used to just buy different kinds of tea from my local shop and then I started going to foreign food shops near my house and buying tea there and then I moved on to Internet collecting.
- Nicholas You must be quite serious!
- Yvonne I guess so, but I have a normal life as well, OK! I have a boyfriend and a part-time job in my country. I'm not crazy or anything.
- Nicholas No, no. I never said you were. How many do you have then? How many envelopes ... or bags?
- Yvonne I think I have about four and a half thousand.
- Nicholas Seriously? That many? Where do you keep them all? They must take a lot of space.
- Yvonne I have special books that I keep them all inside, and I write down on my computer every one I have and photograph them and everything. The forum that I'm a member of is in the middle of making a giant catalogue of all the different kinds we know about.
- Nicholas OK! This is a book that maybe I don't need in my life.
- Yvonne Yeah, well ... what about you? Do you collect anything? Or have any interesting hobbies?