**Wallace’s Expedition Pack**

**Learning Objective:** To calculate using weights.

When Wallace went on his expeditions, he had to ensure that he had all the necessary equipment to survive for years in the jungle.



Here is a list of the food supplies he took with him on an expedition to the Malay Archipelago:

Among the items he took were sugar, coffee, tea, soy, vinegar, oil and beer.

He also had to take collecting jars for the insects he would collect, as well as suitable clothing for the extremely hot and humid tropical climate.

1. Decide what you think Wallace might need to take on his expedition from the list. Give reasons for your choices and then calculate the total weight of your expedition pack.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Coffee | 2kg |
| Sugar | 4kg |
| Collection Jar (each) | 3.5kg |
| Telescope | 5kg |
| Chloroform | 7.2kg |
| Butterfly net (each) | 2kg |
| Ink | 50g |
| Clothing | 10kg |
| Common Starch (for cleaning feathers) | 2.5kg |
| Umbrella | 1kg |
| A gun | 7kg |
| A knife | 1.5kg |
| A bicycle | 22kg |
| A sewing machine | 18kg |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Reason for choice | Weight |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Total Weight =

1. Oh no! The ship’s captain has told you that you have too much! You can only take a maximum of 31 kilos.

What would you leave behind?! Prioritise your item list and recalculate the weight of your expedition pack.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Item | Weight |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Total Weight =

1. Fancy a further challenge? The ship’s captain is an old fashioned kind of chap and would like to know the final weight of your expedition pack using Imperial units!

Just to get you started:

16 ounces = 1 pound

1 ounce = 25 grams

A pound (454g) is equal to just under half a kilogram (500g).