

Unit 2: Burning the Midnight Oil

Reading 1: Coffee: Making the Modern World Possible

Answer the questions as you read.

1. What is another word for *uncover* in paragraph 1? _____

2. Why has caffeine been called “the drug that made the modern world possible”?
(paragraph 2) _____

3. Why is caffeine even more necessary today than it was in the 19th century?
(paragraph 3) _____

4. Why do people feel more alert after drinking coffee? (paragraph 4) _____

5. In paragraph 5, what are high blood pressure, heartburn, upset stomach, and
insomnia examples of? _____

6. What two ideas are contrasted in paragraph 6? Which sentence introduces the
contrast? _____

7. Why do some researchers suggest that coffee beans can be viewed as a “healthy
vegetable food”? (paragraph 8) _____

8. Reread the last sentence in paragraph 7 and the last sentence in paragraph 8. Which
two words are synonymous? _____

9. What is implied in paragraph 9? _____
