

Solutions for Exercise 1

Example Tomato. The plant which originates from the region that is now Mexico was introduced to Europe in the 16th century in the historical context of imperialism. In England, the plant was not used for consumption until the 19th century when the term *tomato* was borrowed from Spanish. Like the plant, the term originally comes from Mexico. In Nahuatl, the language of the indigenous inhabitants of the region, the plant is called *tomatl*. This word ends with the consonant [tɬ], which is difficult to pronounce, which is probably why the word was simplified phonetically. Before the 19th century, when the tomato was mainly used as an ornamental plant, it was known as *love-apple*.