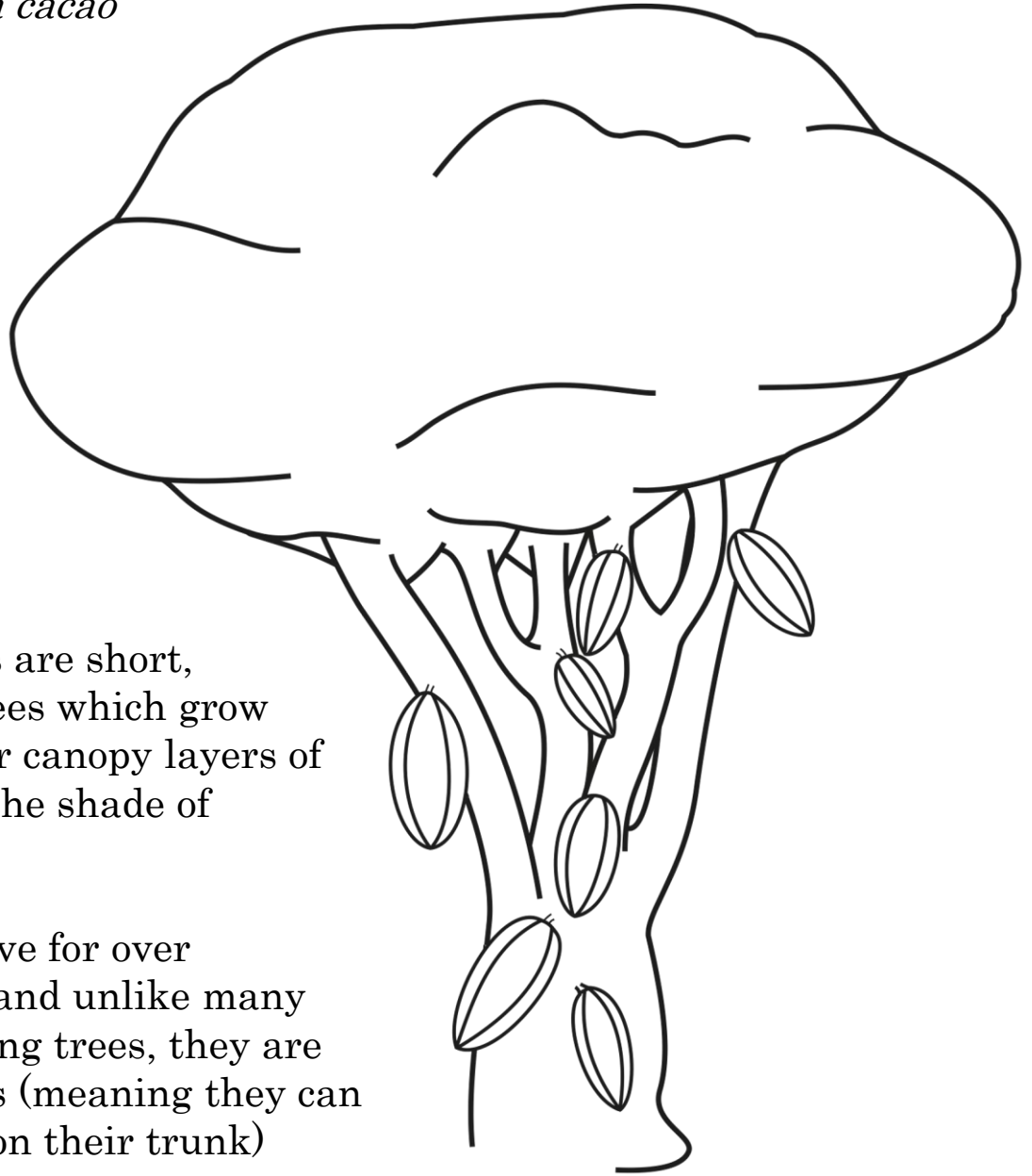


COCOA

Theobroma cacao



Cocoa trees are short, shrubby trees which grow in the lower canopy layers of forests, in the shade of taller trees

They can live for over 100 years, and unlike many other fruiting trees, they are cauliflorous (meaning they can grow fruit on their trunk)

Cocoa trees are native to Central and South America, though they are grown in many tropical countries all over the world for chocolate today

The ancient Olmec, Mayan and Aztec peoples are believed to have made various drinks and dishes using cocoa beans many hundreds of years ago, and the Aztecs even used cocoa beans as money!