

Ice Cream

Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. Do you like ice cream?
If so, what is your favorite flavor?
2. Do you know when people first started to eat ice cream?
3. Where do you think the recipe for ice cream originated?
4. Do you know what a soda fountain is?
5. Have you ever had an ice cream soda or an ice cream sundae?
6. Which country do you think is the leading consumer of ice cream?
7. What invention do you think caused a huge increase in ice cream sales?



B. Vocabulary Preview

Match the words on the left with the correct meanings on the right.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| ___ 1. treat | a) the creation of something new |
| ___ 2. dairy | b) a small body of water |
| ___ 3. slave | c) something expensive and enjoyable but not needed |
| ___ 4. pension | d) related to milk, cream, butter, etc. |
| ___ 5. formula | e) drinking noisily |
| ___ 6. cranked | f) something that gives pleasure and is special |
| ___ 7. patent | g) a seller |
| ___ 8. luxury | h) a person who is owned by another and forced to work hard |
| ___ 9. vendor | i) turned with a handle |
| ___ 10. invention | j) a regular payment paid to a person who is retired |
| ___ 11. slurping | k) an exclusive right to make or sell a new invention |
| ___ 12. pond | l) a recipe, the instructions on how to make something |

Reading

1. Ice cream is a frozen **treat** made by stirring together **dairy** products, flavorings, sweeteners, and air.
2. The history of ice cream goes back to ancient times. Ancient Greeks sold snow cones mixed with honey and fruit at their markets. The Roman Emperor, Nero, sent **slaves** to the mountains for snow to combine with honey and nuts.
3. Popular folklore claims Marco Polo brought the recipe for ice cream back to Italy from China. An Italian duchess moved to France with her chefs and introduced flavored ices or sorbets. Charles I of England was so impressed by “frozen snow” that he offered his ice cream maker a lifetime **pension** to keep the **formula** secret.
4. Ice cream was not introduced in the US until the 19th century. People made it in a large bowl inside a tub filled with ice and salt. A hand-**cranked** churn replaced this method, making smoother ice cream more quickly. The first US **patent** for a hand-cranked churn was issued in 1843.
5. Ice cream was a **luxury** because making it required ice. Ice from frozen **ponds** and lakes was stored underground or in wood ice houses, insulated by straw. Industrial refrigeration in the 1870s ended the need to store ice.
6. Europeans enjoyed ice cream cones long before Americans. The cone wasn’t created in the US until the 1904 World’s Fair in St Louis. An ice cream **vendor** ran out of dishes, and a waffle maker next to him rolled up waffles to hold ice cream. In the early 1920s, going to the soda fountain for an ice cream soda was a popular event. The noisy **slurping** of sodas was not allowed on Sundays, so the sundae was created as a quieter way to enjoy ice cream.
7. Home refrigerators using ice blocks became available in the 1920s, but the **invention** of the continuous freezer caused the explosion in the number of ice cream outlets and ice cream treats. Baskin-Robbins offered 31 flavors, one for every day of the month. Soft ice cream was introduced. With twice the air, it was less expensive and lighter in texture. Richer ice creams reappeared in the 1980s and sold as premium and super-premium varieties like Ben & Jerry’s and Haagen Daz.
8. Today, Americans are the leading consumers of ice cream, eating an average of 23 liters per person each year.

*“Ice cream is
my comfort food.”*

—Jessie Ware

Comprehension

A. True or False?

Read the statements below.

If the statement is true, write T beside the sentence.

If it is false, write F and correct the information.

- _____ 1. Ancient Greeks and Romans enjoyed frozen treats.
- _____ 2. Italians created the original recipe for ice cream.
- _____ 3. Charles I of England wanted to share the recipe for ice cream.
- _____ 4. There was no industrial refrigeration until the late 1800s.
- _____ 5. Americans were the first people to eat ice cream in cones.

B. Ask and Answer

Practice asking and answering the following questions with your partner. Then write your answers in complete sentences in your notebook.

1. What is ice cream and how is it made?
2. How was Marco Polo involved in the history of ice cream?
3. What was the first method of making ice cream in the United States?
4. What effect did the hand-cranked churn have on the production of ice cream?
5. Why did ice cream use to be a luxury product?
6. When and how was the ice cream cone created in the United States?
7. Why was the ice cream sundae created?

Vocabulary Review

Complete the sentences using vocabulary from the word list to the right.

1. People who lived on a farm used to use a _____ to make their own butter.
2. I love your chocolate cake! I'd like your _____ so I can make it myself.
3. _____ refers to the beliefs and stories passed from one generation to the next.
4. It is very cold in this house because the walls are not well-_____.
5. John has _____ his new boss, so he'll probably get a raise in pay soon.
6. She likes to eat her _____ with butter and syrup.
7. This soup needs more salt and pepper. It doesn't have enough _____.
8. _____ is the royal title given to a woman who is married to a duke.

Word List:

- flavor
- folklore
- recipe
- duchess
- impressed
- churn
- insulated
- waffles

Discussion

1. List all the different brands of ice cream that you know. Do you think they differ much in taste or price? Do you have a favorite brand? What do you like about it?
2. The inventions of the home refrigerator and freezer had a huge impact on the sale of ice cream products. What other effects did these inventions have on people's daily lives and on society as a whole?
3. Why do you think Americans are the leading consumers of ice cream?
4. Have you ever made or tasted homemade ice cream? How did it differ from commercially prepared ice cream?
5. What's your comfort food?

Class Activity

THE MOST DELICIOUS FLAVOR

Anything goes when it comes to ice cream flavors these days. The term "anything goes" means nothing is too strange to be acceptable. Work together with your class to create some fun ice cream flavors! Tear out two slips of paper from your notebook. Write a flavor or type of food on each slip. Your teacher will gather the papers in a container. Take turns picking out two slips of paper to create a new ice cream flavor. Write the flavors on the board, and vote on the following: the most delicious, the most disgusting, the healthiest...