

## A Short History of After Eights (B1)

### A – Before you start

*Answer the questions with a partner.*

1. Do you like chocolates?
2. If so, what are your favourite fillings?
3. Do you prefer dark chocolate or milk chocolate?
4. Have you ever tasted After Eights?
5. Are they popular in your country?

### B – Listen and answer

*Read these incomplete statements. Then listen (without reading) and complete them.*

1. The complete name of the chocolates is 'After Eight \_\_\_\_\_ Chocolate Mint Thins'.
2. Sales of After Eights are higher in the \_\_\_\_\_ than in other countries.
3. They were invented in the early \_\_\_\_\_ by Brian Sollitt.
4. At the time, Sollitt was working for the Rowntree Company in \_\_\_\_\_, England.
5. The elegant modern \_\_\_\_\_ of After Eights contributed to their success.
6. In 2012, Sollitt presented an After Eight weighing \_\_\_\_\_ kilograms to the British Parliament.

### C – Read and answer

*Read the article and answer the questions.*

1. How old was Brian Sollitt when he created After Eights?
2. Why was it difficult to buy chocolates and sweets when Brian was a child?
3. What part of the making of After Eights is still a secret?
4. Why were chocolate products considered a luxury before the 1960s?
5. On what occasions were After Eights usually served in the 1960s?
6. What kind of image do they have now?
7. How did the list of ingredients change when Nestlé bought the company?
8. What is Brian Sollitt's hobby at present?

### D – Learn it! Use it!

*Complete these sentences with words from the glossary. (You may have to adapt the expression in some way; e.g. change the verb tense.)*

1. Our school football team has won five matches in a row. Our trainer said it's a great \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Fran didn't have a happy \_\_\_\_\_. Her parents often left her with relatives for long periods.
3. If you suffer from lactose intolerance, you should only eat food which is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Dan thought the event would be interesting, but unfortunately it \_\_\_\_\_ really boring!
5. This cake has a \_\_\_\_\_ of jam and cream in the centre.
6. I found a recipe for ginger biscuits. I've just made some. Would you like to \_\_\_\_\_ one?

### **E – Ready for the B1 PRELIMINARY English Exam? (Paper 1, Reading: Part 5)**

*Choose the correct word in brackets for each space.*

There was a time when almost all the large chocolate companies in England belonged to members of the Protestant religious group <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (*called/known/named/considered*) as Quakers. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Quakers began producing cocoa drinks in order to persuade people to stop <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (*drank/to drink/drinking/drunk*) alcohol. At a time when water supplies were often contaminated, cocoa was considered healthy because you <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (*should/had/must/better*) to boil water to make it.

Rowntree's of York, Fry's of Bristol and Cadbury's of Birmingham were all <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (*belonged/owed/found/owned*) by Quaker families. They had a reputation for fairness and honesty and they were social reformers who looked <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (*for/to/after/over*) their workers by building houses, schools, leisure facilities and parks for them. They were also among the first <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (*employers/employees/employed/employment*) to provide pensions and healthcare.

Unfortunately, over the years, these companies have been bought by multinationals which are less worried about social and ethical matters.

### **F – Write about it**

*Write about your favourite treat or snack. Mention:*

- what it's called;
- who it's made by;
- what it's made of;
- whether it's considered healthy/unhealthy;
- when/how often you eat it.

## **Answers**

### **B – Listen and answer**

1. Dark 2. United Kingdom 3. 1960s 4. York 5. packaging 6. three

### **C – Read and answer**

1. He was in his twenties. 2. Because there was wartime rationing. 3. How to prevent the liquid fondant from oozing out. 4. Because they needed to be kept cool and before the 1960s few people had a refrigerator. 5. They were served at dinner parties. 6. Now their image is that of a rather old-fashioned treat. 7. Butterfat was added to the mixture. 8. He collects After Eight memorabilia..

### **D – Learn it! Use it!**

1. achievement 2. childhood 3. dairy free 4. turned out 5. layer 6. try

### **E – Ready for the B1 PRELIMINARY English Exam?**

1. known 2. drinking 3. had 4. owned 5. after 6. employers