

The Origin of Ice Cream – Reading & Comprehension

Reading:

Ice cream is a popular dessert enjoyed all over the world today. But a long time ago, people did not have ice cream as we know it.

The history of ice cream started thousands of years ago. Ancient people **collected** snow and ice from the mountains. They **mixed** it with fruit and honey to create a cold, sweet treat.

Around 200 BC, the Chinese **invented** a frozen mixture made from milk and rice. Later, in the 13th century, Marco Polo **traveled** to China and **brought** the idea of a frozen dessert back to Europe.

In the 17th century, ice cream **became** popular in Italy and France. Wealthy people **enjoyed** it during their feasts. In the 18th century, ice cream shops **opened** in England and America.

Finally, in the 20th century, ice cream machines **were invented**, and ice cream **became** available for everyone. Today, people all over the world **eat** ice cream in many flavors and styles.

Comprehension Questions:

1. How did ancient people make cold, sweet treats?
2. What did the Chinese invent around 200 BC?
3. Who brought the idea of frozen dessert to Europe?
4. When did ice cream become popular in Italy and France?
5. What happened in the 20th century related to ice cream?

Match the words with their meanings:

Word	Meaning
Dessert	A. A cold, sweet food eaten after a meal
Ancient	B. Very old or from a long time ago
Invented	C. To create something new
Feasts	D. Large, special meals
Machines	E. Devices that help make something

