



## Grade: 9 Reading Worksheet

Units: 7/8/9

Read the following passage carefully, then answer the questions below:

Many people don't know that chocolate was first discovered almost 4,000 years ago. It was made from the beans of the cacao trees. For several centuries in pre-modern Latin America, cacao beans were used as money. Since the time of its discovery, the Spanish have been obsessed with chocolate. At first, Spanish explorers did not like the taste of chocolate, so some tried mixing it with sugar or honey. This made the drink sweet. By the late 1500s, chocolate drinks were only popular with Spanish Kings and Queens. They were very expensive and a symbol of wealth and power until 1800s. People who really love chocolate are called "chocoholics." The first chocoholics did not eat chocolate. Instead, they drank it. Early chocolate drinks were not sweetened like hot chocolate or chocolate milk.

The most chocolate eaten today is milk chocolate and milk powder chocolate, but people also eat white chocolate and dark chocolate. Dark chocolate is not sweet. It has cocoa solids and cocoa butter. Both cocoa and dark chocolate are good for the brain, and **they** help prevent heart diseases. Several studies have shown that eating small amounts of dark chocolate can lower your blood pressure, reduce stress, and stop some diseases. Chocolate is **toxic** to some animals and may kill them. Some chemicals in chocolate are poisonous to dogs, cats and parrots. Therefore, they should never be given chocolate.

This Worksheet was done by: Mr. Saleh Al-Hamad

**A) Choose the best answer from a, b, c & d:**

**1. The underlined word ‘toxic’ in the 2nd paragraph means:**

- a. tasty                                      b. popular                                      c. dangerous                                      d. annoying

**2. The underlined word ‘they’ in the 4th paragraph refers to:**

- a. milk chocolate and milk powder  
b. white chocolate and dark chocolate  
c. cocoa solids and cocoa butter  
d. cocoa and dark chocolate

**4. To make chocolate sweet, we can mix it with:**

- a. cocoa butter                                      c. milk powder  
b. cocoa solids                                      d. sugar or honey

**5. According to the passage, which of the following statements is NOT TRUE?**

- a. Chocolate is made from cocoa beans.  
b. In the past, chocolate was used as money.  
c. Spanish explorers made chocolate sweet.  
d. Dogs and cats can eat chocolate.

**6. What is the author’s purpose in writing this text?**

- a. To describe how to grow a chocolate tree.  
b. To tell us about chocolate and its history.  
c. To list the types of chemicals in chocolate.  
d. To explain how chocolate is made and sold.

**B) Answer the following questions:**

**7. Why were chocolate drinks popular only with the Spanish Kings and Queens?**

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**8. What are the benefits of dark chocolate?**

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