

B1 Sample listening task – An interesting drink

EXAMINER RUBRIC:

You're going to hear a short talk about the history of a drink. You will hear the talk twice. As you listen, write down some notes about what you hear if you want to. Then, I will ask you six questions about the drink. Are you ready?

AUDIO SCRIPT:

Ginger beer, or as readily known as Ginger ale, originally came from England, where it was fermented and contained alcohol. This golden ginger fizzy drink was invented in 1851 and was used as a home remedy staple for upset stomachs, nausea, and aches and pains.

Many would drink Ginger beer during the prohibition when alcohol was strictly forbidden. The sweet spicy smell of ginger would cover up the smell of alcohol on their breath! Canadian John McLaughlin "reinvented" this tasty spicy sweet "soft-drink" without alcohol in 1910. It is now popular all around the world.

Ginger ale is often served in a tall glass filled with ice cubes, which helps keep the drink cool and crisp. Some people prefer to add a slice of lime or a sprig of mint to enhance the flavour and add a touch of freshness. Nowadays, commercial ginger ale contains lots of chemicals, flavours, and sugars. To get real ginger ale, you might have to dig deep into your pockets, because you won't find it cheap, costing approximately two Euros fifty a bottle, but it is a delicious drink and well worth it!

EXAMINER:

Now listen again, and afterwards, I will ask you six questions. Please take notes if you would like to. (Audio script will be played once more again)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

1. Where did ginger ale originally come from?

2. What year was the fizzy drink invented?

3. How can ginger ale help you?

4. What ingredient is never in a "soft" drink?

5. What are some adjectives to describe Ginger ale?

6. How is Ginger ale normally served?

Answer: England Answer: 1910

Answer: Stops upset stomachs, nausea

Answer: Alcohol

Answer: Sweet, Spicy, delicious,

refreshing

Answer: Cold on Ice, Cold with ice cubes with lemon or mint.