

## A Short History of Bagels (B1)

### A – Before you start

*Answer the questions with a partner.*

1. What kind of bread do you and your family usually eat?
2. Do you ever have sandwiches or bread rolls for lunch? If so, what's your favourite filling?
3. Are there any special kinds of bread that are typical of your region? If so, why are they special?
4. Have you ever tasted bagels?

### B – Listen and answer

*Read these statements. Then listen (without reading) and write T (true) or F (false).*

1. Most bagels are still made by hand.
2. Between 2 and 10 million bagels are sold in the US every year.
3. Nobody knows for sure exactly where they were invented.
4. According to one legend, they were invented in Vienna in 1683.
5. Bagels were first brought to the United States in the 1920s.
6. In the traditional recipe, the bagels are boiled before being baked in the oven.
7. They became popular among the general population in the 1970s.
8. Today's bagels are less fattening than those made 20 years ago.

### C – Read and answer

*Read the article and answer the questions.*

1. What are bagels made with?
2. What is often added to make them lighter?
3. How do we know that bagels weren't invented by a Viennese baker?
4. What should bagels be like on the inside and on the outside?
5. What happened to the bagel company founded by the Lender family?
6. What do some people fill their bagels with?

### 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, or change from plural to singular.)*

1. Andy can't eat solid food at the moment. He fell while playing hockey and broke his \_\_\_\_\_.
2. This is fresh pasta so it only needs to be \_\_\_\_\_ for about four minutes.
3. Chloe's just been to the hairdresser's. Now she's got a fashionable \_\_\_\_\_ hairstyle.
4. I can't meet you at the café tonight. I'm going to the gym for a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Could you check these accounts again, please? I think this \_\_\_\_\_ may be wrong.
6. If you want to lose weight, you should use a \_\_\_\_\_ in your coffee, instead of sugar.

### **E – Ready for the B1 PRELIMINARY English Exam? (Paper 1, Reading: Part 6)**

*Write one word only in each space.*

London's first "beigel" bakery was founded in Brick Lane in East London over 165 years ago, when many Jewish people lived there. Over the centuries, successive waves of immigrants <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ arrived in the area. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, large numbers of French Huguenot silk weavers had settled there to <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ from religious persecution in France. In the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Ashkenazi Jews had arrived to work in the clothing industry that had grown up there and had brought their cooking traditions with them. <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ these were bagels, or *beigels*, as the word is usually spelt in East London.

The original beigel shop is still there in Brick Lane and is open twenty-four hours <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ day from Monday to Sunday. In the past, no shops or markets were <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to open on Sundays, but the Jewish community was given a special dispensation. As a result, the area became famous for its Sunday markets, like Petticoat Lane.

<sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Brick Lane is now the heart of the Bangladeshi community and is more famous for its many curry houses, there are still several beigel bakeries.

### **F – Write about it**

*Write about the most popular traditional bakery in your town or area. Mention:*

- where it's located;
- how old it is;
- who it's run by;
- what its specialities are;
- why its popular.

## **Answers**

### **B – Listen and answer**

1. F – They are made/mass-produced by machines.
2. F – Between 2 and 10 million are sold every day.
3. T
4. T
5. F – They arrived in the United States in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
6. T
7. T
8. F – The number of calories in a bagel has more than doubled in the last 20 years.

### **C – Read and answer**

1. They are made with flour, yeast, salt and a sweetener.
2. Egg, milk and butter.
3. Because they are mentioned in written accounts in Poland in 1610.
4. They should be crusty on the outside and chewy on the inside.
5. It was bought by Kraft Foods in 1984.
6. Some people fill them with cream cheese and salmon.

### **D – Learn it! Use it!**

1. jaw
2. boiled
3. sleek
4. workout
5. figure
6. sweetener

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

1. had
2. escape/flee
3. Among
4. a/per
5. allowed/permitted
6. Although/Though