We all scream for ice cream!

I live next door to the best ice-cream parlour in town — a mixed blessing, as I have to watch my figure.

Gianni’s Gelato is an old family-run business. At first, Gianni sold handmade vanilla and chocolate ice cream from a cart. His sons upgraded to a motorized van, adding strawberry and pistachio to the range of flavours. Today, customers are spoiled for choice. You can find all the Italian classics, from amarena to zuppa inglese. The brothers have created lots of new flavours, too, including my current favourite: lime and black pepper. To cater to British taste, they also serve knickerbocker glory and other delicious old-fashioned ice-cream sundaes topped with plenty of whipped cream. Quality comes at a price, of course: Gianni’s frozen treats cost £3.50 a scoop. A half litre takeaway tub costs £10. But cheaper, mass-produced ice cream simply doesn’t compare with the freshly made artisanal kind.

How do you like your ice cream? Do you prefer a cone, a scoop, a sundae, or a tub (tub)?

1. ice-cream van
2. lolly, ice lolly
3. ice-cream stick
4. cone
5. tub (tub)
6. ice-cream parlour
7. sundae (sundae)
8. whipped cream
9. wafer (wafels)
10. milkshake
11. scoop (scoop)
12. strawberry
13. lemon
14. stracciatella (stracciatella)
15. pistachio
16. chocolate
17. iced coffee

Exercise 1
Complete the definitions (A–F) with words from the list.

A. An “ice-cream parlour” is a shop that sells ice cream.
B. An “ice-cream cart” is a motorized vehicle from which ice cream is sold in the street.
C. An “ice-cream tub” is a small hand-pushed vehicle from which ice cream is sold in the street.
D. An “ice-cream sundae” is an ice cream covered with fruit, sauce, etc. and served in a tall glass.
E. An “ice-cream cone” is a hard, thin biscuit shaped like a cone that is filled with ice cream.
F. An “ice-cream scoop” is a tool used for serving ice cream. The word is also used to refer to the amount of ice cream it holds.

Exercise 2
Answer the questions below to find one word in each line that is different from the other two.

A. Which do you not eat from?
   1. a cone
   2. a tub
   3. a scoop

B. Which is not a flavour?
   1. chocolate
   2. pistachio
   3. sundae

C. Which can’t you eat?
   1. a taste
   2. a treat
   3. a topping

D. Which does not contain milk?
   1. a lolly
   2. iced coffee
   3. whipped cream

Exercise 3
Replace the expressions in bold with idiomatic expressions from the text on the opposite page.

A. No ice cream for me, thanks. I need to keep my weight down.
B. So many different flavours! We can’t decide which one to choose.
C. The Gelateria Alberto provides products for vegans.
D. They sell the best ice cream in town — for a lot of money!
E. Ice cream on a stick is not as good as the handmade Italian kind.

Absolutely delicious!
Here are some adjectives that you can use to talk about ice cream:
If ice cream tastes very good, you can say it is tasty, delicious or, very informally, yummy. If it’s mouth-watering, it looks or smells so good that you want to taste it. Ice cream made from milk is creamy. If it contains nuts, it can be crunchy. Cones and wafers should be crispy or crunchy. Ice cream usually tastes sweet, but some new flavours (such as Gianni’s lime and black pepper) may be tart or zesty. Ice cream contains a lot of calories, so unfortunately, it’s always fattening.

Answers
A. parlour
B. cart
C. cart
D. sundae
E. cone
F. scoop

Answers
1. A–2; B–3; C–1; D–1
2. A. watch my figure
   B. are spoiled for choice
   C. caters to
   D. at a price
   E. Absolutely delicious

Illustration: Martin Haake