

## THE COFFEE PLANTATION

### Isak Dinesen



**Isak** vere called out to pick the coffee off the trees, together with men; then the wagons and carts brought it down to the factory near the river. Our machinery was never quite what it should have been, but we had planned and built the factory ourselves and thought highly of it. Once the whole factory burned down and had to be built up again. The big coffee - dryer turned, rumbling the coffee in its iron belly with a sound like peddles that are washed about on the sea-shore. Sometimes the coffee would be dry, and ready to take out of the dryer, in the middle of the night. That was a picturesque moment, with many hurricane lamps in the huge dark room of

the factory, that was hung everywhere with cobwebs and coffee-husks and with eager glowing dark faces, in the light of the lamps, round the drye the factory, you felt, hung in the great African night like a jewel in a Ethiop's ear. Later on the coffee was hulled, graded and sorted, by hand, and packed in sacks sewn up with a saddler's needle.

- **acre** - акр (близько 0.4 га)
- **bitter** - гіркий, озлоблений
- **coffee-husks** - кавове лушпиння
- **cobweb** - павутиння; перен. пастка, тенета
- **saddler** - лимар, шорник; верховий кінь
- **grade** - ранг, чин; розташування за рангом

### Questions about the reading

- Do you think the writer herself did much work on the plantation? What sort of work do you think she did? Why do you think so?

### Writing Assignments

- Write a paragraph describing a job in which your whole family pitched in to help.
- Pick one season of the year and write a paragraph describing what this place looks like during that time.

**day, Americans eat 50 million pounds of sugar, 3 million pounds of ice cream, and 5.8 million pounds of chocolate candy. Yet junk foods, as they are commonly known, contain few if any of the nutrients needed to maintain good health. Why, then do people eat so much junk food? Here are two reasons.**

We crunch and chew our way through vast quantities of snacks and confectionaries and relieve our thirst with multicolored, flavored soft drinks with and without calories, for two basic reasons. The **first** is simple: the food tastes good, and we enjoy the sensation of eating it. **Second**, we associate these foods, often without being aware of it, with the highly pleasurable experiences depicted in the advertisements used to promote their sale. Current television advertisements demonstrate this point: people turn from grumpiness to euphoria after crunching a corn chip. Others water ski into the sunset with their loved ones while drinking a popular soft drink. People entertain on the patio with friends, cook over campfires without mosquitoes, or go to carnivals with granddad munching away at the latest