Scaffolding Inference

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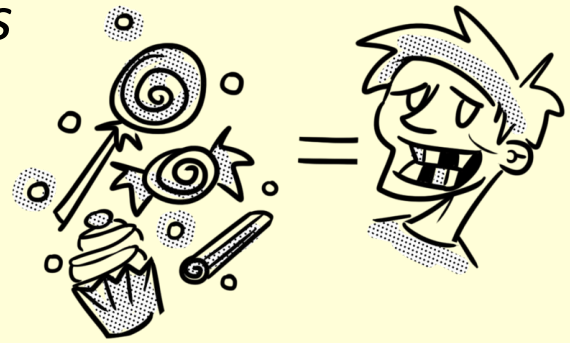
Science

Read this text and think about the question below.

Imagine a spoonful of sugar. There it is, white and grainy, sitting in a neat pile. It might look harmless but we all know what it can do to our teeth. We might even have been told how sugar causes these problems. It is all to do with the way the bacteria in our mouths break down the sugar to leave an acid which destroys the enamel (the hard covering that protects our teeth). It is easy to look at a lollypop or iced bun and imagine all the sugar crammed into it. Perhaps it is less easy to picture these granules in a bottle of fizzy drink. However, there are about ten teaspoons of sugar hidden in a can of cola. What would you think if you saw someone happily heaping ten teaspoons of sugar into their mug of tea?



Question: Why does the text suggest it is less easy to imagine sugar in a drink?

What we need to know first …

a. Vocabulary question (Click to check your answer.)

Find and **copy** a word that means *small pieces*.

granules

b. Retrieval question (Click to check your answer.)

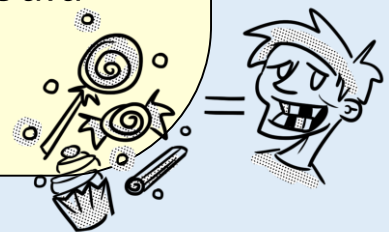
How much sugar is in a can of cola?

(about) ten teaspoons

Thinking about the question

Question: Why does the text suggest it is less easy to imagine sugar in a drink?

Imagine a spoonful of sugar. There it is, white and grainy, sitting in a neat pile. It might look harmless but we all know what it can do to our teeth. We might even have been told how sugar causes these problems. It is all to do with the way the bacteria in our mouths break down the sugar to leave an acid which destroys the enamel (the hard covering that protects our teeth). It is easy to look at a lollypop or iced bun and imagine all the sugar crammed into it. Perhaps it is less easy to picture these granules in a bottle of fizzy drink. However, there are about ten teaspoons of sugar hidden in a can of cola. What would you think if you saw someone happily heaping ten teaspoons of sugar into their mug of tea?



If the question asks "Why?", I'm looking for a reason.

I need to find out why sugar is less easy to see in a drink.

Sugar is made up of solid granules which are easy to see.

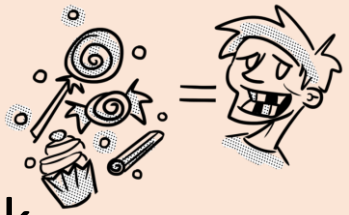
The text says sugar is hidden in drinks.

Perhaps things are less easy to imagine if you can't see them in the same state.

Answering the question

Question: Why does the text suggest it is less easy to imagine sugar in a drink?

Answer: accept any of the following points:



- The sugar is hidden in a drink.
- We imagine sugar as being solid but we don’t see solid sugar in a drink.
- Sugar is in a different state when it is in a drink compared to when it is in a solid food like sweets and cakes.

Note: you will probably only need one or two pieces of evidence but it is useful to see a full range of possible answers.