

Recitation B

Colonel Harland Sanders

Have you heard of Harland Sanders? You have probably seen his statue standing outside KFC restaurants. Colonel Sanders was the founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken and his restaurants are now in more than 80 countries. However, his success didn't come quickly, and it didn't come easily.

Harland's father died in 1896, when Harland was only six years old. His mother started working long hours to support the family. Harland had to look after his younger brother and sister, and also cook for the family. By the age of seven, he was able to cook several regional dishes.

As a young man, Harland was aimless. After dropping out of school, he worked as a farmer, but he didn't like it, and he became a streetcar conductor. Finding that collecting tickets wasn't interesting, he joined the army. This also didn't suit him, and he soon quit.

As Harland got older, things got worse. He kept changing jobs, but at that time he had a wife and a child to support. He worked as a blacksmith and dreamed of opening his own shop. Later he gave that up, and joined the railroad company instead. He liked this job, but was fired because of the economic depression.

In 1930, the 40-year-old Harland was operating a gas station in Kentucky. He started cooking for hungry travelers. Everyone loved his fried chicken recipe, and his fame grew and grew. In 1953, he was given the honorary title, 'Colonel,' by the governor of Kentucky.

Harland was in his late 60's when he opened his first restaurant. He had told his wife he would open a restaurant one day, but she laughed and called him a dreamer. For many long years, Harland's plans had never worked out. However, he kept trying, and finally he succeeded in a big way. He passed away in 1980, but his chicken recipe is still loved all over the world.

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