



One of my friends sent me a bar of Trader Joe's chocolate so I could see what all the fuss is about. A cursory look at the rather pretty box led me to believe that this was something I'd really like because the ingredients were right up my alley. I like toffee in my chocolate, and I'm a big fan of walnuts, too—the pecans were simply an additional bonus. The chocolate itself looked rather underwhelming. Even at 70% cocoa content, it didn't appear especially rich or dark. It seemed to be just a base to mix all the other stuff into.

That might not be entirely fair, though, because it's possible that the chocolate is just completely overwhelmed by the little chunks of toffee which are the star of the show. Or at least they are if you like your toffee a little bit on the burnt side, which I do. There's also a pleasant dose of sea salt thrown in, and that contrasting flavor makes periodic, intriguing appearances as you munch away.

Sadly, though, the pieces of nuts are rather small and don't really add much to the entire experience. Personally, I'd have rather had a bit more of a nutty flavor, especially since the chunks of nut get so much hype on the box. Maybe if the pieces were bigger they would add a crunchier texture so I would know they were there. The chocolate flavor itself is, as it appeared upon first glance, disappointingly plain.

Considering it only costs a couple dollars, this is a perfectly acceptable bar of chocolate but that price tag should bring some lowered expectations with it, too. The bar is definitely a little one note but that's ok if it's a note you enjoy. It isn't enough to turn me into a complete Trader Joe's convert, but chances are I'll give more of their chocolate a try next time I see one around.

Adapted from: <http://www.chocablog.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Trader-Joe-Toffee-Detail.jpg>

- 1) Read the text and decide how many stars the writer would give the chocolate and why.
- 2) Now look at the underlined phrases and write them in the correct category.

Phrases to give a negative opinion	Phrases to give a positive opinion	Ways to describe chocolate