

# FREETHINKERS DAY

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

January 29 is Freethinkers Day in America. It is an opportunity for people to promote and appreciate free thought. This is where logic and reason are seen as more important than faith. The day is also called Thomas Paine Day. He was a great American who lived between 1737 and 1809. He spent his life speaking and writing about the importance of freedom of thought. He wrote many books that became famous. These include 'The Age of Reason', 'The Rights of Man', and 'Common Sense'. They helped change societies across the world, particularly in 19th century America and France. His writing played a big part in the American and French revolutions. Paine was among the first to call for an end to slavery and for human rights around the world.

In the 1990s, the Thomas Paine Foundation began celebrating Thomas Paine's birthday. At the same time, the 'Truthseeker' magazine began celebrating Freethinkers Day on the same day. The magazine's aim was to inform Americans of the importance of Thomas Paine in the history of their freedom and liberty. The great inventor Thomas Edison said: "I have always regarded Paine as one of the greatest of all Americans. Never have we had a sounder intelligence....It was my good fortune to encounter Thomas Paine's works in my boyhood...Paine educated me, then, about many matters of which I had never before thought...I recall thinking, at that time, 'What a pity these works are not today the schoolbooks for all children!'"

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. an opportunity for people to promote and | a. big part                |
| 2. reason is seen as more important         | b. the world               |
| 3. writing about the importance of          | c. than faith              |
| 4. change societies across                  | d. an end to slavery       |
| 5. His writing played a                     | e. appreciate free thought |
| 6. among the first to call for              | f. freedom of thought      |

### Paragraph 2

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. celebrating Freethinkers Day on     | a. at that time         |
| 2. inform Americans of the importance  | b. the same day         |
| 3. the history of their freedom        | c. children             |
| 4. It was my good fortune to encounter | d. of Thomas Paine      |
| 5. I recall thinking                   | e. and liberty          |
| 6. schoolbooks for all                 | f. Thomas Paine's works |

## LISTENING GAP FILL

January 29 is Freethinkers Day in America. It is an opportunity for \_\_\_\_\_ appreciate free thought. This is where logic and reason are seen as more important than faith. The \_\_\_\_\_ Thomas Paine Day. He was a great American who lived between 1737 and 1809. He spent \_\_\_\_\_ writing about the importance of freedom of thought. He wrote \_\_\_\_\_ famous. These include 'The Age of Reason', 'The Rights of Man', and 'Common Sense'. They \_\_\_\_\_ across the world, particularly in 19th century America and France. His writing played a big part in the American and French revolutions. Paine was among the \_\_\_\_\_ end to slavery and for human rights around the world.

In the 1990s, the Thomas Paine Foundation began celebrating Thomas Paine's birthday. \_\_\_\_\_, the 'Truthseeker' magazine began celebrating Freethinkers Day on the same day. The magazine's \_\_\_\_\_ Americans of the importance of Thomas Paine \_\_\_\_\_ freedom and liberty. The great inventor Thomas Edison said: "I have always regarded Paine as one of the greatest of all Americans. Never have \_\_\_\_\_ intelligence....It \_\_\_\_\_ to encounter Thomas Paine's works in my boyhood...Paine educated me, then, about many matters of which I had never before thought....I recall thinking, at that time, 'What a pity these \_\_\_\_\_ the schoolbooks for all children!'"

## WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

**Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

January 29 is Freethinkers Day in America. It is an opportunity for people to \_\_\_\_\_ and appreciate free thought. This is where logic and reason are seen as more important than \_\_\_\_\_. The day is also called Thomas Paine Day. He was a \_\_\_\_\_ American who lived between 1737 and 1809. He \_\_\_\_\_ his life speaking and writing about the importance of freedom of thought. He wrote many books that became \_\_\_\_\_. These include 'The Age of Reason', 'The Rights of Man', and 'Common Sense'. They helped change \_\_\_\_\_ across the world, particularly in 19th century America and France. His writing \_\_\_\_\_ a big part in the American and French revolutions. Paine was among the first to call for an end to \_\_\_\_\_ and for human rights around the world.

*societies*

*spent*

*slavery*

*promote*

*famous*

*faith*

*played*

*great*

In the 1990s, the Thomas Paine Foundation \_\_\_\_\_ celebrating Thomas Paine's birthday. At the \_\_\_\_\_ time, the 'Truthseeker' magazine began celebrating Freethinkers Day on the same day. The magazine's \_\_\_\_\_ was to inform Americans of the importance of Thomas Paine in the history of their \_\_\_\_\_ and liberty. The great inventor Thomas Edison said: "I have always regarded Paine as one of the \_\_\_\_\_ of all Americans. Never have we had a sounder intelligence....It was my good fortune to encounter Thomas Paine's \_\_\_\_\_ in my boyhood...Paine educated me, then, about many matters of which I had never before thought....I \_\_\_\_\_ thinking, at that time, 'What a \_\_\_\_\_ these works are not today the schoolbooks for all children!'"

*greatest*

*same*

*recall*

*freedom*

*pity*

*began*

*works*

*aim*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

January 29 is Freethinkers Day in America. It is an opportunity for people to *promote / promotion* and appreciate free thought. This is where *logical / logic* and reason is seen *as / was* more important than faith. The day is also called Thomas Paine Day. He was a great American who lived between 1737 and 1809. He *spends / spent* his life speaking and writing about the importance of freedom of *think / thought*. He wrote many books that became famous. These include 'The Age of Reason', 'The Rights of Man', and 'Common Sense'. They helped change *societies / social* across the world, particularly in 19th century America and France. His writing played a big *party / part* in the American and French revolutions. Paine was among the first to *called / call* for an end to slavery and for human rights around the world.

In the 1990s, the Thomas Paine Foundation *begins / began* celebrating Thomas Paine's birthday. At the same *time / timing*, the 'Truthseeker' magazine began celebrating Freethinkers Day on the same day. The magazine's aim was to *information / inform* Americans of the importance of Thomas Paine in the history of their freedom and liberty. The great *inventor / invention* Thomas Edison said: "I have always regarded Paine as one of the *greatest / great* of all Americans. Never have we had a sounder intelligence....It was my *good / well* fortune to encounter Thomas Paine's works in my boyhood...Paine educated me, then, about many *matter / matters* of which I had never before thought....I recall thinking, at that time, 'What a *pitiful / pity* these works are not today the schoolbooks for all children!'"

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

January 29 is Freethinkers Day in America. It is an (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for people to promote and appreciate free thought. This is where logic and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ is seen as more important than faith. The day is also called Thomas Paine Day. He was a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ American who lived between 1737 and 1809. He spent his life speaking and writing about the importance of freedom of (4) \_\_\_\_\_. He wrote many books that became famous. These include 'The Age of Reason', 'The Rights of Man', and 'Common Sense'. They helped change societies across the world, particularly in 19th century America and France. His writing (5) \_\_\_\_\_ a big part in the American and French revolutions. Paine was among the first to call for an (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to slavery and for human rights around the world.

In the 1990s, the Thomas Paine Foundation began celebrating Thomas Paine's birthday. At the same time, (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 'Truthseeker' magazine began celebrating Freethinkers Day on the same day. The magazine's aim was to inform Americans of the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of Thomas Paine in the history of their freedom and liberty. The great inventor Thomas Edison said: "I have always regarded Paine as one of the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of all Americans. Never have we had a sounder intelligence....It was my good fortune to encounter Thomas Paine's works in my (10) \_\_\_\_\_ ...Paine educated me, then, about many (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of which I had never before thought....I recall thinking, at that time, 'What a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ these works are not today the schoolbooks for all children!'"

### Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |                 |                   |                |                 |
|-----|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) opportunity | (b) opportunities | (c) opportune  | (d) opportunism |
| 2.  | (a) season      | (b) treason       | (c) raisin     | (d) reason      |
| 3.  | (a) gratefully  | (b) great         | (c) greatly    | (d) gratitude   |
| 4.  | (a) think       | (b) thoughtful    | (c) thought    | (d) thinks      |
| 5.  | (a) plays       | (b) played        | (c) playful    | (d) play down   |
| 6.  | (a) end         | (b) ends          | (c) ended      | (d) endless     |
| 7.  | (a) a           | (b) the           | (c) an         | (d) no          |
| 8.  | (a) important   | (b) importantly   | (c) importance | (d) importing   |
| 9.  | (a) greatly     | (b) greeting      | (c) grated     | (d) greatest    |
| 10. | (a) boys        | (b) boycott       | (c) boyhood    | (d) boyish      |
| 11. | (a) matter      | (b) mattered      | (c) mattering  | (d) matters     |
| 12. | (a) pity        | (b) pities        | (c) pitiful    | (d) pitied      |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. promote and appreciate free utthgho
2. more important than atifh
3. He psten his life speaking and writing
4. books that became mfasuo
5. They helped change eisseitco across the world
6. call for an end to lyerasv

### Paragraph 2

7. ecgralbenit Thomas Paine's birthday
8. The magazine's aim was to irromfn Americans
9. the history of their freedom and tyierbl
10. one of the gseterta of all Americans
11. It was my good oftenru
12. tresamt of which I had never before thought



## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) time, the 'Truthseeker' magazine began celebrating Freethinkers Day on the same day. The magazine's aim was to
- ( ) the first to call for an end to slavery and for human rights around the world.
- ( ) in 19th century America and France. His writing played a big part in the American and French revolutions. Paine was among
- ( ) had a sounder intelligence....It was my good fortune to encounter Thomas Paine's works in my boyhood...Paine
- ( ) inventor Thomas Edison said: "I have always regarded Paine as one of the greatest of all Americans. Never have we
- ( ) time, 'What a pity these works are not today the schoolbooks for all children!'"
- ( ) inform Americans of the importance of Thomas Paine in the history of their freedom and liberty. The great
- ( **1** ) January 29 is Freethinkers Day in America. It is an opportunity for people to promote and appreciate free
- ( ) Thomas Paine Day. He was a great American who lived between 1737 and 1809. He spent his life speaking and writing
- ( ) thought. This is where logic and reason are seen as more important than faith. The day is also called
- ( ) In the 1990s, the Thomas Paine Foundation began celebrating Thomas Paine's birthday. At the same
- ( ) 'The Age of Reason', 'The Rights of Man', and 'Common Sense'. They helped change societies across the world, particularly
- ( ) educated me, then, about many matters of which I had never before thought....I recall thinking, at that
- ( ) about the importance of freedom of thought. He wrote many books that became famous. These include

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. thought appreciate promote free and

---

2. are reason and logic important more as seen

---

3. of importance the about writing thought of freedom

---

4. that famous wrote books became He many

---

5. slavery first for to the call end among to an

---

6. Day the day Freethinkers on same celebrating

---

7. was inform The aim to Americans magazine's

---

8. the of freedom liberty history their and

---

9. Never we a intelligence have had sounder

---

10. had I thought before never

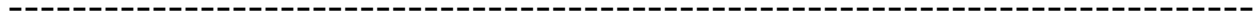
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**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# THE FREETHINKERS DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about Freethinkers Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about Freethinkers Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about Freethinkers Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. POSTER:** Make your own poster about Freethinkers Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.