

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/03/international_womens_day.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated around the world on March 8 every year. It began as a campaign for better working conditions by women in New York at the turn of the 20th century. The first official IWD was on February 28, 1909. No one knows for sure why the date changed to March 8, but this is the date when thousands of women started annual marches in New York's streets. The first international women's conference took place in 1910, in Denmark. Since then, IWD has spread around the world. Today it is an important day to highlight the economic, political and social contributions women have made to our world. Women can now be happier that things are moving in the right direction.

IWD is an official holiday in many countries, including Algeria, China, Cuba, Italy, Poland, Vietnam, and Zambia. All across the world, men give flowers and other gifts to the women in their lives - mothers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, teachers, etc. In Portugal and Romania, women celebrate by having "women-only" dinners. IWD is a big event in India, where people hold celebrations throughout the day. Indian men want to show how important women are to their society. All around the world women are becoming more powerful in business, entertainment, politics and other areas. There are over a dozen nations today with women leaders. However, IWD is still necessary to highlight the inequality millions of women still face.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. a campaign for better working | a. to our world |
| 2. at the turn of the | b. the date changed |
| 3. No one knows for sure why | c. in the right direction |
| 4. IWD has spread around | d. 20th century |
| 5. contributions women have made | e. the world |
| 6. things are moving | f. conditions by women |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. IWD is an official holiday | a. more powerful |
| 2. men give flowers and other gifts | b. of women still face |
| 3. women celebrate by having | c. in many countries |
| 4. people hold celebrations throughout | d. "women-only" dinners |
| 5. women are becoming | e. to the women in their lives |
| 6. highlight the inequality millions | f. the day |

LISTENING GAP FILL

International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated _____ on March 8 every year. It began as a campaign for better working conditions by women in New York _____ 20th century. The first official IWD was on February 28, 1909. No one knows _____ date changed to March 8, but this is the date when thousands of women started _____ New York's streets. The first international women's conference took place in 1910, in Denmark. Since then, IWD has spread _____. Today it is an important day to highlight the economic, political and social contributions women have made to our world. Women can now be happier that things are moving in _____.

IWD is _____ many countries, including Algeria, China, Cuba, Italy, Poland, Vietnam, and Zambia. All across the world, men give flowers and other gifts to the women _____ - mothers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, teachers, etc. In Portugal and Romania, women _____ "women-only" dinners. IWD is a big event in India, where people hold celebrations throughout the day. Indian men want to show how important women _____. All around the world women are becoming more powerful in business, entertainment, politics _____. There are over a dozen nations today with women leaders. However, IWD is still necessary to highlight the inequality millions of _____.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL**Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

International Women's Day (IWD) is _____ around the world on March 8 every year. It began as a _____ for better working conditions by women in New York at the _____ of the 20th century. The first official IWD was on February 28, 1909. No one knows for _____ why the date changed to March 8, but this is the date when thousands of women started _____ marches in New York's streets. The first international women's conference took place in 1910, in Denmark. Since then, IWD has spread around the world. Today it is an important day to _____ the economic, political and _____ contributions women have made to our world. Women can now be happier that things are moving in the right _____.

*highlight**turn**sure**social**celebrated**direction**annual**campaign*

IWD is an _____ holiday in many countries, including Algeria, China, Cuba, Italy, Poland, Vietnam, and Zambia. All _____ the world, men give flowers and other gifts to the women in their lives - mothers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, teachers, etc. In Portugal and Romania, women _____ by having "women-only" dinners. IWD is a big _____ in India, where people hold celebrations throughout the day. Indian men want to show how important women are to their _____. All around the world women are becoming more _____ in business, entertainment, politics and other areas. There are over a _____ nations today with women leaders. However, IWD is still necessary to _____ the inequality millions of women still face.

*society**celebrate**highlight**event**official**powerful**dozen**across*

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated around the world on March 8 every year. It began *was / as* a campaign for better working conditions by women in New York at the *turn / turned* of the 20th century. The first official IWD was on February 28, 1909. No one knows for *shore / sure* why the date changed to March 8, but this is the date when thousands of women started *annual / annually* marches in New York's streets. The first international women's conference took *place / placed* in 1910, in Denmark. Since then, IWD has spread around the world. Today it is an *importance / important* day to highlight the economic, political and social contributions women have made *to / of* our world. Women can now be happier that things are moving in the *right / left* direction.

IWD is an *official / officially* holiday in many countries, including Algeria, China, Cuba, Italy, Poland, Vietnam, and Zambia. All *cross / across* the world, men give flowers and other gifts to the women in their lives - mothers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, teachers, etc. In Portugal and Romania, women celebrate *to / by* having "women-only" dinners. IWD is a big *events / event* in India, where people hold celebrations throughout the day. Indian men want to *show / showing* how important women are to their society. All around the world women are becoming more *power / powerful* in business, entertainment, politics and other *areas / area*. There are over a dozen nations today with women leaders. However, IWD is still necessary to highlight the inequality millions of women still *face / head*.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

International Women's Day (IWD) is (1) _____ around the world on March 8 every year. It began as a campaign for better working conditions by women in New York at the (2) _____ of the 20th century. The first official IWD was on February 28, 1909. No one knows for (3) _____ why the date changed to March 8, but this is the date when thousands of women started annual (4) _____ in New York's streets. The first international women's conference took place in 1910, in Denmark. Since then, IWD has spread around the world. Today it is an important day to (5) _____ the economic, political and social contributions women have made to our world. Women can now be happier that things are (6) _____ in the right direction.

IWD is an (7) _____ holiday in many countries, including Algeria, China, Cuba, Italy, Poland, Vietnam, and Zambia. All across the world, men give flowers and other gifts to the women in their (8) _____ - mothers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, teachers, etc. In Portugal and Romania, women celebrate by having "women-(9) _____ " dinners. IWD is a big event in India, where people hold celebrations throughout the day. Indian men want to show how important women are to their (10) _____. All around the world women are becoming more powerful in business, entertainment, politics and other areas. There are over a dozen (11) _____ today with women leaders. However, IWD is still necessary to highlight the inequality millions of women still (12) _____.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) celebrate | (b) celebrated | (c) celebration | (d) celebrates |
| 2. | (a) turn | (b) turns | (c) turned | (d) turn off |
| 3. | (a) surely | (b) surer | (c) surest | (d) sure |
| 4. | (a) marched | (b) marchers | (c) marches | (d) marching |
| 5. | (a) highlights | (b) highlight | (c) highlighter | (d) highlighting |
| 6. | (a) movement | (b) moved | (c) moving | (d) mover |
| 7. | (a) officially | (b) officialdom | (c) officials | (d) official |
| 8. | (a) living | (b) livelihood | (c) lives | (d) lifestyle |
| 9. | (a) just | (b) lonely | (c) alone | (d) only |
| 10. | (a) social | (b) sociology | (c) socially | (d) society |
| 11. | (a) nation | (b) nations | (c) nationality | (d) nationhood |
| 12. | (a) face | (b) head | (c) nose | (d) cheek |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. teeblrcade around the world
2. working niodsotcn
3. The first lfoiicaf IWD
4. escmrha in New York's streets
5. be reappih
6. the right cndoetrii

Paragraph 2

7. All oacssr the world
8. men give ersofwl
9. a big neevt
10. how npimtator women are
11. more rofuplwe in business
12. IWD is still esasceynr

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- () Zambia. All across the world, men give flowers and other gifts to the women in their lives - mothers, wives,
- () IWD is an official holiday in many countries, including Algeria, China, Cuba, Italy, Poland, Vietnam, and
- (**1**) International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated around the world on March 8 every year. It began as a campaign
- () important women are to their society. All around the world women are becoming more powerful in business,
- () when thousands of women started annual marches in New York's streets. The first international women's conference took
- () entertainment, politics and other areas. There are over a dozen nations today with women
- () place in 1910, in Denmark. Since then, IWD has spread around the world. Today it is an important day to highlight
- () leaders. However, IWD is still necessary to highlight the inequality millions of women still face.
- () big event in India, where people hold celebrations throughout the day. Indian men want to show how
- () be happier that things are moving in the right direction.
- () IWD was on February 28, 1909. No one knows for sure why the date changed to March 8, but this is the date
- () girlfriends, sisters, teachers, etc. In Portugal and Romania, women celebrate by having "women-only" dinners. IWD is a
- () for better working conditions by women in New York at the turn of the 20th century. The first official
- () the economic, political and social contributions women have made to our world. Women can now

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. a conditions campaign It for began better as working

2. the knows date for changed sure No why one

3. started women streets York's New in marches annual

4. Since spread then around , the IWD world has

5. in right things moving the direction are

6. official an is IWD countries many in holiday

7. and flowers give men lives their in women the to gifts other

8. powerful business are more in women becoming

9. a nations with leaders dozen today women

10. face inequality of still the millions women

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 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about International Women's 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 International Women's Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about International Women's 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 International Women's 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.