

# WORLD WATER DAY

[http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/03/world\\_water\\_day.html](http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/03/world_water_day.html)

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## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Water is one of the most precious resources we have, but how often do we take time to value it? That's why the United Nations started International World Water Day (IWWD). The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development recommended an international day to celebrate freshwater. The United Nations General Assembly decided this was important and made 22 March World Water Day. The [UN website](#) says IWWD is "a means of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources." On IWWD, people should not use their taps for a whole day to make us understand how important water is.

The UN focuses on a different aspect of freshwater every year. The idea is to spread different messages about all the complicated issues surrounding water. Past campaigns included a focus on water and cities, water quality, sanitation, and water and disasters. The [water.org](#) website has many sad and shocking statistics about water. Here are three: First, around 780 million people have no access to clean water. Second, a child dies every 20 seconds because of drinking dirty water. Finally, women in poorer countries spend 200 million hours a day collecting water. Make sure you keep your taps turned off on IWWD. Or get involved in the different global events organised by [water.org](#). You can make a difference.

### Sources:

<http://www.unwater.org/WorldWaterDay/about.html>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World\\_Water\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Water_Day)

<http://www.un.org/en/events/waterday/>

<http://water.org/water-crisis/water-facts/water/>

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                                      |                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Water is one of the most precious | a. to value it              |
| 2. take time                         | b. freshwater resources     |
| 3. an international day to           | c. taps for a whole day     |
| 4. focusing attention on the         | d. resources we have        |
| 5. the sustainable management of     | e. celebrate freshwater     |
| 6. people should not use their       | f. importance of freshwater |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                         |                             |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. The UN focuses on a different aspect | a. no access to clean water |
| 2. all the complicated issues           | b. a difference             |
| 3. a focus                              | c. of freshwater every year |
| 4. 780 million people have              | d. involved                 |
| 5. get                                  | e. on water and cities      |
| 6. You can make                         | f. surrounding water        |

**LISTENING GAP FILL**

Water is one of the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ we have, but how often do we (2) \_\_\_\_\_? That's why the United Nations started International World Water Day (IWWD). The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development recommended an international (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The United Nations General Assembly decided this was important and made 22 March World Water Day. The UN website says IWWD is "a means (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of freshwater and advocating for the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of freshwater resources." On IWWD, people should (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a whole day to make us understand how important water is.

The UN focuses (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of freshwater every year. The idea is to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ about all the complicated issues surrounding water. Past campaigns included a focus on water and cities, (9) \_\_\_\_\_, and water and disasters. The water.org website has many sad and shocking statistics about water. Here are three: First, around 780 million people (10) \_\_\_\_\_ clean water. Second, a child dies every 20 seconds because of drinking dirty water. Finally, women in poorer countries spend 200 million hours a day collecting water. Make (11) \_\_\_\_\_ turned off on IWWD. Or get involved in the different global events organised by water.org. (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

## WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

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

Water is one of the most (1) \_\_\_\_\_ resources we have, but how often do we take time to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ it? That's why the United Nations started International World Water Day (IWWD). The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development recommended an international day to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ freshwater. The United Nations General Assembly (4) \_\_\_\_\_ this was important and made 22 March World Water Day. The UN website says IWWD is "a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ for the sustainable management of freshwater resources." On IWWD, people should not use their (7) \_\_\_\_\_ for a whole day to make us (8) \_\_\_\_\_ how important water is.

*precious*  
*value*  
*celebrate*  
*decided*  
*means*  
*advocating*  
*taps*  
*understand*

The UN focuses on a different (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of freshwater every year. The idea is to spread different (10) \_\_\_\_\_ about all the complicated issues surrounding water. Past campaigns included a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ on water and cities, water quality, sanitation, and water and disasters. The water.org website has many sad and shocking (12) \_\_\_\_\_ about water. Here are three: First, around 780 million people have no (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to clean water. Second, a child dies every 20 seconds because of drinking (14) \_\_\_\_\_ water. Finally, women in poorer countries spend 200 million hours a day (15) \_\_\_\_\_ water. Make sure you keep your taps turned off on IWWD. Or get (16) \_\_\_\_\_ in the different global events organised by water.org. You can make a difference.

*aspect*  
*messages*  
*focus*  
*statistics*  
*access*  
*dirty*  
*collecting*  
*involved*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

Water is one of the most *precious / preciously* resources we have, but how often do we take time to *worth / value* it? That's why the United Nations started International World Water Day (IWWD). The 1992 United Nations Conference *on / in* Environment and Development recommended an international day to *celebrate / celebratory* freshwater. The United Nations General Assembly decided this was important and *did / made* 22 March World Water Day. The UN website says IWWD is "a *means / ways* of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and *advocating / advocates* for the sustainable management of freshwater resources." On IWWD, people should not use their taps for a *whole / all* day to make us understand how important water is.

The UN focuses *on / in* a different aspect of freshwater every year. The idea is to *spear / spread* different messages about all the *complication / complicated* issues surrounding water. Past campaigns included a focus on water and cities, water quality, *sanitary / sanitation*, and water and disasters. The water.org website has many sad and shocking *statistics / statisticians* about water. Here are three: First, around 780 million people have no *access / accesses* to clean water. Second, a child dies every 20 seconds because of drinking dirty water. Finally, women in poorer countries *spending / spend* 200 million hours a day collecting water. Make sure you keep your taps turned off on IWWD. Or get involved in the different global events organised by water.org. You can make a *difference / different*.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

Water is one of the most (1) \_\_\_\_\_ resources we have, but how often do we take time to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ it? That's why the United Nations started International World Water Day (IWWD). The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development recommended an international day to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ freshwater. The United Nations General Assembly decided this was important and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 22 March World Water Day. The UN website says IWWD is "a means of focusing attention (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources." On IWWD, people should not use their taps for a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ day to make us understand how important water is.

The UN focuses on a different (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of freshwater every year. The idea is to spread different messages about all the complicated issues (8) \_\_\_\_\_ water. Past campaigns included a focus on water and cities, water quality, sanitation, and water and disasters. The water.org website has many sad and shocking (9) \_\_\_\_\_ about water. Here are three: First, around 780 million people have no access (10) \_\_\_\_\_ clean water. Second, a child dies every 20 seconds because of drinking dirty water. Finally, women in poorer countries spend 200 million hours a day (11) \_\_\_\_\_ water. Make sure you keep your taps turned off on IWWD. Or get involved in the different global events organised by water.org. You can make a (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

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

- |     |                 |                   |                |                 |
|-----|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) precious    | (b) precocious    | (c) previous   | (d) pretentious |
| 2.  | (a) worth       | (b) market        | (c) price      | (d) value       |
| 3.  | (a) drink       | (b) celebrate     | (c) make       | (d) store       |
| 4.  | (a) did         | (b) made          | (c) put        | (d) told        |
| 5.  | (a) in          | (b) of            | (c) on         | (d) at          |
| 6.  | (a) whole       | (b) entire        | (c) every      | (d) all         |
| 7.  | (a) prospect    | (b) circumspect   | (c) inspect    | (d) aspect      |
| 8.  | (a) surrounding | (b) surrounds     | (c) surrounded | (d) surround    |
| 9.  | (a) numerals    | (b) statisticians | (c) statistics | (d) numeracy    |
| 10. | (a) of          | (b) to            | (c) at         | (d) to          |
| 11. | (a) collection  | (b) collector     | (c) collecting | (d) collects    |
| 12. | (a) contrast    | (b) gap           | (c) imbalance  | (d) difference  |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. one of the most psieocru resources
2. take time to vueal it
3. ecndmedrmoe an international day
4. focusing naeottitn on the importance
5. sianlutseab management
6. not use their taps for a howle day

### Paragraph 2

7. The UN focuses on a different tecspa
8. spread different eeasmsgs
9. apcomdctiel issues
10. shocking tcsiisastt about water
11. ogctlnleci water
12. get dvovnlie

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) and cities, water quality, sanitation, and water and disasters. The water.org website has many sad
- ( ) clean water. Second, a child dies every 20 seconds because of drinking dirty water. Finally, women
- ( **1** ) Water is one of the most precious resources we have, but how often do we take time to
- ( ) value it? That's why the United Nations started International World Water Day (IWWD). The 1992 United Nations Conference
- ( ) and shocking statistics about water. Here are three: First, around 780 million people have no access to
- ( ) 22 March World Water Day. The UN website says IWWD is "a means of focusing attention
- ( ) messages about all the complicated issues surrounding water. Past campaigns included a focus on water
- ( ) in poorer countries spend 200 million hours a day collecting water. Make sure you keep your taps turned
- ( ) on Environment and Development recommended an international day to celebrate
- ( ) The UN focuses on a different aspect of freshwater every year. The idea is to spread different
- ( ) off on IWWD. Or get involved in the different global events organised by water.org. You can make a difference.
- ( ) on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources." On IWWD, people
- ( ) freshwater. The United Nations General Assembly decided this was important and made
- ( ) should not use their taps for a whole day to make us understand how important water is.

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. resources we have Water is one of the most precious.

---

2. time it often take value How we to do?

---

3. day international an Recommended freshwater celebrate to.

---

4. on of attention importance Focusing the freshwater.

---

5. for a whole day People should not use their taps.

---

6. different freshwater UN a of The on aspect focuses.

---

7. is idea The messages different spread to.

---

8. about statistics shocking and sad Many water.

---

9. clean water Around 780 million people have no access to.

---

10. global different the in involved Get events.

---

**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 WORLD WATER DAY SURVEY

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

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about World Water 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 World Water Day. Write about what 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.