

# WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

[http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/04/world\\_autism\\_awareness\\_day.html](http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/04/world_autism_awareness_day.html)

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

## **THE READING / TAPESCRIPT**

April the 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). Autism is a disorder that affects the development of the brain. People who suffer from autism often have problems interacting socially with others. They also repeat the same things again and again. WAAD started in 2007 when the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to recognize the disorder. The Emir of Qatar pushed for this day to take place and won support from UN member states. WAAD is one of only three United Nations Days that focus on specific diseases. It aims to bring the world's attention to autism and the tens of millions of sufferers. On this day, countries hold events that celebrate the unique talents and skills of autistic people.

Autism affects as many as 1 in 150 children. No one knows the reason why, but boys are four times more likely to have autism than girls. Autism can affect any child in the world, regardless of where they live or their social background. It is the fastest growing serious developmental disability in the world and is a growing global health crisis. Autism affects more children around the world than AIDS, cancer and diabetes combined. Parents usually notice the first signs of autism in children from the age of two. Although there is no cure for the condition yet, education can help the child become more independent. However much care autistic children receive, few grow up and look after themselves.

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. a disorder that affects the      | <i>a.</i> suffer from autism        |
| 2. People who                       | <i>b.</i> adopted a resolution      |
| 3. problems interacting             | <i>c.</i> skills of autistic people |
| 4. the UN General Assembly          | <i>d.</i> development of the brain  |
| 5. tens of millions                 | <i>e.</i> socially with others      |
| 6. celebrate the unique talents and | <i>f.</i> of sufferers              |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Autism affects as many as        | <i>a.</i> for the condition yet |
| 2. boys are four times more likely  | <i>b.</i> global health crisis  |
| 3. a growing                        | <i>c.</i> 1 in 150 children     |
| 4. Parents usually notice the first | <i>d.</i> to have autism        |
| 5. there is no cure                 | <i>e.</i> after themselves      |
| 6. few grow up and look             | <i>f.</i> signs of autism       |

**LISTENING GAP FILL**

April the 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). Autism is a \_\_\_\_\_ the development of the brain. People who suffer from autism often have problems interacting \_\_\_\_\_. They also repeat the same things again and again. WAAD started in 2007 when the UN General Assembly adopted a \_\_\_\_\_ the disorder. The Emir of Qatar pushed for this day to take place and \_\_\_\_\_ UN member states. WAAD is one of only three United Nations Days that focus on specific diseases. \_\_\_\_\_ the world's attention to autism and the tens of millions of sufferers. On this day, countries hold events that celebrate the \_\_\_\_\_ skills of autistic people.

Autism affects \_\_\_\_\_ 150 children. No one knows the reason why, but boys are four \_\_\_\_\_ have autism than girls. Autism can affect any child in the world, regardless of where \_\_\_\_\_ social background. It is the fastest growing serious developmental disability in the world and is a growing global health crisis. Autism affects more children \_\_\_\_\_ than AIDS, cancer and diabetes combined. Parents usually notice the first signs of autism in children \_\_\_\_\_ two. Although there is no cure for the condition yet, education can help the child become more independent. However much care autistic children receive, \_\_\_\_\_ look after themselves.

## WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

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

April the 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). Autism is a \_\_\_\_\_ that affects the development of the brain. People who suffer from autism often have problems interacting \_\_\_\_\_ with others. They also \_\_\_\_\_ the same things again and again. WAAD started in 2007 when the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to recognize the disorder. The Emir of Qatar \_\_\_\_\_ for this day to take place and won support from UN member states. WAAD is one of only three United Nations Days that \_\_\_\_\_ on specific diseases. It aims to bring the world's \_\_\_\_\_ to autism and the \_\_\_\_\_ of millions of sufferers. On this day, countries hold events that celebrate the \_\_\_\_\_ talents and skills of autistic people.

*pushed*  
*attention*  
*disorder*  
*tens*  
*repeat*  
*unique*  
*socially*  
*focus*

Autism \_\_\_\_\_ as many as 1 in 150 children. No one knows the reason why, but boys are four times more \_\_\_\_\_ to have autism than girls. Autism can affect any child in the world, \_\_\_\_\_ of where they live or their social background. It is the fastest \_\_\_\_\_ serious developmental disability in the world and is a growing global health \_\_\_\_\_. Autism affects more children around the world than AIDS, cancer and diabetes \_\_\_\_\_. Parents usually notice the first signs of autism in children from the age of two. Although there is no \_\_\_\_\_ for the condition yet, education can help the child become more independent. However much care autistic children receive, few grow up and \_\_\_\_\_ after themselves.

*likely*  
*combined*  
*regardless*  
*look*  
*crisis*  
*affects*  
*cure*  
*growing*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

April the 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). Autism is a *disorder / order* that affects the development of the brain. People who *suffer / suffering* from autism often have problems interacting socially with *other / others*. They also repeat the same things again and again. WAAD started in 2007 when the UN General Assembly *adoption / adopted* a resolution to recognize the disorder. The Emir of Qatar *pushed / shoved* for this day to take place and won support from UN member states. WAAD is one *of / for* only three United Nations Days that focus on specific diseases. It aims to bring the world's attention to autism and the *tens / ten* of millions of sufferers. On this day, countries hold events that celebrate the *uniquely / unique* talents and skills of autistic people.

Autism affects as many as 1 *on / in* 150 children. No one knows the reason why, but boys are four times more *liked / likely* to have autism than girls. Autism can affect *any / only* child in the world, regardless of where they *life / live* or their social background. It is the fastest growing serious developmental disability in the world and is a growing *global / globally* health crisis. Autism affects more children around the world than AIDS, cancer and diabetes combined. Parents usually *notice / noticing* the first signs of autism in children from the age of two. Although there is *not / no* cure for the condition yet, education can help the child become more independent. However much care autistic children receive, few *grow / grew* up and look after themselves.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

April the 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). Autism is a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that affects the development of the brain. People who suffer (2) \_\_\_\_\_ autism often have problems interacting socially with (3) \_\_\_\_\_. They also repeat the same things again and again. WAAD started in 2007 when the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the disorder. The Emir of Qatar pushed for this day to take place and won support from UN member states. WAAD is one of only three United Nations Days that focus (5) \_\_\_\_\_ specific diseases. It aims to bring the world's attention to autism and the tens of millions of sufferers. On this day, countries hold events that celebrate the unique talents and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of autistic people.

Autism affects as many as 1 (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 150 children. No one knows the reason why, but boys are four times more (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to have autism than girls. Autism can affect any child in the world, regardless of where they live or their social background. It is the fastest (9) \_\_\_\_\_ serious developmental disability in the world and is a growing global health crisis. Autism affects more children around the world than AIDS, cancer and diabetes (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Parents usually notice the first signs of autism in children from the age of two. Although there is (11) \_\_\_\_\_ cure for the condition yet, education can help the child become more independent. However much care autistic children receive, few (12) \_\_\_\_\_ up and look after themselves.

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

- |     |                 |                 |                |                |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) disorder    | (b) orderly     | (c) disorders  | (d) ordered    |
| 2.  | (a) for         | (b) that        | (c) from       | (d) at         |
| 3.  | (a) another     | (b) others      | (c) other      | (d) the other  |
| 4.  | (a) recognition | (b) recognized  | (c) recognizes | (d) recognize  |
| 5.  | (a) on          | (b) in          | (c) at         | (d) to         |
| 6.  | (a) skillful    | (b) skills      | (c) skilled    | (d) skillfully |
| 7.  | (a) on          | (b) at          | (c) in         | (d) to         |
| 8.  | (a) liked       | (b) likes       | (c) likely     | (d) liking     |
| 9.  | (a) growth      | (b) grows       | (c) grown      | (d) growing    |
| 10. | (a) combined    | (b) combination | (c) combines   | (d) combine    |
| 11. | (a) never       | (b) no          | (c) not        | (d) none       |
| 12. | (a) grew        | (b) growth      | (c) grown      | (d) grow       |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. Autism is a rderoids
2. problems interacting aislocly with others
3. won psotpur from UN member states
4. foucs on specific diseases
5. bring the world's tnnetiota to autism
6. eiugnu talents

### Paragraph 2

7. ctsfefa as many as 1 in 150 children
8. four times more eilylk
9. lcosia background
10. notice the first snsji
11. no rceu for the condition yet
12. look ferat themselves

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) development of the brain. People who suffer from autism often have problems interacting socially with
- ( ) cure for the condition yet, education can help the child become more independent. However
- ( **1** ) April the 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). Autism is a disorder that affects the
- ( ) others. They also repeat the same things again and again. WAAD started in 2007 when the UN General Assembly adopted
- ( ) much care autistic children receive, few grow up and look after themselves.
- ( ) support from UN member states. WAAD is one of only three United Nations Days that focus on specific diseases. It aims
- ( ) a resolution to recognize the disorder. The Emir of Qatar pushed for this day to take place and won
- ( ) world and is a growing global health crisis. Autism affects more children around the world than AIDS, cancer and
- ( ) diabetes combined. Parents usually notice the first signs of autism in children from the age of two. Although there is no
- ( ) events that celebrate the unique talents and skills of autistic people.
- ( ) to bring the world's attention to autism and the tens of millions of sufferers. On this day, countries hold
- ( ) Autism affects as many as 1 in 150 children. No one knows the reason why, but boys are four times
- ( ) or their social background. It is the fastest growing serious developmental disability in the
- ( ) more likely to have autism than girls. Autism can affect any child in the world, regardless of where they live

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. that the affects brain the a development disorder of

---

2. socially interacting problems have others with

---

3. same again again the things and repeat

---

4. from support won states member UN

---

5. autistic of skills and talents unique the people

---

6. 1 affects in as 150 many children as Autism

---

7. have times autism more boys likely are to four

---

8. in usually first autism Parents the of children notice signs

---

9. is there yet condition the for cure no

---

10. themselves grow and after few up look

---

**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 AUTISM AWARENESS DAY SURVEY

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

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about World Autism Awareness 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 Autism Awareness Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.