

# INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

[http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/05/international\\_day\\_for\\_biological\\_diversity.html](http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/05/international_day_for_biological_diversity.html)

## CONTENTS:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Listening / Reading Gap Fill	5
Choose the Correct Word	6
Multiple Choice	7
Spelling	8
Put the Text Back Together	9
Scrambled Sentences	10
Discussion	11
Student Survey	12
Writing	13
Homework	14

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

The International Day for Biological Diversity, sometimes called World Biodiversity Day, is a United Nations holiday based on biodiversity issues. It started in 1993 and is held on May 22. This is the date of the Rio Earth Summit of 1992. This was a major meeting to discuss life on our planet. A total of 172 governments attended the Summit, with a total of 108 heads of state. The main topics were the environment and sustainable development. Governments discussed ways to halt the destruction of irreplaceable natural resources and to protect ecosystems. The day now focuses on the threats climate change has on biodiversity. Experts say that tackling both together will mean we have a better chance of keeping the Earth's natural riches.

Biodiversity is the total variety of all forms of life on our Earth. It includes life at the genetic and cell level, through to all plant, fish, insect and animal species. Biodiversity also includes the thousands, perhaps millions, of ecosystems that make up our natural world. The word "biodiversity" arrived in 1985. It is a contraction of the words "biological" and "diversity". The word has grown into a very important concept we all need to understand. A respect for biodiversity means an understanding that we must help save our environment. Today, biodiversity is one of the world's most important issues. Many say that together with climate change, damage to biodiversity is the biggest threat to our survival.

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                                    |                                      |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. a United Nations holiday based  | <i>a.</i> of state                   |
| 2 This is the date of the          | <i>b.</i> on biodiversity            |
| 3. a total of 108 heads            | <i>c.</i> Rio Earth Summit of 1992   |
| 4. the environment and sustainable | <i>d.</i> on biodiversity issues     |
| 5. the threats climate change has  | <i>e.</i> the Earth's natural riches |
| 6. a better chance of keeping      | <i>f.</i> development                |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. the total variety of all    | <i>a.</i> important issues       |
| 2 It includes life at the      | <i>b.</i> to our survival        |
| 3. ecosystems that make        | <i>c.</i> forms of life          |
| 4. a very important concept we | <i>d.</i> genetic and cell level |
| 5. one of the world's most     | <i>e.</i> all need to understand |
| 6. the biggest threat          | <i>f.</i> up our natural world   |

## LISTENING GAP FILL

The International Day for Biological Diversity, sometimes called World Biodiversity Day, is a United Nations \_\_\_\_\_ biodiversity issues. It started in 1993 and is held on May 22. This is the date of the Rio Earth Summit of 1992. This was a major meeting \_\_\_\_\_ our planet. A total of 172 governments attended the Summit, with a total of \_\_\_\_\_. The main topics were the environment and sustainable development. Governments discussed \_\_\_\_\_ destruction of irreplaceable natural resources and to protect ecosystems. The day \_\_\_\_\_ the threats climate change has on biodiversity. Experts say that tackling both together will \_\_\_\_\_ better chance of keeping the Earth's natural riches.

Biodiversity is \_\_\_\_\_ all forms of life on our Earth. It includes life at the genetic and cell level, \_\_\_\_\_ plant, fish, insect and animal species. Biodiversity also includes the thousands, perhaps millions, of ecosystems \_\_\_\_\_ natural world. The word "biodiversity" arrived in 1985. It is a contraction of the words "biological" and "diversity". The word has \_\_\_\_\_ important concept we all need to understand. A respect for biodiversity means an understanding that we must help save our environment. Today, biodiversity \_\_\_\_\_ most important issues. Many say that together with climate change, damage to biodiversity is \_\_\_\_\_ to our survival.

**WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL**

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

The International Day for Biological Diversity, sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ World Biodiversity Day, is a United Nations holiday \_\_\_\_\_ on biodiversity issues. It started in 1993 and is held on May 22. This is the date of the Rio Earth Summit of 1992. This was a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting to discuss life on our planet. A total of 172 governments attended the Summit, with a total of 108 \_\_\_\_\_ of state. The main topics were the environment and sustainable development. Governments discussed ways to \_\_\_\_\_ the destruction of irreplaceable natural resources and to protect ecosystems. The day now \_\_\_\_\_ on the threats climate change has on biodiversity. Experts say that \_\_\_\_\_ both together will mean we have a better chance of keeping the Earth's natural \_\_\_\_\_.

*major*  
*halt*  
*based*  
*tackling*  
*riches*  
*called*  
*focuses*  
*heads*

Biodiversity is the total \_\_\_\_\_ of all forms of life on our Earth. It includes life at the genetic and cell level, \_\_\_\_\_ to all plant, fish, insect and animal species. Biodiversity also \_\_\_\_\_ the thousands, perhaps millions, of ecosystems that make up our natural world. The word "biodiversity" \_\_\_\_\_ in 1985. It is a contraction of the words "biological" and "diversity". The word has grown into a very important \_\_\_\_\_ we all need to understand. A \_\_\_\_\_ for biodiversity means an understanding that we must help save our environment. Today, biodiversity is one of the world's most important \_\_\_\_\_. Many say that together with climate change, damage to biodiversity is the biggest \_\_\_\_\_ to our survival.

*arrived*  
*variety*  
*issues*  
*concept*  
*threat*  
*respect*  
*through*  
*includes*

**CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD**

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

The International Day for Biological Diversity, *sometimes / sometime* called World Biodiversity Day, is a United Nations holiday based *at / on* biodiversity issues. It started in 1993 and is held on May 22. This is the date of the Rio Earth Summit of 1992. This was a *majors / major* meeting to discuss *life / live* on our planet. A total of 172 governments attended the Summit, with a total of 108 *hands / heads* of state. The main topics were the environment and sustainable development. Governments discussed ways to *hold / halt* the destruction of irreplaceable natural resources and to protect ecosystems. The day now focuses on the *threats / threaten* climate change has on biodiversity. Experts say that tackling both together will mean we have a better chance of keeping the Earth's natural *rich / riches*.

Biodiversity is the *total / totals* variety of all forms of life on our Earth. It includes life at the genetic and cell level, *thought / through* to all plant, fish, *insecticide / insect* and animal species. Biodiversity also includes the thousands, perhaps millions, of ecosystems that make *up / down* our natural world. The word "biodiversity" arrived in 1985. It is a contraction of the words "biological" and "diversity". The word has *grown / growing* into a very important concept we all need to understand. A respect for biodiversity *means / meaning* an understanding that we must help *safe / save* our environment. Today, biodiversity is one of the world's most important issues. Many say that together *with / by* climate change, damage to biodiversity is the biggest threat to our survival.

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

The International Day for Biological Diversity, sometimes (1) \_\_\_\_\_ World Biodiversity Day, is a United Nations holiday based on biodiversity issues. It started in 1993 and is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on May 22. This is the date of the Rio Earth Summit of 1992. This was a major meeting to discuss (3) \_\_\_\_\_ on our planet. A total of 172 governments attended the Summit, with a total of 108 (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of state. The main topics were the environment and sustainable development. Governments discussed ways (5) \_\_\_\_\_ halt the destruction of irreplaceable natural resources and to protect ecosystems. The day now focuses on the threats climate change has on biodiversity. Experts say that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ both together will mean we have a better chance of keeping the Earth's natural riches.

Biodiversity is the total variety of all forms of life on our Earth. It includes life at the genetic and cell (7) \_\_\_\_\_, through to all plant, fish, insect and animal species. Biodiversity also includes the thousands, perhaps millions, of ecosystems that (8) \_\_\_\_\_ up our natural world. The word "biodiversity" arrived in 1985. It is a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of the words "biological" and "diversity". The word has (10) \_\_\_\_\_ into a very important concept we all need to understand. A respect for biodiversity means an understanding that we must help (11) \_\_\_\_\_ our environment. Today, biodiversity is one of the world's most important issues. Many say that together with climate change, damage to biodiversity is the biggest (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to our survival.

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

- |     |              |                 |                 |               |
|-----|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) calling  | (b) calls       | (c) called      | (d) caller    |
| 2.  | (a) held     | (b) hold        | (c) holds       | (d) holding   |
| 3.  | (a) live     | (b) life        | (c) alive       | (d) lives     |
| 4.  | (a) feet     | (b) hands       | (c) heads       | (d) backs     |
| 5.  | (a) at       | (b) for         | (c) by          | (d) to        |
| 6.  | (a) tackle   | (b) tackled     | (c) tackles     | (d) tackling  |
| 7.  | (a) levelled | (b) levelling   | (c) level       | (d) leveller  |
| 8.  | (a) make     | (b) take        | (c) wake        | (d) rake      |
| 9.  | (a) contract | (b) contraction | (c) contracting | (d) contracts |
| 10. | (a) growing  | (b) grown       | (c) growth      | (d) grew      |
| 11. | (a) saver    | (b) savings     | (c) saviour     | (d) save      |
| 12. | (a) threat   | (b) threaten    | (c) treat       | (d) treats    |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. a United Nations holiday deasb on biodiversity
2. This was a ramoj meeting
3. 172 governments edatdne the Summit
4. Governments eicdsduss ways to halt the destruction
5. irreplaceable natural ssrecreuo
6. keeping the Earth's natural ehsric

### Paragraph 2

7. the total tevyrai of all forms of life
8. at the tegcien and cell level
9. ilnismlo, of eco-systems
10. a otnrncatoic of the words "biological" and "diversity"
11. A erpcset for biodiversity
12. the biggest threat to our srvilavu

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) ways to halt the destruction of irreplaceable natural resources and to protect ecosystems. The day now focuses
- ( ) mean we have a better chance of keeping the Earth's natural riches.
- ( ) to understand. A respect for biodiversity means an understanding that we must help save our
- ( ) level, through to all plant, fish, insect and animal species. Biodiversity also includes the thousands, perhaps
- ( **1** ) The International Day for Biological Diversity, sometimes called World Biodiversity Day, is a United Nations holiday based
- ( ) millions, of ecosystems that make up our natural world. The word "biodiversity" arrived in 1985. It is a contraction
- ( ) of the words "biological" and "diversity". The word has grown into a very important concept we all need
- ( ) Biodiversity is the total variety of all forms of life on our Earth. It includes life at the genetic and cell
- ( ) environment. Today, biodiversity is one of the world's most important issues. Many say that together with climate
- ( ) of 108 heads of state. The main topics were the environment and sustainable development. Governments discussed
- ( ) 1992. This was a major meeting to discuss life on our planet. A total of 172 governments attended the Summit, with a total
- ( ) on the threats climate change has on biodiversity. Experts say that tackling both together will
- ( ) change, damage to biodiversity is the biggest threat to our survival.
- ( ) on biodiversity issues. It started in 1993 and is held on May 22. This is the date of the Rio Earth Summit of

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. on based holiday U.N. a issues biodiversity

---

2. Rio the Earth date Summit of This the is

---

3. major on meeting our to planet discuss a life

---

4. natural halt destruction irreplaceable resources the of

---

5. Earth's keeping natural the riches

---

6. of variety total the life of forms all

---

7. up natural ecosystems make our world that

---

8. understand we a all very need important to concept

---

9. our save help must we environment

---

10. to threat biggest the survival our

---

**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

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

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

Copyright © www.ESL Holiday Lessons.com

**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

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

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

Copyright © www.ESL Holiday Lessons.com

## INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

### THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SURVEY

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

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about International Day For Biological Diversity. 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 Day For Biological Diversity. 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.