

NATIONAL BIODIESEL DAY

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

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

National Biodiesel Day is a day the biodiesel industry celebrates the role of the vegetable-based fuel in helping to tackle environmental problems. It takes place on March 18, which is the date of Rudolf Diesel's birthday. He invented diesel in 1912. He designed the diesel engine in the late 1800s to run on peanut oil. He was a visionary who knew that biofuels would become very important. In 1912, he said: "The use of vegetable oils for engine fuels may seem insignificant today, but such oils may become, in the course of time, as important as petroleum." He died in 1913, well before any hint of damage to the environment by fossil fuels, and long before the green movement, which would embrace his thinking.

The U.S. biodiesel industry is doing much to promote energy independence and reduce America's thirst for oil. In 2007, manufacturers produced 500 million gallons of biofuels, which reduced the need for 12 million barrels of oil. The biofuels industry is very excited about the future of biofuels. They say biofuels greatly reduce CO2 emissions and therefore are an important part of helping countries reduce their carbon footprints. President George W Bush described bio-fuels as one of the most promising forms of renewable energy. Not everyone is so eager in their praise of biofuels. Many blame them for reducing the amount of land available for food production, which has led to food shortages and rising food prices.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. ... celebrates the role of the vegetable- | a. the late 1800s |
| 2. helping to tackle environmental | b. as important as petroleum |
| 3. He designed the diesel engine in | c. engine fuels |
| 4. The use of vegetable oils for | d. based fuel |
| 5. oils may become, in the course of time, | e. the environment |
| 6. well before any hint of damage to | f. problems |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. reduce America's thirst | a. barrels of oil |
| 2. reduced the need for 12 million | b. of renewable energy |
| 3. very excited about the future | c. their carbon footprints |
| 4. helping countries reduce | d. available for food production |
| 5. one of the most promising forms | e. for oil |
| 6. reducing the amount of land | f. of biofuels |

LISTENING GAP FILL

National Biodiesel Day is a day the biodiesel industry celebrates _____ vegetable-based fuel in helping to tackle environmental problems. It takes place on March 18, _____ of Rudolf Diesel's birthday. He invented diesel in 1912. He designed the diesel engine in the late 1800s to run on peanut oil. He was _____ that biofuels would become very important. In 1912, he said: "The use of vegetable oils for engine fuels may seem insignificant today, _____ become, in the course of time, as important as petroleum." He died in 1913, well _____ damage to the environment by fossil fuels, and long before the green movement, _____ his thinking.

The U.S. biodiesel industry is _____ promote energy independence and reduce America's thirst for oil. In 2007, manufacturers produced 500 million gallons of biofuels, which _____ for 12 million barrels of oil. The biofuels industry is very excited about _____. They say biofuels greatly reduce CO2 emissions and therefore are an important part of helping countries reduce their _____. President George W Bush described bio-fuels as one of the most promising forms of renewable energy. Not everyone is _____ praise of biofuels. Many blame them for reducing the amount of land available for food production, _____ food shortages and rising food prices.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

National Biodiesel Day is a day the biodiesel industry celebrates the _____ of the vegetable-based fuel in helping to tackle environmental problems. It takes _____ on March 18, which is the date of Rudolf Diesel's birthday. He _____ diesel in 1912. He designed the diesel engine in the _____ 1800s to run on peanut oil. He was a _____ who knew that biofuels would become very important. In 1912, he said: "The use of vegetable oils for engine fuels may _____ insignificant today, but such oils may become, in the course of time, as important as petroleum." He died in 1913, well before any _____ of damage to the environment by fossil fuels, and long before the green movement, which would _____ his thinking.

invented

seem

role

hint

visionary

place

embrace

late

The U.S. biodiesel industry is doing _____ to promote energy independence and reduce America's _____ for oil. In 2007, manufacturers produced 500 million gallons of biofuels, which reduced the _____ for 12 million barrels of oil. The biofuels industry is very excited about the _____ of biofuels. They say biofuels greatly reduce CO2 emissions and therefore are an important part of helping countries reduce their _____ footprints. President George W Bush described bio-fuels as one of the most _____ forms of renewable energy. Not everyone is so eager in their _____ of biofuels. Many blame them for reducing the amount of land available for food production, which has led to food _____ and rising food prices.

need

shortages

thirst

promising

much

carbon

praise

future

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

National Biodiesel Day is a *date / day* the biodiesel industry celebrates the role of the vegetable-based fuel in *help / helping* to tackle environmental problems. It takes place on March 18, which is the date of Rudolf Diesel's birthday. He *invented / invention* diesel in 1912. He designed the diesel engine in the late 1800s to run *in / on* peanut oil. He was a visionary who knew that biofuels would become very important. In 1912, he said: "The use of vegetable oils *of / for* engine fuels may seem insignificant today, but such oils may become, in the course of time, as *importance / important* as petroleum." He died in 1913, well before any hint of *damaged / damage* to the environment by fossil fuels, and long before the green movement, which would embrace his *think / thinking*.

The U.S. biodiesel industry is doing *many / much* to promote energy independence and reduce America's *thirst / thirsty* for oil. In 2007, manufacturers produced 500 million gallons of biofuels, which reduced the *need / necessary* for 12 million barrels of oil. The biofuels industry is very excited about the future *to / of* biofuels. They say biofuels greatly reduce CO2 emissions and therefore are an important part of helping countries *reduction / reduce* their carbon footprints. President George W Bush described bio-fuels as one of the most *promises / promising* forms of renewable energy. Not everyone is so eager in their praise of biofuels. Many blame *it / them* for reducing the amount of land available for food production, which has led to food shortages and rising food *price / prices*.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

National Biodiesel Day is a day the biodiesel (1) _____ celebrates the role of the vegetable-based fuel in helping to tackle environmental problems. It takes place on March 18, which is the date of Rudolf Diesel’s birthday. He (2) _____ diesel in 1912. He designed the diesel engine in the (3) _____ 1800s to run on peanut oil. He was a visionary who knew that biofuels would become very important. In 1912, he said: “The use of vegetable oils for engine fuels may (4) _____ insignificant today, but such oils may become, in the course of time, as important as petroleum.” He died in 1913, (5) _____ before any hint of damage to the environment by fossil fuels, and long before the green movement, which would embrace his (6) _____.

The U.S. biodiesel industry is doing (7) _____ to promote energy independence and reduce America’s thirst for oil. In 2007, manufacturers produced 500 million gallons of biofuels, which reduced the need (8) _____ 12 million barrels of oil. The biofuels industry is very excited about the future of biofuels. They say biofuels greatly reduce CO2 emissions and therefore are an important part of helping countries (9) _____ their carbon footprints. President George W Bush described bio-fuels as one of the most promising forms of (10) _____ energy. Not everyone is so eager in their praise of biofuels. Many (11) _____ them for reducing the amount of land available for food production, which has led to food shortages and (12) _____ food prices.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) industrial | (b) industries | (c) industrialize | (d) industry |
| 2. | (a) invented | (b) inventor | (c) invents | (d) inventing |
| 3. | (a) behind | (b) late | (c) after | (d) dead |
| 4. | (a) seems | (b) seem | (c) seeming | (d) seemingly |
| 5. | (a) good | (b) OK | (c) well | (d) |
| 6. | (a) thinker | (b) thoughtful | (c) think | (d) thinking |
| 7. | (a) much | (b) many | (c) lot | (d) large |
| 8. | (a) necessary | (b) needy | (c) need | (d) needing |
| 9. | (a) reduction | (b) reducing | (c) reduces | (d) reduce |
| 10. | (a) renew | (b) renewing | (c) renewable | (d) renews |
| 11. | (a) blameworthy | (b) blame | (c) blameless | (d) blameful |
| 12. | (a) rising | (b) raise | (c) rise | (d) arisen |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. etlcka environmental problems
2. He dtenvnei diesel
3. He designed the diesel eninge
4. He was a irvnsiyoa
5. as mpttaorni as petroleum
6. the nrgee movement

Paragraph 2

7. poremot energy independence
8. America's hsirtt for oil
9. 12 million srearlb of oil
10. CO2 sisinemso
11. carbon fnototsirp
12. food gstehsrao

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () fuels, and long before the green movement, which would embrace his thinking.
- (**1**) National Biodiesel Day is a day the biodiesel industry celebrates the role of the vegetable-based fuel in
- () emissions and therefore are an important part of helping countries reduce their carbon
- () The U.S. biodiesel industry is doing much to promote energy independence and reduce America's thirst
- () available for food production, which has led to food shortages and rising food prices.
- () oil. He was a visionary who knew that biofuels would become very important. In 1912, he said: "The use of
- () for oil. In 2007, manufacturers produced 500 million gallons of biofuels, which reduced the need for 12 million barrels
- () vegetable oils for engine fuels may seem insignificant today, but such oils may become, in the course of
- () energy. Not everyone is so eager in their praise of biofuels. Many blame them for reducing the amount of land
- () footprints. President George W Bush described bio-fuels as one of the most promising forms of renewable
- () birthday. He invented diesel in 1912. He designed the diesel engine in the late 1800s to run on peanut
- () of oil. The biofuels industry is very excited about the future of biofuels. They say biofuels greatly reduce CO2
- () helping to tackle environmental problems. It takes place on March 18, which is the date of Rudolf Diesel's
- () time, as important as petroleum." He died in 1913, well before any hint of damage to the environment by fossil

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. of role the fuel based - vegetable the

2. the late diesel 1800s engine He in designed the

3. fuels engine for oils vegetable of use The

4. any before environment the to damage of hint

5. the long green before movement

6. thirst reduce for America's oil

7. biofuels produced million of manufacturers 500 gallons

8. greatly emissions reduce biofuels CO2

9. carbon their reduce countries helping footprints

10. for available land of amount the reducing food

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 NATIONAL BIODIESEL DAY SURVEY

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

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about National Biodiesel 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 National Biodiesel 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.