

NO HOUSEWORK DAY

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/04/no_housework_day.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

No Housework Day is one of those days you see on calendars on the Internet but don't know where it came from. It is always on April 7th. It is one day of the year when it is OK to do nothing in the house. Everybody has the day off from doing the household chores. It's OK to let the dishes and washing pile up; it's no problem to let another layer of dust settle on top of the TV; and it's absolutely fine to leave the vacuum cleaner in its corner for the day. And as for cooking, make sure you have a home-delivery phone number handy. Or even better, get yourself off to a restaurant. This is also a good day for those who never do anything around the house, who never lift a finger, to appreciate those who do the housework.

What is housework, exactly? If you never do it, you probably never think about this. It is a lot of hard work and someone does it every single day. It starts while the rest of the house is still asleep. Next time you wake up, listen to see if you can hear the washing machine working or smell the coffee machine. It happens while you are still trying to open your eyes at the breakfast table. Then while you are at school or work, the breakfast dishes are magically cleaned, the tables wiped and the dishes all put in their place. You come home from school or work and the bath is clean, again. Your shirts are washed, ironed, and hanging in your closet, again. The toothpaste tube in the bathroom is never empty. Who does all this invisible housework?

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. one of those | a. in the house |
| 2. it is OK to do nothing | b. do the housework |
| 3. let the dishes and washing | c. a finger |
| 4. get yourself off | d. days |
| 5. never lift | e. pile up |
| 6. appreciate those who | f. to a restaurant |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. It is a lot of | a. open your eyes |
| 2. the rest of the house | b. is never empty |
| 3. you are still trying to | c. in their place |
| 4. the breakfast dishes are | d. hard work |
| 5. the dishes all put | e. is still asleep |
| 6. The toothpaste tube in the bathroom | f. magically cleaned |

LISTENING GAP FILL

No Housework Day is _____ you see on calendars on the Internet but don't know where it came from. It is always on April 7th. It is one day of the year _____ nothing in the house. Everybody has the day off from doing the household chores. It's OK to let the dishes and _____; it's no problem to let another layer of dust settle on top of the TV; and it's absolutely fine to leave the vacuum cleaner _____ the day. And as for cooking, make sure you have a home-delivery phone number handy. Or even better, get _____ restaurant. This is also a good day for those who never do anything around the house, who _____, to appreciate those who do the housework.

What is housework, exactly? _____, you probably never think about this. It is a lot of hard work and someone does it every single day. It _____ of the house is still asleep. Next time you wake up, _____ can hear the washing machine working or smell the coffee machine. It happens while you _____ open your eyes at the breakfast table. Then while you are at school or work, the breakfast dishes are magically cleaned, the tables wiped and the dishes all _____. You come home from school or work and the bath is clean, again. Your shirts are washed, ironed, and hanging in your closet, again. The toothpaste tube in the bathroom _____. Who does all this invisible housework?

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

No Housework Day is one of _____ days you see on calendars on the Internet but don't know where it came from. It is always on April 7th. It is one day of the year _____ it is OK to do nothing in the house. Everybody has the day off from doing the household _____. It's OK to let the dishes and washing _____ up; it's no problem to let another layer of dust _____ on top of the TV; and it's absolutely _____ to leave the vacuum cleaner in its corner for the day. And as for cooking, make sure you have a home-delivery phone number _____. Or even better, get yourself off to a restaurant. This is also a good day for those who never do anything around the house, who never lift a _____, to appreciate those who do the housework.

*settle**pile**handy**chores**fine**those**finger**when*

What is housework, _____? If you never do it, you probably never think about this. It is a lot of hard work and someone does it every _____ day. It starts while the rest of the house is still asleep. Next time you wake up, _____ to see if you can hear the washing machine working or smell the coffee machine. It happens while you are still trying to _____ your eyes at the breakfast table. Then while you are at school or work, the breakfast _____ are magically cleaned, the tables _____ and the dishes all put in their place. You come home from school or work and the bath is clean, again. Your shirts are washed, ironed, and _____ in your closet, again. The toothpaste _____ in the bathroom is never empty. Who does all this invisible housework?

*hanging**listen**wiped**open**exactly**tube**dishes**single*

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

No Housework Day is one of *those / them* days you see on calendars on the Internet but don't know where it *come / came* from. It is always on April 7th. It is one day of the year when it is OK to do nothing *on / in* the house. Everybody has the day off from doing the household chores. It's OK to let the dishes and washing pile *up / down*; it's no problem to let another layer of dust settle on top of the TV; and it's absolutely *fine / find* to leave the vacuum cleaner in its corner for the day. And *as / was* for cooking, make sure you have a home-delivery phone number *handed / handy*. Or even better, get yourself off to a restaurant. This is also a good day for those who never do anything around the house, who never *hold / lift* a finger, to appreciate those who do the housework.

What is housework, exactly? If you never do *one / it*, you probably never think about this. It is a lot of hard *works / work* and someone does it every single day. It starts while the *rest / resting* of the house is still asleep. Next time you wake up, listen to *hear / see* if you can hear the washing machine working or smell the coffee machine. It happens while you are still *trying / tried* to open your eyes at the breakfast table. Then while you are at school or work, the breakfast dishes are *magic / magically* cleaned, the tables wiped and the dishes all put in their place. You come home from school or work and the bath is clean, again. Your shirts are washed, *iron / ironed*, and hanging in your closet, again. The toothpaste *tube / tub* in the bathroom is never empty. Who does all this invisible housework?

MULTIPLE CHOICE

No Housework Day is one of (1) _____ days you see on calendars on the Internet but don't know where it came from. It is always on April 7th. It is one day of the year when it is OK to do nothing in the house. Everybody has the day (2) _____ from doing the household chores. It's OK to let the dishes and washing pile (3) _____; it's no problem to let another layer of dust settle on top of the TV; and it's absolutely (4) _____ to leave the vacuum cleaner in its corner for the day. And as for cooking, make sure you have a home-delivery phone number (5) _____. Or even better, get yourself off to a restaurant. This is also a good day for those who never do anything around the house, who never (6) _____ a finger, to appreciate those who do the housework.

What is housework, exactly? If you never do (7) _____, you probably never think about this. It is a lot of hard work and someone does it every (8) _____ day. It starts while the rest of the house is still asleep. Next time you wake up, listen to (9) _____ if you can hear the washing machine working or smell the coffee machine. It happens while you are still trying to open your eyes at the breakfast table. Then while you are at school or work, the breakfast dishes are (10) _____ cleaned, the tables (11) _____ and the dishes all put in their place. You come home from school or work and the bath is clean, again. Your shirts are washed, ironed, and hanging in your closet, again. The toothpaste (12) _____ in the bathroom is never empty. Who does all this invisible housework?

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) those | (b) them | (c) they | (d) these |
| 2. | (a) on | (b) up | (c) off | (d) in |
| 3. | (a) down | (b) in | (c) off | (d) up |
| 4. | (a) finest | (b) fine | (c) find | (d) fin |
| 5. | (a) handy | (b) handed | (c) handing | (d) hands |
| 6. | (a) hold | (b) point | (c) wave | (d) lift |
| 7. | (a) it | (b) them | (c) one | (d) all |
| 8. | (a) one | (b) single | (c) sole | (d) alone |
| 9. | (a) hear | (b) see | (c) listen | (d) view |
| 10. | (a) magic | (b) magical | (c) magically | (d) magician |
| 11. | (a) whipped | (b) warped | (c) wiped | (d) wrapped |
| 12. | (a) tub | (b) carton | (c) jar | (d) tube |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. it is OK to do nngotih
2. household erohcs
3. another yrela of dust
4. home-vlieerdy phone number
5. never lift a rneifg
6. do the krhoesuswo

Paragraph 2

7. you bpbyolar never think
8. every nliges day
9. yrting to open your eyes
10. the breakfast dseshi are magically cleaned
11. hanging in your slteco
12. hstaootetp tube

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () machine. It happens while you are still trying to open your eyes at the breakfast table. Then while you are at
- () of dust settle on top of the TV; and it's absolutely fine to leave the vacuum cleaner in its corner for
- () place. You come home from school or work and the bath is clean, again. Your shirts are washed, ironed, and hanging in
- (**1**) No Housework Day is one of those days you see on calendars on the Internet but don't know where it came
- () better, get yourself off to a restaurant. This is also a good day for those who never do anything
- () around the house, who never lift a finger, to appreciate those who do the housework.
- () work and someone does it every single day. It starts while the rest of the house is still asleep. Next time you wake
- () your closet, again. The toothpaste tube in the bathroom is never empty. Who does all this invisible housework?
- () the day. And as for cooking, make sure you have a home-delivery phone number handy. Or even
- () from. It is always on April 7th. It is one day of the year when it is OK to do nothing in the house. Everybody has the day
- () school or work, the breakfast dishes are magically cleaned, the tables wiped and the dishes all put in their
- () up, listen to see if you can hear the washing machine working or smell the coffee
- () off from doing the household chores. It's OK to let the dishes and washing pile up; it's no problem to let another layer
- () What is housework, exactly? If you never do it, you probably never think about this. It is a lot of hard

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. one calendars on see you days those of

2. OK the to house do it nothing is in

3. chores household the doing from off day the

4. dust of layer another let settle

5. those appreciate housework the do who

6. think never probably you this about

7. work is lot hard It a of

8. can you if see machine washing the hear

9. magically are dishes breakfast the cleaned

10. toothpaste is tube never in empty the The bathroom

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 NO HOUSEWORK DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about No Housework 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 No Housework Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about No Housework 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 No Housework Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.