

International Volunteer Day

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/12/international_volunteer_day.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Come on everybody. Get up and do something. December the 5th is International Volunteer Day. This highly important day was started by the United Nations in 1985. Its aim is twofold: first, to thank volunteers around the world for giving their time to help others; and second, to encourage other people to do voluntary work. Without volunteers, many people around the world would be worse off. In fact, the whole world would be a darker place. Volunteers help other people and help animals, the countryside, the environment and many more things that are so important to us. The UN urges governments around the world to take measures to heighten awareness of the important contribution of volunteering.

There are thousands of volunteer organizations around the world. Some of them are very famous. Perhaps everyone has heard of VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas), the Peace Corps, and Muslim Aid. A search on the Internet will pretty much give you a volunteer group on anything or anyone you want to help. You don't need to join a worldwide group to be a volunteer. Most voluntary work that takes place around the globe is by individuals helping their neighbours. We have probably all gone out of our way to help someone less fortunate. The great thing about voluntary work is that it makes you feel like a better person. So please, on this International Volunteer Day, think about how you can help, and offer your services.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Get up and do | <i>a.</i> worse off |
| 2. This highly important | <i>b.</i> twofold |
| 3. Its aim is | <i>c.</i> heighten awareness |
| 4. giving their time | <i>d.</i> day |
| 5. the world would be | <i>e.</i> something |
| 6. take measures to | <i>f.</i> to help others |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Perhaps everyone has heard | <i>a.</i> much |
| 2. pretty | <i>b.</i> to help |
| 3. join a worldwide | <i>c.</i> services |
| 4. gone out of our way | <i>d.</i> a better person |
| 5. it makes you feel like | <i>e.</i> of VSO |
| 6. offer your | <i>f.</i> group |

LISTENING GAP FILL

Come on everybody. _____ something. December the 5th is International Volunteer Day. This highly important day was started by the United Nations in 1985. Its _____: first, to thank volunteers around the world for giving their time to help others; and second, to encourage _____ voluntary work. Without volunteers, many people around the world would be worse off. In fact, the whole world would _____. Volunteers help other people and help animals, the countryside, the environment and many more _____ important to us. The UN urges governments around the world to take _____ awareness of the important contribution of volunteering.

There are thousands of volunteer organizations around the world. Some _____ famous. Perhaps everyone has heard of VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas), the Peace Corps, and Muslim Aid. A search on the Internet will _____ you a volunteer group on anything or anyone you want to help. You _____ a worldwide group to be a volunteer. Most voluntary work that _____ the globe is by individuals helping their neighbours. We have probably all _____ to help someone less fortunate. The great thing about voluntary work is that it makes you feel like a better person. So please, on this International Volunteer Day, think about _____, and offer your services.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL**Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

Come on everybody. Get up and do something. December the 5th is International Volunteer Day. This _____ important day was started by the United Nations in 1985. Its _____ is twofold: first, to thank volunteers around the world for giving their time to help others; and second, to _____ other people to do voluntary work. Without volunteers, many people around the world would be _____ off. In fact, the whole world would be a _____ place. Volunteers help other people and help animals, the countryside, the environment and many _____ things that are so important to us. The UN urges governments around the world to _____ measures to _____ awareness of the important contribution of volunteering.

*encourage**darker**take**highly**aim**heighten**more**worse*

There are thousands of volunteer organizations around the world. Some of them are very _____. Perhaps everyone has heard of VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas), the Peace Corps, and Muslim Aid. A search on the Internet will _____ much give you a volunteer _____ on anything or anyone you want to help. You don't need to _____ a worldwide group to be a volunteer. Most voluntary work that takes place around the globe is by individuals helping their neighbours. We have probably all _____ out of our way to help someone _____ fortunate. The great thing about voluntary work is that it makes you _____ like a better person. So please, on this International Volunteer Day, think about how you can help, and _____ your services.

*join**pretty**less**famous**group**offer**feel**gone*

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

Come on everybody. Get up and *do / done* something. December the 5th is International Volunteer Day. This *height / highly* important day was started by the United Nations in 1985. Its aim is *twofold / two folds*: first, to thank volunteers around the world for giving their time to help others; and second, to *encouragement / encourage* other people to do voluntary work. Without volunteers, many people around the world would be *worse / bad* off. In fact, the whole world would be a darker place. Volunteers help other people and *help / helpful* animals, the countryside, the environment and many more things that are so *important / importance* to us. The UN urges governments around the world to *taking / take* measures to heighten awareness of the important contribution of volunteering.

There are *thousands / thousand* of volunteer organizations around the world. Some of them are very *famous / infamous*. Perhaps everyone has heard of VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas), the Peace Corps, and Muslim Aid. A search on the Internet will *pretty / cute* much give you a volunteer group on anything or anyone you want to help. You don't need to *jointly / join* a worldwide group to be a volunteer. Most voluntary work that takes place around the *globe / global* is by individuals helping their neighbours. We have probably all gone out of our *weigh / way* to help someone less fortunate. The great thing about voluntary work is that it makes you feel like a *best / better* person. So please, on this International Volunteer Day, think about how you can help, and offer *your / their* services.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Come on everybody. Get up and do something. December the 5th is International Volunteer Day. This (1) _____ important day was started by the United Nations in 1985. Its aim is (2) _____: first, to thank volunteers around the world for (3) _____ their time to help others; and second, to encourage other people to do voluntary work. Without volunteers, many people around the world would be (4) _____ off. In fact, the whole world would be a darker place. Volunteers help other people and help animals, the countryside, the environment and many more things that are (5) _____ important to us. The UN urges governments around the world to take measures to (6) _____ awareness of the important contribution of volunteering.

There are thousands of volunteer organizations around the world. Some of them are very (7) _____. Perhaps everyone has heard of VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas), the Peace Corps, and Muslim Aid. A search on the Internet will (8) _____ much give you a volunteer group on anything or anyone you want to help. You don't need to (9) _____ a worldwide group to be a volunteer. Most voluntary work that takes place around the globe is by individuals helping their neighbours. We have probably all (10) _____ out of our way to help someone less fortunate. The great thing about voluntary work is that it makes you (11) _____ like a better person. So please, on this International Volunteer Day, think about how you can help, and offer (12) _____ services.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) height | (b) highly | (c) high | (d) heighten |
| 2. | (a) twice | (b) two | (c) doubly | (d) twofold |
| 3. | (a) giving | (b) gave | (c) give | (d) given |
| 4. | (a) bad | (b) not good | (c) worse | (d) worst |
| 5. | (a) as | (b) at | (c) such | (d) so |
| 6. | (a) heighten | (b) high | (c) highly | (d) heights |
| 7. | (a) fame | (b) famous | (c) famously | (d) infamous |
| 8. | (a) cute | (b) lovely | (c) pretty | (d) beautiful |
| 9. | (a) jointly | (b) joins | (c) joining | (d) join |
| 10. | (a) gone | (b) going | (c) goes | (d) go |
| 11. | (a) feelers | (b) feel | (c) felt | (d) feeling |
| 12. | (a) our | (b) we | (c) their | (d) us |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. Come on everybody
2. highly important day
3. encourage other people
4. be worse off
5. a darker place
6. heighten awareness

Paragraph 2

7. There are thousands
8. pretty much
9. a worldwide group
10. around the globe
11. help someone less fortunate
12. offer your services

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () awareness of the important contribution of volunteering.
- () There are thousands of volunteer organizations around the world. Some of them are very
- () to join a worldwide group to be a volunteer. Most voluntary work that takes place around the globe is by
- () thing about voluntary work is that it makes you feel like a better person. So please, on this
- () around the world would be worse off. In fact, the whole world would be a darker place. Volunteers help
- () important day was started by the United Nations in 1985. Its aim is twofold: first, to thank volunteers around the world for giving
- () individuals helping their neighbours. We have probably all gone out of our way to help someone less fortunate. The great
- () their time to help others; and second, to encourage other people to do voluntary work. Without volunteers, many people
- () other people and help animals, the countryside, the environment and many more things that are so
- () famous. Perhaps everyone has heard of VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas), the Peace Corps, and Muslim Aid. A search
- () important to us. The UN urges governments around the world to take measures to heighten
- () International Volunteer Day, think about how you can help, and offer your services.
- () on the Internet will pretty much give you a volunteer group on anything or anyone you want to help. You don't need
- (**1**) Come on everybody. Get up and do something. December the 5th is International Volunteer Day. This highly

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. started UN highly was the This day by important.

2. world their Thank the giving around for time volunteers.

3. work voluntary do to people other Encourage.

4. whole darker world place would be The a.

5. contribution Heighten of important awareness the.

6. world the around organizations volunteer of Thousands.

7. or Anything help to want you anyone.

8. We all of probably out way have gone our.

9. like It a makes better you person feel.

10. about you help Think how can.

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 INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY SURVEY

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

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about International Volunteer 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 International Volunteer 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.