

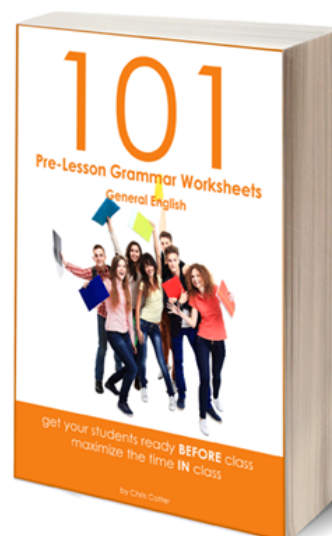
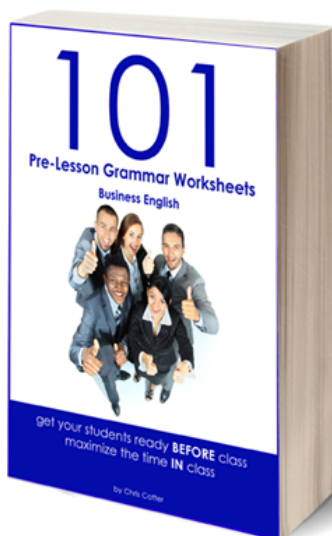
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the ARTICLE (for teachers)

Earth Hour

Every year in March, the world goes dark for Earth Hour. At tourist destinations, businesses, and private homes, lights were dimmed or switched off for one hour at precisely 8:30 pm. The purpose is to emphasize the need for radical change to the world's current energy policies, and thereby encourage people everywhere to make much-needed changes to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

It's estimated that more than one billion people in over ninety countries take part in the event. Executive director Andy Ridley said that such a conscious change, even if for one hour, raises awareness and generate discussions on what can and should be done to reduce energy consumption. Even in the dismal economic climate, when most people are focused on job security, meeting financial obligations, and cutting expenses, the conversation on greenhouse gases and global warming must continue. Such widespread participation, say the organizers of the event, clearly indicate that people desire strong action on climate change.

Others aren't so optimistic, and actually stop just short of outright condemnation. The problem isn't in the event itself, which successfully receives media coverage and generates a moderate amount of awareness. Here the organizers and press touting the event as successful are correct. However, critics said that Earth Hour most likely gives participants the false illusion that they have made a change. Yet one hour doesn't equal the drastic adjustments required of everyone every day. People must opt for public transportation, green technology in homes and workplaces, and clean energy sources. In the long run, Earth Hour could actually cause more harm than good.

Teacher's Notes:

* Underlined words in red typeface are the recommended vocabulary for this lesson.

VOCABULARY

Select one of the following vocabulary acquisition activities.

1: Vocabulary match: Individually or in pairs/groups, match the words in column A (from the article) with the best choice in column B.

a.	emphasize	q.	limit
b.	curb	r.	commitment
c.	conscious	s.	find fault with
d.	dismal	t.	purposeful
e.	obligation	u.	point to
f.	indicate	v.	highlight
g.	optimistic	w.	extreme
h.	condemn	x.	speak of
i.	tout	y.	poor
j.	drastic	z.	positive

2: Fill in the Blanks: Fill in the blank with the correct word.

	condemnation	indicates	conscious	touting	optimistic
	dismal	emphasize	drastic	obligations	curb
a.	The purpose of Earth Hour is to () the need for change to the world's current energy policies.				
b.	It encourages people everywhere to make changes to () greenhouse gas emissions.				
c.	Executive director Andy Ridley says that such a () change raises awareness.				
d.	Even in the () economic climate the conversation on greenhouse gases must continue.				
e.	People are focused on job security, meeting financial (), and cutting expenses.				
f.	Such widespread participation clearly () that people desire strong action on climate change.				
g.	Others aren't so ().				
h.	These people actually stop just short of outright ().				
i.	The organizers and press () the event as successful are correct.				
j.	One hour doesn't equal the () adjustments required of everyone every day.				

3: Define: Define each word, correctly pronounce it, explain the meaning and/or usage, and offer an example sentence to the class.

a.	emphasize	c.	conscious	e.	obligation	g.	optimistic	i.	tout
b.	curb	d.	dismal	f.	indicate	h.	condemn	j.	drastic

WORD RECOGNITION

1: **Word Search:** Find the target words (in bold). Time yourself, and see how many words you can find in three minutes. In five minutes. In ten minutes.

condemnation dismal	indicates emphasize	conscious drastic	touting obligations	optimistic curb
D S T C D Y J N M J O T E V O I C U E O X X S N P G U Z U B S D H O X N I I T D N N I Q L S Z R G I M D I Y X U Y S L I M V B A I C M E L K V R A Y G A A B T S I S W N B J T H I A L M P R S T D N Z M O L P S T U O B T U E I W O W A O M E I Q B I L M C K C T C E T E A O C C D E T A C I D N I R I D N Y E X G O W N L A M S I D O S L Z S S O G Y X B W A U D R N T O U T I N G X S Y T R R O M V K Y Z P S O R C L E K N T Z C O N D E M N A T I O N G M Z				

2: **Target Word Pool:** Find the target words (in bold) with their exact match. Time yourself, and see how many words you can find in three minutes. In five minutes. In ten minutes.

condemnation dismal	indicates emphasize	conscious drastic	touting obligations	optimistic curb
curbs drabness indicator unobligated dismals topped deemphasized condemned dismissal indicates unconsciousness deemphasize daringly totally optimism curbing condemnation touting unconscious emphasized curbing dismally curb indicating nation toted drastically optimistically consciously optimal obliged conscious indication emphasize conscience dismal conscious curbed obligations emphasizing carved reactive condemning pessimistic condemns indicted dismissals touted optimistic obviousness drastic obliged				

pre- or post-COMPREHENSION

1: Word Association: Brainstorm words associated with today's topic for two minutes. Present to the class.

2: Brainstorm Questions: Brainstorm questions that you would like to ask about today's topic. Answer the questions without looking at the article.

3: True or False?: Guess (before the article) or answer (after the article) whether the sentence is true or false. If false, correct the sentence.

a.	Earth Hour begins at 8:30 am every year.	T / F
b.	More than one billion people participate in over ninety countries.	T / F
c.	Because many people participate, it means that they are concerned about climate change.	T / F
d.	Opponents believe that not enough people participate in the event.	T / F
e.	Opponents believe that Earth Hour could cause more harm than good.	T / F

4: Questions: Answer the questions to check comprehension.

a.	What is Earth Hour?
b.	How long is the event? What time does it start?
c.	Why does the director think the event is a success?
d.	Why do opponents say the event isn't successful?
e.	According to the article, what must everyone do every day?

5: Vocabulary: In pairs/groups, remember how the words were used in today's article.

a.	emphasize	c.	conscious	e.	obligations	g.	optimistic	i.	touting
b.	curb	d.	dismal	f.	indicates	h.	condemnation	j.	drastic

6: Fragments: Remember how the fragments were used, and complete the sentence from today's article.

a.	It's estimated that more than one billion people in...
b.	Such widespread participation, say the organizers of the event, clearly...
c.	Others aren't so optimistic, and actually...
d.	However, critics say that Earth Hour most likely gave...
e.	In the long run, Earth Hour could actually...

post-COMPREHENSION

1: Vocabulary: Circle any additional unknown words/phrases in the article. In pairs/groups, use your dictionaries to understand the meanings. Present to the class.

2: Class Questions: Read through the article once more, and write down any questions that you would like to discuss in pairs/groups or as a class. Discuss.

3: Summarize: Work with a partner to summarize the article in your own words.

4: Discuss: Talk about the following questions in pairs/groups. Remember to support your answers!

- | | |
|----|---|
| a. | Did you like this article? |
| b. | What was your general impression after reading this article? |
| c. | Have you ever participated in Earth Hour? If yes, how so? If no, why not? |
| d. | Would you participate in Earth Hour next year? What if it lasted a day? What if it lasted a week? |
| e. | What's your opinion on global warming and greenhouse gases? Please explain. |
| f. | How do you conserve energy? Please explain. |
| g. | How do you protect the environment? Please explain. |
| h. | What's your opinion on Earth Hour? Is it favorable or negative? Why? |
| i. | Do you think Earth Hour will have long-term effects on climate change? Why/not? |
| j. | Because of global warming, what do you think the future will be like? Please explain. |

5: Discuss: What can people do to reduce energy consumption and reduce greenhouse gases? Brainstorm five solutions with a partner, then rank the solutions. Be sure to support your answers.

Solution #1:
Solution #2:
Solution #3:
Solution #4:
Solution #5:

6: Google Search: Type "Earth Hour" into Google news and read additional articles on this topic. Discuss or write an essay about your findings.

STUDENT HANDOUT (the article)

Earth Hour

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It's estimated that more than one billion people in over ninety countries take part in the event. Executive director Andy Ridley said that such a conscious change, even if for one hour, raises awareness and generate discussions on what can and should be done to reduce energy consumption. Even in the dismal economic climate, when most people are focused on job security, meeting financial obligations, and cutting expenses, the conversation on greenhouse gases and global warming must continue. Such widespread participation, say the organizers of the event, clearly indicate that people desire strong action on climate change.

Others aren't so optimistic, and actually stop just short of outright condemnation. The problem isn't in the event itself, which successfully receives media coverage and generates a moderate amount of awareness. Here the organizers and press touting the event as successful are correct. However, critics said that Earth Hour most likely gives participants the false illusion that they have made a change. Yet one hour doesn't equal the drastic adjustments required of everyone every day. People must opt for public transportation, green technology in homes and workplaces, and clean energy sources. In the long run, Earth Hour could actually cause more harm than good.

Notes:

STUDENT HANDOUT (fill in the blank)

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

obligations	energy	curb	touting	long
destinations	dismal	warming	indicates	condemnation
optimistic	green	drastic	conscious	emphasize

Earth Hour

Every year in March, the world goes dark for Earth Hour. At tourist destinations, businesses, and private homes, lights were dimmed or switched off for one hour at precisely 8:30 pm. The purpose is to (a. _____) the need for radical change to the world's current energy policies, and thereby encourage people everywhere to make much-needed changes to (b. _____) greenhouse gas emissions.

It's estimated that more than one billion people in over ninety countries take part in the event. Executive director Andy Ridley said that such a (c. _____) change, even if for one hour, raises awareness and generate discussions on what can and should be done to reduce energy consumption. Even in the (d. _____) economic climate, when most people are focused on job security, meeting financial (e. _____), and cutting expenses, the conversation on greenhouse gases and global warming must continue. Such widespread participation, say the organizers of the event, clearly (f. _____) that people desire strong action on climate change.

Others aren't so (g. _____), and actually stop just short of outright (h. _____). The problem isn't in the event itself, which successfully receives media coverage and generates a moderate amount of awareness. Here the organizers and press (i. _____) the event as successful are correct. However, critics said that Earth Hour most likely gives participants the false illusion that they have made a change. Yet one hour doesn't equal the (j. _____) adjustments required of everyone every day. People must opt for public transportation, green technology in homes and workplaces, and clean energy sources. In the long run, Earth Hour could actually cause more harm than good.

STUDENT HANDOUT (extended listening)

Listen and fill in the missing sentences. Compare your answers with a partner, and then listen once more.

Earth Hour

Every year in March, the world goes dark for Earth Hour. a) _____
_____. The purpose is to emphasize the need for radical change to the world's current energy policies, and thereby encourage people everywhere to make much-needed changes to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

b) _____. Executive director Andy Ridley said that such a conscious change, even if for one hour, c) _____
_____. Even in the dismal economic climate, when most people are focused on job security, meeting financial obligations, and cutting expenses, the conversation on greenhouse gases and global warming must continue. Such widespread participation, say the organizers of the event, clearly indicate that people desire strong action on climate change.

Others aren't so optimistic, and actually stop just short of outright condemnation. The problem isn't in the event itself, which successfully receives media coverage and generates a moderate amount of awareness. Here the organizers and press touting the event as successful are correct. However, d) _____
_____. Yet one hour doesn't equal the drastic adjustments required of everyone every day. People must opt for public transportation, green technology in homes and workplaces, and clean energy sources. e) _____
_____.

STUDENT HANDOUT (notes)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary

1. Vocabulary Match:

a.	v	f.	u
b.	q	g.	z
c.	t	h.	s
d.	y	i.	v
e.	r	j.	w

2. Fill in the Blanks:

a.	emphasize	f.	indicated
b.	curb	g.	optimistic
c.	conscious	h.	condemnation
d.	dismal	i.	touting
e.	obligations	j.	drastic

pre- or post-Comprehension

1. True or False:

a.	F
b.	T
c.	T
d.	F
e.	T

2. Fragments:

a.	over ninety countries took part in the event.
b.	indicated that people desire strong action on climate change.
c.	stopped just short of outright condemnation.
d.	participants the false illusion that they had made a change.
e.	cause more harm than good.

Student Handout

1. Fill in the Blanks

a.	destinations	i.	indicated
b.	emphasize	j.	optimistic
c.	energy	k.	condemnation
d.	curb	l.	touting
e.	conscious	m.	drastic
f.	dismal	n.	green
g.	obligations	o.	long
h.	warming		

2. Extended Listening

a.	At tourist destinations, businesses, and private homes, lights are dimmed or switched off for one hour at precisely 8:00 pm
b.	It's estimated that more than one billion people in over ninety countries take part in the event
c.	raises awareness and generates discussions on what can and should be done to reduce energy consumption
d.	critics say that Earth Hour most likely gives participants the false illusion that they have made a change
e.	In the long run, Earth Hour could actually cause more harm than good