

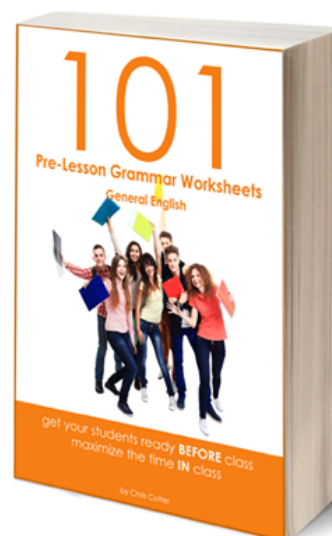
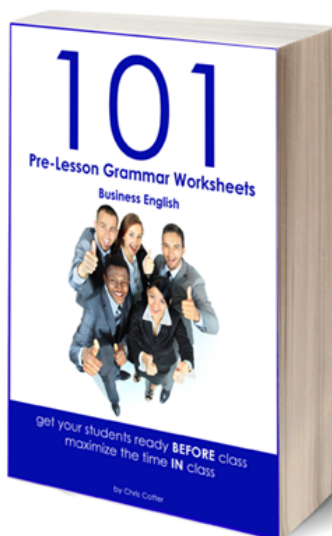
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the ARTICLE (for teachers)

Bottled Water is Bad

Sales of bottled water have increased by 400% in the last twenty years. In the US, there was \$11.7 billion in bottled water sales in 2007, and this was a record. More people selected water instead of soda, sugary juices, and caffeinated drinks like coffee. However, one liter of bottled water produces almost half a pound of greenhouse gases. The energy used to make and ship bottled water could power 250,000 homes for a year, which is an unnecessary use of resources.

Bottled water can be useful, though. For example, water is a healthy alternative at large events for sports, festivals, and concerts because people need to drink something there. In areas without clean water, bottled water is even more beneficial. However, many people choose bottled water instead of tap water at home, even though both are equally healthy. Tap water costs a lot less too. In addition, there isn't much difference in taste between tap water and bottled water.

Many people recycle the plastic bottles, which helps the environment. But too many plastic bottles are thrown in the garbage, and which then go to the landfill - in the US, 3900 million pounds (1770 million kilograms). All of those empty water bottles don't let people efficiently reduce, reuse, and recycle resources.

Teacher's Notes:

* Underlined words in red typeface may be vocabulary unfamiliar to the students.

the Article (for students)

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Notes:

STEP ONE

Brainstorm: Brainstorm with a partner words and ideas for "bottled water" for two minutes. Next, talk about the words and ideas for five minutes.

STEP TWO

Discuss: Do you agree or disagree? Why?

a.	Tap water is better than bottled water.
b.	There is a big difference in taste among the varieties of bottled water.
c.	I drink at least five bottles of water every day.
d.	Bottled water is a waste of resources.
e.	I recycle the plastic from bottled water.

STEP THREE

The Article: Read the article and work with a partner to understand it. Then summarize the article in your own words.

STEP FOUR

Discuss: Talk about the following questions in pairs/groups. Remember to support your answers and ask more questions with your partner.

a.	Did you like this article? Why/not?
b.	Will this article cause you to stop buying bottled water? Why/not?
c.	What problem causes the greatest damage to the environment? Why?
d.	Do you agree that it's best to reduce, reuse, and recycle resources? Why/not?
e.	Were you surprised by how much Americans pollute? Does your country pollute a lot?

STEP FIVE

Discuss: People should reduce, reuse, and recycle resources whenever possible. With a partner discuss how to do this with each item below.

item:	reduce consumption:	reuse resources:	recycle:
plastic bottles			
papers			
oil/gas			