

LABOR DAY

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/05/labor_day.html

CONTENTS:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Listening / Reading Gap Fill	5
Choose the Correct Word	6
Multiple Choice	7
Spelling	8
Put the Text Back Together	9
Scrambled Sentences	10
Discussion	11
Student Survey	12
Writing	13
Homework	14

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Labor Day is an annual holiday celebrated all over the world. It originated from the eight-hour day movement in the nineteenth century. Labor unions called for eight hours for work, eight hours for play, and eight hours for sleep. It then became a reason for workers to celebrate their social and economic progress in the early twentieth century. Today, people are happy it is a day off work and perhaps forget the origins of this important holiday. Most countries celebrate this day on May 1. In some countries it is called May Day and in others it is known as International Workers' Day. More and more countries are moving the day to the first Monday in May, so people get a three-day weekend.

People around the world celebrate Labor Day in different ways. In China it marked the beginning of a seven-day holiday called Golden Week. People from all over the country traveled to their hometowns or visited resorts. However, in 2008, the Chinese government went back to the single public holiday. Indians have celebrated Labour Day since May 1, 1927. There are many festivals and processions organized by different labour organizations and people fill the streets for huge parties. Italians celebrate the day with a huge, free music concert in Rome. Up to one million people attend the spectacular. For most people, it is a chance to enjoy the nice weather and have a picnic with family, friends and co-workers.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. celebrated all | a. off work |
| 2. a reason for workers | b. over the world |
| 3. in the early | c. this important holiday |
| 4. it is a day | d. twentieth century |
| 5. the origins of | e. day weekend |
| 6. people get a three- | f. to celebrate |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. celebrate Labor Day in | a. a seven-day holiday |
| 2. it marked the beginning of | b. one million people attend |
| 3. People from all | c. different ways |
| 4. people fill | d. weather |
| 5. Up to | e. over the country |
| 6. a chance to enjoy the nice | f. the streets |

LISTENING GAP FILL

Labor Day is an annual holiday celebrated _____. It originated from the eight-hour day movement in the nineteenth century. Labor _____ hours for work, eight hours for play, and eight hours for sleep. It then became a reason for workers to celebrate their social and economic progress _____ twentieth century. Today, people are happy it is a day off work and perhaps _____ of this important holiday. Most countries celebrate this day on May 1. In some countries it is called May Day _____ known as International Workers' Day. More and more countries are moving the day to the first Monday in May, _____ -day weekend.

People around the world celebrate Labor Day _____. In China it marked the beginning of a seven-day holiday called Golden Week. People _____ country traveled to their hometowns or visited resorts. However, in 2008, the Chinese government went _____ public holiday. Indians have celebrated Labour Day since May 1, 1927. There are many festivals and processions organized by different labour organizations and people _____ for huge parties. Italians celebrate the day with a huge, free music concert in Rome. Up to one million people attend the spectacular. For most people, it _____ enjoy the nice weather and have a picnic with family, friends and co-workers.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Labor Day is an annual holiday celebrated all _____ the world. It originated _____ the eight-hour day movement in the nineteenth century. Labor unions called for eight hours for work, eight hours for _____, and eight hours for sleep. It then became a reason for workers to celebrate their social and economic _____ in the early twentieth century. Today, people are _____ it is a day off work and perhaps forget the _____ of this important holiday. Most countries celebrate this day on May 1. In some countries it is called May Day and in others it is _____ as International Workers' Day. More and more countries are moving the day to the first Monday in May, so people get a three-day _____.

happy
weekend
play
known
over
progress
from
origins

People around the world celebrate Labor Day in _____ ways. In China it marked the beginning of a seven-day holiday called Golden Week. People from all over the country _____ to their hometowns or visited resorts. However, in 2008, the Chinese government went _____ to the single public holiday. Indians have celebrated Labour Day since May 1, 1927. There are many _____ and processions organized by different labour organizations and people _____ the streets for huge parties. Italians celebrate the day with a _____, free music concert in Rome. Up to one million people _____ the spectacular. For most people, it is a chance to enjoy the _____ weather and have a picnic with family, friends and co-workers.

fill
different
attend
festivals
traveled
nice
huge
back

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

Labor Day is an *annually / annual* holiday celebrated all over the world. It originated from the eight-hour day movement in the nineteenth century. Labor *onions / unions* called for eight hours for work, eight hours for play, and eight hours for sleep. It *then / than* became a reason for workers to celebrate their social and economic progress in the *fast / early* twentieth century. Today, people are happy it is a *day / daily* off work and perhaps forget the origins of this important holiday. Most countries *celebration / celebrate* this day on May 1. In some countries it is *calling / called* May Day and in others it is known as International Workers' Day. More and more countries are *moved / moving* the day to the first Monday in May, so people get a three-day weekend.

People around *the / a* world celebrate Labor Day in different ways. In China it marked the *begin / beginning* of a seven-day holiday called Golden Week. People from all over the country *travels / traveled* to their hometowns or visited resorts. However, in 2008, the Chinese government went back *at / to* the single public holiday. Indians have celebrated Labour Day since May 1, 1927. There are many festivals and processions *organizing / organized* by different labour organizations and people fill the streets for huge parties. Italians celebrate the day with a huge, *free / freely* music concert in Rome. Up to one million people attend the spectacular. For most people, it is a chance to *enjoy / enjoying* the nice weather and have a picnic with family, friends and co-workers.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Labor Day is an (1) _____ holiday celebrated all over the world. It originated from the eight-hour day movement in the nineteenth century. Labor (2) _____ called for eight hours for work, eight hours for play, and eight hours for sleep. It then became a (3) _____ for workers to celebrate their social and economic progress in the early twentieth century. Today, people are happy it is a day off work and perhaps (4) _____ the origins of this important holiday. Most countries (5) _____ this day on May 1. In some countries it is called May Day and in others it is known as International Workers' Day. More and more countries are (6) _____ the day to the first Monday in May, so people get a three-day weekend.

People around the world celebrate Labor Day in different ways. In China it (7) _____ the beginning of a seven-day holiday called Golden Week. People from all over the country traveled to their hometowns or visited (8) _____. However, in 2008, the Chinese government went back to the single public holiday. Indians have celebrated Labour Day (9) _____ May 1, 1927. There are many festivals and processions organized by different labour organizations and people (10) _____ the streets for huge parties. Italians celebrate the day with a huge, free (11) _____ concert in Rome. Up to one million people attend the spectacular. For most people, it is a (12) _____ to enjoy the nice weather and have a picnic with family, friends and co-workers.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) annual | (b) year | (c) 12-month | (d) annum |
| 2. | (a) union | (b) unionize | (c) united | (d) unions |
| 3. | (a) reasons | (b) reasoning | (c) reason | (d) reasoned |
| 4. | (a) forgetting | (b) forgot | (c) forget | (d) forgets |
| 5. | (a) celebrate | (b) celebrating | (c) celebration | (d) celebrates |
| 6. | (a) moved | (b) moving | (c) moves | (d) mover |
| 7. | (a) marking | (b) marked | (c) marks | (d) marker |
| 8. | (a) resort | (b) resorted | (c) resorts | (d) resorting |
| 9. | (a) for | (b) ago | (c) by | (d) since |
| 10. | (a) fill | (b) full | (c) filling | (d) filled |
| 11. | (a) musician | (b) musically | (c) musicology | (d) music |
| 12. | (a) risk | (b) chance | (c) gamble | (d) likelihood |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. Labor Day is an aalunn holiday
2. the eight-hour day otnmmeve
3. social and economic rpreboss
4. the gosinri of this important holiday
5. it is nownk as International Workers' Day
6. so people get a three-day dewneke

Paragraph 2

7. the egbnniign of a seven-day holiday
8. visited srsrote
9. went back to the esilng public holiday
10. people fill the tetsser
11. free music tcernoc
12. enjoy the nice ehwtrea

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () progress in the early twentieth century. Today, people are happy it is a day off work and perhaps forget the origins
- () labour organizations and people fill the streets for huge parties. Italians celebrate the day with a huge, free
- () others it is known as International Workers' Day. More and more countries are moving the
- (**1**) Labor Day is an annual holiday celebrated all over the world. It originated from the eight-hour day
- () People around the world celebrate Labor Day in different ways. In China it marked the beginning of a seven-day
- () to enjoy the nice weather and have a picnic with family, friends and co-workers.
- () celebrated Labour Day since May 1, 1927. There are many festivals and processions organized by different
- () day to the first Monday in May, so people get a three-day weekend.
- () resorts. However, in 2008, the Chinese government went back to the single public holiday. Indians have
- () movement in the nineteenth century. Labor unions called for eight hours for work, eight hours for play, and eight
- () music concert in Rome. Up to one million people attend the spectacular. For most people, it is a chance
- () hours for sleep. It then became a reason for workers to celebrate their social and economic
- () holiday called Golden Week. People from all over the country traveled to their hometowns or visited
- () of this important holiday. Most countries celebrate this day on May 1. In some countries it is called May Day and in

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. celebrated holiday annual an world the over all

2. for hours eight for called unions Labor work

3. to workers for reason a celebrate

4. day happy off it work is people a are

5. a - weekend get three day people

6. the holiday day - seven a of beginning

7. and festivals many are There processions

8. the for parties fill streets huge people

9. one to Up attend people million

10. nice chance weather to it enjoy is the a

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Copyright © www.ESL Holiday Lessons.com

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Copyright © www.ESL Holiday Lessons.com

THE LABOR DAY SURVEY

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

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Labor 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 Labor 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.