

☐ National News

Taiwan Celebrates Earth Day

Lately countries all over the world have been organizing the planning activities and events for Earth Day, which falls on April 22 every year. More than 500 million people from over 180 countries around the world take part in this environmental event. (1) There are many events planned in Taiwan with the goal of educating the public about the facts of global climate change and the **potential hazards** it poses to life as we know it on Earth.

 (2) Many Taiwanese **environmentalists** have **scheduled** numerous activities and **seminars** to promote energy **conservation** and raise awareness of the damage that has been done to our planet by **mankind**. The Taiwan Environmental Information Association, one of the **participants** of Earth Day, hopes that **individuals**, schools, and communities are getting ready for the upcoming event, and is organizing its own **campaign** to draw the attention of the public to related **issues**. (3) Furthermore, switching off unnecessary lights and shutting down elevators for one hour on that day are encouraged to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases **emitted** into the **atmosphere**. (4)

The aim of Earth Day is to bring to people's attention and appreciation of how wonderful our planet is and an awareness of the damage we are doing to it. (5) There is so much people can do on a daily basis, such as photocopying with recycled paper and not using **disposable** plates, cups, and **utensils**. As long as people have a healthy new attitude toward a better planet, they will make every effort to save the Earth, which is the goal of this special day.

◆ Discourse Structure

- (A) Founded in the U.S. in 1969, Earth Day is observed by nations and organizations all over the planet that hope to make the world a better place to live in.
- (B) Some organizations are even asking people not to **patronize** all-you-can-eat restaurants due to the amount of food that is wasted by people not finishing their plates.
- (C) **To sum up**, avoiding waste is the first step toward environmental protection.
- (D) This year, the **theme** for Earth Day is climate change.
- (E) It is also hoped that people will cut down on the use of **electrical appliances** and private motorized **transportation** on Earth Day.

(1)
(2)
(3)
(4)
(5)



Before You Read

►世界地球日即每年的4月22日，是一項世界性的環境保護（environmental protection）運動。最早的地球日活動是1970年代於美國校園（campus）興起的環保運動，1990年代這項活動從美國走向世界，成為全世界環保主義者（environmentalist）的節日和環境保護宣傳日，在這天不同國籍（nationality）的人們以各自不同的方式宣傳（promote）和實踐環境保護的觀念。（摘自於Wikipedia）

◆ Vocabulary and Idioms

1. theme [θim] *n.* 主題
2. potential [pə'tenʃəl] *adj.* 潛在的；可能的
3. hazard ['hæzəd] *n.* 危險；風險
4. environmentalist [ɪn,vaɪrən'mentɪst] *n.* 環境保護論者
5. schedule ['skedʒul] *v.* 為某事安排時間
6. seminar ['semə,nar] *n.* 研討會
7. conservation [kənsə'veʃən] *n.* 保護；保存
8. mankind [mæn'kaɪnd] *n.* 人類
9. participant [pɑ'tɪsəpənt] *n.* 參加者
10. individual [ɪndə'vɪdʒuəl] *n.* 個人
11. campaign [kæm'pen] *n.* 活動；運動
12. issue ['ɪʃu] *n.* 議題
13. electrical appliance [ɪ'lektrɪkəl ə'plaɪəns] *n.* 電器用品
14. transportation [træns'pɑ'teɪʃən] *n.* 運輸工具
15. emit [ɪ'mɪt] *v.* 排出；排洩
16. atmosphere ['ætmos,fɪr] *n.* 大氣層
17. patronize ['petrən,aɪz] *v.* 光顧
18. to sum up *adv. phr.* 總之
19. disposable [dɪ'spəʊəbəl] *adj.* 用完即可丟的
20. utensil [ju'tensl] *n.* 用具；器皿

◆ Patterns

1. The Taiwan Environmental Information Association, one of the participants of Earth Day, hopes that individuals, schools, and communities are getting ready for the upcoming event, and is organizing its own campaign to draw the attention of the public to related issues.
2. The aim of Earth Day is to bring to people's attention and appreciation of how wonderful our planet is and an awareness of the damage we are doing to it.

⇒ 含有 attention 的片語有：call/attract/draw one's attention to sth.（引起某人注意某事）、It brings to one's attention that...（某人獲悉……）。

- This car crash called people's attention to road safety. (這起車禍引起人們對道路安全的注意。)
- It has been brought to my attention that we will have our midterm in three weeks.
(我已經知道我們三個星期後要期中考。)

◆ Translation

臺灣響應地球日

最近，世界上許多國家都在為每年4月22日的地球日準備及計畫各項的活動。全世界180多個國家，超過5億人參與這項環保盛事。今年，地球日的主題為氣候變遷。臺灣正計畫著很多活動，其目標為教育大眾全球氣候變遷的事實以及它可能對地球所造成的危險。

1969 年發起於美國的地球日，受到全球希望世界變成一個更美好的居住地方的國家和團體關切。許多臺灣的環保人士已經安排許多的活動及講座，來提倡能源節約且讓更多人了解人類對地球所造成的破壞。參與地球日團體之一的臺灣環境資訊協會，希望個人、學校及社區都能為即將到來的這項盛事做準備，而該機構也正在籌措它們自己的活動，以喚起大眾對相關議題的注意。人們也被期待在地球日當天減少電器用品及私人機動運輸工具的使用。還有，當天也鼓勵人們關閉不需要的電燈及停止電梯運作 1 小時，以減低排放至大氣層的溫室氣體。有些團體甚至要求人們不要光顧吃到飽的餐廳，因為人們盤子裡沒吃完的食物會造成浪費。

地球日的目標是讓人們了解及感激我們的地球有多美好，並意識到我們對它所造成的破壞。總之，避免浪費是環保的第一步。有很多事是人們每天都可以做得到的，像是用回收紙影印以及不使用免洗餐具。只要人們對一個更美好的星球有一個健全的態度，他們就會盡力來保護它，這就是這個特別日子的目標。

◆ **Answer**

- (1) D (2) A (3) E (4) B (5) C

[illegible]