

Water changes everything

World Water Day is 22 March. This video explores the global water crisis, and how we can help everybody gain access to safe drinking water.

Tasks

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a faucet
2. a swamp
3. poverty
4. to be burdened with
5. to be exposed to
6. to restore
7. vast
8. contaminated

Definition

- a. the condition of being poor
- b. a tap; the thing you turn on to get water from a pipe (American English)
- c. an area of land covered by water where trees and plants grow
- d. to be unprotected from
- e. to carry something heavy
- f. dirty, polluted and unsafe for people to use
- g. to give something back that was taken away before
- h. extremely large

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. The water crisis only affects Sub-Saharan Africa, South-East Asia and Latin America.	True	False
2. The water that these women and children collect is often unsafe.	True	False
3. Some families are forced to drink contaminated water.	True	False
4. The water crisis has a direct impact on some children's reading and writing skills.	True	False
5. Only a small number of children who get water-related diseases die every year.	True	False
6. The water crisis can only be solved with modern technology and solutions.	True	False

7. More medicine is purchased as a result of safe water projects. True False
8. Safe water projects could mean that more children attend school. True False

Task 2

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

one

three

19

20

40

40

1. Nearly billion people live without clean drinking water.
2. Women and children often walk up to hours a day to collect water from the nearest swamp, pond or river.
3. The women are alone and burdened with pounds of water.
4. About every seconds, a mother loses one of her children to a water-related illness.
5. Africa alone could save billion hours each year.
6. Just dollars can provide one person with access to a clean water project in their village.

Discussion

What more could you do to help solve the water crisis? Do you think governments could do more to tackle this issue?

Answers

Preparation task

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. e
5. d
6. g
7. h
8. f

Task 1

1. False
2. True
3. True
4. True
5. False
6. False
7. False
8. True

Task 2

1. one
2. three
3. 40
4. 19
5. 40
6. 20