WHAT WORLD TOMORROW? (3): WATER PROBLEM

Build up your Vocabulary

A. THE ODD ONE OUT.
Which word does not belong in the list?
1. savanna, desert, ocean, steppe
2. well, water, wind pump, rope
3. dry, drought, parched, caked
4. Lake Victoria, Mediterranean Sea, Indian Ocean, Red Sea
5. rise, soar, rocket, plummet
6. plummet, plunge, increase, fall
7. pail, bucket, tub, pan
8. pulley, well, rope, tap
9. scale, ladder, step ladder, social ladder.
10. droughts, floods, dams, (in) spate
11. dig, drill, pump, bore

B. CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER(S).

1. The apparent paradox of global warming is:
   1. The hotter it gets the faster the icecap melts.
   2. The faster the icecap melts the faster the sea levels rise.
   3. The more ice melts, the drier the continents gets.
   4. The hotter it gets, the happier people are.

2. The consequence(s) for most African countries is/are:
   1. The irresistible advance of the desert over arable lands.
   2. The drying-up of many wells.
   3. The lack of concern from the rest of the world.
   4. The increasing production of food stuff.

3. The Fahrenheit equivalent of 0°Celsius is:
   1. minus 10°F
   2. 0°F
   3. 32°F
   4. 100°F

4. The Fahrenheit equivalent of 100°Celsius is:
   1. 100°F
   2. 212°F
   3. 221°F
   4. 122°F

5. A pail is also called:
   1. a tub
   2. a pan
   3. a bucket
   4. a seal
6. The word "average" is:
   1. a noun
   2. an adverb
   3. a verb
   4. an adjective

7. The phrase "fudge the issue" means:
   1. to make a chocolate cake
   2. to try to avoid answering a question clearly
   3. to find a way out of something
   4. to create a problem

8. The phrase "run amok" means:
   1. to run by somebody and laugh at them
   2. to run as fast as one can
   3. to run away
   4. to behave in an erratic way.

9. A dam is:
   1. a (mild) swear word
   2. a water reservoir
   3. a barrier built across a river to create a reservoir
   4. a hollow place in the earth used to store refuse and trash.

เพศข้อมูลถัดไป โดยเรียนรู้ภาษาอังกฤษ

Revoxyz rapidez ces points de grammaire importants dans votre grammaire en ligne et testez vos connaissances en faisant les exercices correspondants:

- Calcul et fractions
- Must
- Could
- May
- Might
- Shall
- Voix passive
Listen to the report and answer the questions. But... you may wish to read the questions BEFORE you listen to the dialogue...

1. Who is Adel Darwish?
2. What was the topic of his speech?
3. Does it now seem outdated or a crucial current issue?
4. Can you name at least five countries to be found in what is called the Middle East?
5. What did Egypt's President and the King of Jordan pledge not to do?
6. With what reservation?
7. Why is the problem of access to fresh water becoming a ... burning issue?
8. What is the consequence of Israel's thriving agriculture on local water reserves?
9. What similarity do aquifers share with oil?
10. Do people today get more water from the Nile than they did thousands of years ago?
11. Find the biblical reference in this recording.
12. What happens or may happen when a dam is built upstream?

Reading Comprehension

The situation in the western USA.

The Purdue University has conducted research of the impact of global warming on changes in snowmelt in the western United States and the results are not good news. It seems that snow in the Rockies melts today at a much earlier date than it used to and that this situation could lead to higher risks of wildfires and serious problems in the management of water for agriculture and urban areas during the summer. The ecosystem too might be at risk.

The study says that water runoff has reached a historical record and reminds people that the influence of melting snow on regional climate is far greater than that of increased greenhouse gases alone.

Scientists say that because snow is more reflective than the ground or the vegetation beneath it, it keeps the surface temperatures lower by reflecting energy from the sun. Therefore "when snow melts or does not accumulate in the first place, more solar energy is absorbed by the ground, warming the sur-
face". As a consequence, "the warmer ground then makes it more difficult for snow to accumulate and perpetuates the effect."

In the western United States water resources are reliant on snow acting as a natural reservoir during the cold season that melts and releases water in the warm season.

Scientists explain that "if the snow melts earlier or if it comes as rainfall instead, it would create a strain on infrastructure," because "the current system relies on water being stored in the mountains as snow. So earlier run off could mean too much water for the reservoirs early in the year" and a dearth of the precious liquid later in the year.

**Answer the following questions:**

1. What's the result of the Purdue University's research regarding snowmelt?
2. What's happening to the snow accumulated in the Rockies during the cold season?
3. Name three harmful consequences of this situation.
4. Which has the more influence on regional climate: melting snow or greenhouse gases?
5. What is the cause of this situation according to scientists?
6. What is the result of this on ground temperature?
7. What sort of vicious circle does this seem to trigger?
8. How does the water cycle normally work in the western USA?
9. Explain what is actually happening.

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Crossword puzzle

Across
1. result of a long lack of rain.
2. that’s how long it takes to form fossil fuels or underground water / and next you have to do that to get to them.
3. acronym of the organisation in charge of maintaining peace in the world.
4. the duty of all governments is to ensure it for their populations.
5. preposition / the opposite of “good”.
6. that’s what happens when it rains too much / on the other hand it helps consolidate the …… of water.
7. opposite of “merry” / preposition or particle
8. what the snow does when temperatures rise / said when hesitating
9. colour of the sea between Egypt and Arabia. / Whether Fahrenheit or Celsius, the scales are divided into them.
11. opposite of fictitious / what plants are doing to survive when they need water.
12. American soldier / necessary to draw water from the first 17 down.
13. said when one disagrees / this section of the economy requires and uses lots of water.
14. cereal
15. finding oil or underground water is like playing it. / preserving our natural resources should ours.

**Down**

2. what happens when snow melts / what water might become if we are not careful.
3. if man-made it is found behind dams.
4. building material / synonym for "severe lack of".
5. said to attract attention
6. what the sun gives us / built to conserve water / used to draw water from first 17 down.
7. preposition or particle / short for "for example".
8. opposite of "gain" / hollow created by wheels in wet lanes
9. said when things are not quite perfect
11. when our resources are we will find ourselves in a … hot / black spot.
12. conjunction that gives a choice / the way it feels when something is not healed / opposite of "night".
13. opposite of the second 4 down.
14. mountains are generally made of different …… of rocks.
15. in the Roman system their addition equals X / preposition.
16. short for "I mean".
17. that's what we should help Africans build everywhere / anyone.
1. Brush up your vocabulary

A. THE ODD ONE OUT.
Which word does not belong in the list?
1. ocean
2. rope
3. drought
4. Lake Victoria
5. plummet
6. increase
7. tub
8. tap
9. scale
10. droughts
11. pump

Check the meanings of the words you have forgotten.

B. CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER(S).

1. The apparent paradox of global warming is: 
The more ice melts, the drier the continents gets.
2. The consequence(s) for most African countries is/are: 
The irresistible advance of the desert over arable lands.
The drying-up of many wells.
3. The Fahrenheit equivalent of 0°Celsius is: 32°F
4. The Fahrenheit equivalent of 100°Celsius is: 212°F
5. A pail is also called: a bucket
6. The word "average" is: a noun; a verb; an adjective
7. The phrase "fudge the issue" means: to try to avoid answering a question clearly
8. The phrase "run amok" means: to behave in an erratic way.
9. A dam is: a barrier built across a river to create a reservoir
3. Listening comprehension

A/ SCRIPT

In a famous lecture he delivered at the Geneva Conference on Environment and Quality of Life in June 1994 Adel Darwish, a British journalist, author, historian, broadcaster and political commentator already explained that people thought that oil and securing oil resources had always been a major cause of war in what is called the Middle East, which includes Iraq, Jordan, Israel, the Palestinian territories, Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Iran.

But nowadays the same people who used to fight over borders in the hope of securing oil for their country are, or might soon be, fighting over what will probably become the rarest commodity if global warming goes on the way it seems to be going: I mean water. Fresh water.

Contrary to oil fields which have been clearly mapped, it seems water reserves are not yet as well known, although some maps that can be found on the web show where most of those reserves might lie.

The journalist also points out the fact that when Egypt's President Sadat said in 1979 that his country would never go to war again, he had carefully added that it was his intention to protect its water resources. Then King Hussein of Jordan made the same pledge regarding Jordan’s relationship with Israel. And it does seem that the next war in the area might well be over water, the more so as the populations of these countries seem to be growing faster and faster.

Photos and records already show how Israel's agriculture has depleted water resources in this region and this creates serious tensions with its neighbours. In fact, these nations depend on three great river systems, or vast underground aquifers, some of which are of 'fossil water' that cannot be renewed… just like oil.

The greatest source of water in the region is the Nile. Its basin nations have one of the highest rates of population growth yet the amount of water the Nile brings is no higher than it was when Moses was found in the bullrushes. It is therefore easy to understand why Sudan and Egypt in particular build dams along the river. But building a dam upstream might mean depriving the people downstream of the water they need. And that's where the cause of war lies.
B/ ANSWERS
1. A British journalist and author, a historian and a political commentator.
2. The water problem.
3. On the contrary, it seems more serious than ever.
4. Iraq, Jordan, Israel, the Palestinians territories, Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Iran
5. To wage war again, especially against Israel.
6. That their water supply or access to fresh water were threatened.
7. Because of both global warming and population growth.
8. It has severely depleted the reserves in the region.
9. Once depleted they cannot be renewed.
10. No, just the same amount.
11. They refer to the time when Moses was found by Pharao's daughter floating in a basket after being abandoned by his biological mother.
12. It may dry up the supply downstream.

4. Reading comprehension

Answer the following questions:

1. They discovered that it took place earlier in the year.
2. It tends to melt and run off.
3. The ensuing drought increases the risk of wildfires, but it also poses irrigation problems to agriculture and also transforms the ecosystem, and not for the better. It also threatens the water supply to urban centers.
4. The former.
5. Global warming, which causes snow to melt earlier in the season.
6. Without snow the ground gets warmer and warmer, and we enter a vicious circle.
7. As the ground gets warmer snowfalls do not take hold on the ground as easily as before. The less snow, the less heat is reflected. The less heat is reflected, the warmer the ground gets, and on and on …
8. Snow generally acts as a water reservoir for the warmer season.
9. Nowadays the snow melts earlier and runs off when it is not really needed, and is therefore wasted.
## 5. Fun Time

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