

NATIONAL COMPLIMENTS DAY

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/01/national_compliments_day.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

How often do you say nice things to your friends? Do you ever pay your boss a compliment? Well, for one day of the year, there is no excuse not to. National Compliments Day on January the 24th is one day in the year in the USA when people can give compliments. If someone pays you a compliment, you feel good, so you should pay other people compliments. Be sure to return the compliment if someone says something nice about you. Tell your boss he or she looks great. Let the sales assistant in the grocery store know they always do a fantastic job. It will brighten up their day and maybe they will be kinder to you in the future. Of all the different days we celebrate, National Compliments Day is one that makes us all feel good.

So just what is a compliment? It is a polite expression of praise given to someone to make them feel good. It comes from the heart and is an important part of building relationships. To pay a compliment is a win-win situation. You feel good and the receiver of your compliment is also happy. It is a simple sign of honesty that can bring sunshine into another person's day. It seems compliments are more necessary today than ever before. We are often too busy and stressed to notice other people. Face-to-face contact is decreasing because of the Internet. This simple and natural skill needs to become a bigger part of the way we interact with others. You never know what new friendships you can build by paying a simple compliment.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. say nice things to | a. return the compliment |
| 2. pay your boss | b. not to |
| 3. there is no excuse | c. up their day |
| 4. you should pay other | d. your friends |
| 5. Be sure to | e. a compliment |
| 6. It will brighten | f. people compliments |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. praise given to someone to make | a. relationships |
| 2. an important part of building | b. interact with others |
| 3. It is a simple sign | c. stressed to notice |
| 4. compliments are more necessary today | d. of honesty |
| 5. We are often too busy and | e. them feel good |
| 6. become a bigger part of the way we | f. than ever before |

LISTENING GAP FILL

How often _____ things to your friends? Do you ever pay your boss a compliment? Well, for one day of the year, there is _____. National Compliments Day on January the 24th is one day in the year in the USA when people can give compliments. If someone pays you a compliment, you _____ should pay other people compliments. _____ the compliment if someone says something nice about you. Tell your boss he or she looks great. Let the sales assistant in the grocery store know they always _____. It will brighten up their day and maybe they will be kinder to you in the future. Of all the different days we celebrate, National Compliments Day is _____ all feel good.

So just what is a compliment? It is _____ praise given to someone to make them feel good. It comes from the heart and is an _____ building relationships. To pay a compliment is a win-win situation. You feel good and the receiver of your compliment is also happy. It is _____ honesty that can bring sunshine into another person's day. It seems compliments are more necessary today _____. We are often too busy and stressed to notice other people. Face-to-face contact is decreasing because of the Internet. This simple and _____ become a bigger part of the way we interact with others. You never know what new friendships you can build _____ compliment.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

How often do you say nice things to your friends? Do you ever _____ your boss a compliment? Well, for _____ day of the year, there is no _____ not to. National Compliments Day on January the 24th is one day in the year in the USA when people can give compliments. If someone _____ you a compliment, you feel good, so you should pay other people compliments. Be sure to _____ the compliment if someone says something nice about you. Tell your boss he or she looks great. Let the sales assistant in the grocery store _____ they always do a fantastic job. It will _____ up their day and maybe they will be kinder to you in the future. Of all the different days we _____, National Compliments Day is one that makes us all feel good.

return
excuse
celebrate
pay
brighten
pays
know
one

So just what is a compliment? It is a _____ expression of praise given to someone to make them feel good. It comes from the _____ and is an important part of building relationships. To pay a compliment is a win-_____ situation. You feel good and the receiver of your compliment is also happy. It is a simple sign of _____ that can bring sunshine into another person's day. It seems compliments are more necessary today than _____ before. We are often too busy and stressed to notice other people. Face-to-_____ contact is decreasing because of the Internet. This simple and natural _____ needs to become a bigger part of the way we interact with others. You never know what new friendships you can _____ by paying a simple compliment.

face
honesty
heart
skill
polite
build
win
ever

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

How often do you say nice things to your friends? Do you ever *payment / pay* your boss a compliment? Well, for one day of the year, there is no *excuse / excuses* not to. National Compliments Day on January the 24th is one day in the year in the USA when people can give compliments. If someone *pays / pay* you a compliment, you feel good, so you should pay *another / other* people compliments. Be sure to return the compliment if someone says something nice about you. Tell your boss he or she looks *grate / great*. Let the sales assistant in the grocery store know they *never / always* do a fantastic job. It will brighten *up / down* their day and maybe they will be kinder to you in the future. Of all the different days we celebrate, National Compliments Day is one that makes us all *feeling / feel* good.

So just what is a compliment? It is a *polite / impolite* expression of praise given to someone to make them *feel / felt* good. It comes from the heart and is an important *heart / part* of building relationships. To pay a compliment is a *winner-winner / win-win* situation. You feel good and the receiver of your compliment is also happy. It is a simple sign of honesty that can *bring / bringing* sunshine into another person's day. It seems compliments are more necessary today than ever before. We are often too busy and *stressed / stress* to notice other people. Face-to-face *contract / contact* is decreasing because of the Internet. This simple and natural skill needs to become a bigger part of the way we *interact / interaction* with others. You never know what new friendships you can build by paying a simple compliment.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

How often do you (1) _____ nice things to your friends? Do you ever pay your boss a compliment? Well, for one day of the year, there is (2) _____ excuse not to. National Compliments Day on January the 24th is one day in the year in the USA when people can give compliments. If someone pays you a compliment, you (3) _____ good, so you should pay other people compliments. Be sure to return the compliment if someone says something nice about you. Tell your boss he or she looks (4) _____. Let the sales assistant in the grocery store know they always do a fantastic job. It will (5) _____ up their day and maybe they will be kinder to you in the future. Of all the different days we (6) _____, National Compliments Day is one that makes us all feel good.

So just what is a compliment? It is a (7) _____ expression of praise given to someone to make them feel good. It comes from the heart and is an important (8) _____ of building relationships. To pay a compliment is a win-win situation. You feel good and the receiver of your compliment is also happy. It is a simple sign of honesty that can bring (9) _____ into another person's day. It seems compliments are more necessary today than ever before. We are often too busy and stressed (10) _____ notice other people. Face-to-face contact is decreasing because of the Internet. This simple and natural skill needs (11) _____ become a bigger part of the way we (12) _____ with others. You never know what new friendships you can build by paying a simple compliment.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) speak | (b) say | (c) talk | (d) voice |
| 2. | (a) not | (b) no | (c) non | (d) never |
| 3. | (a) feeling | (b) felt | (c) feel | (d) feeler |
| 4. | (a) grate | (b) greatly | (c) gratefully | (d) great |
| 5. | (a) bright | (b) brighter | (c) brightest | (d) brighten |
| 6. | (a) celebrate | (b) celebration | (c) celebrating | (d) celebrates |
| 7. | (a) polite | (b) impolite | (c) politely | (d) politeness |
| 8. | (a) parts | (b) parting | (c) part | (d) party |
| 9. | (a) sunny | (b) sunshine | (c) sunniest | (d) sun visors |
| 10. | (a) to | (b) for | (c) so | (d) and |
| 11. | (a) for | (b) and | (c) at | (d) to |
| 12. | (a) interaction | (b) interactive | (c) interact | (d) interacts |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. do you say nice hsngti to your friends
2. there is no secuex not to
3. you should pay hoert people compliments
4. eurnt the compliment
5. they always do a catsniatf job
6. they will be rkiden to you in the future

Paragraph 2

7. It is a ieltpo expression
8. It comes from the aetrh
9. a win-win uintaoits
10. a simple sign of tesnohy
11. too busy and edssestr to notice
12. the way we ictntear with others

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () year, there is no excuse not to. National Compliments Day on January the 24th is one day in the year in the USA when
- () win-win situation. You feel good and the receiver of your compliment is also happy. It is a simple sign of
- () job. It will brighten up their day and maybe they will be kinder to you in the future. Of all the different days
- () So just what is a compliment? It is a polite expression of praise given to someone to make them feel
- () boss he or she looks great. Let the sales assistant in the grocery store know they always do a fantastic
- () pay other people compliments. Be sure to return the compliment if someone says something nice about you. Tell your
- () of the Internet. This simple and natural skill needs to become a bigger part of the way we interact with
- () others. You never know what new friendships you can build by paying a simple compliment.
- () we celebrate, National Compliments Day is one that makes us all feel good.
- () good. It comes from the heart and is an important part of building relationships. To pay a compliment is a
- () ever before. We are often too busy and stressed to notice other people. Face-to-face contact is decreasing because
- () people can give compliments. If someone pays you a compliment, you feel good, so you should
- () honesty that can bring sunshine into another person's day. It seems compliments are more necessary today than
- (**1**) How often do you say nice things to your friends? Do you ever pay your boss a compliment? Well, for one day of the

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. not excuse no is there to

2. other pay should you compliments people

3. Be compliment the return to sure

4. day their up brighten will It

5. maybe be you future will to the they kinder in

6. a expression praise is polite of It

7. part important an relationships building of

8. is simple of It a sign honesty

9. to too notice busy We and are stressed often

10. never you know can what build new You friendships

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

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THE NATIONAL COMPLIMENTS DAY SURVEY

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

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about National Compliments 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 National Compliments 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.