

# NATIONAL GRAMMAR DAY

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

March 4 is a very important day for all language students. It is National Grammar Day (NGD). This is the day for you to be extra careful with your grammar in class. It is also a good day to promise yourself to make your grammar better. This day is not just for students. Many native speakers of all languages have terrible grammar and make many mistakes. There is an annual award for famous people with poor grammar and U.S. Presidents have won it in the past! NGD is also a day when teachers around the world need to review their teaching methods and make their activities better. If your grammar isn't good, you can't always say what you mean. People might not always be able to guess what you want to say.

National Grammar Day was created by the Society for the Promotion of Good Grammar (SPOGG) and MSN Encarta. The NGD website says: "If we don't respect and honor the rules of English, we lose our ability to communicate clearly and well." So what do we do on National Grammar Day? The folks at SPOGG advise us to: "Speak well! Write well! And on March 4, march forth and spread the word. If you see a sign with a catastrophic apostrophe, send a kind note to the storekeeper. If your local newscaster says "Between you and I," set him straight with a friendly e-mail." The site offers ten top tips for good grammar and encourages visitors to send photos of public notices that contain bad grammar.

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                                      |                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. be extra careful with your        | a. have terrible grammar    |
| 2. native speakers of all languages  | b. to review their teaching |
| 3. an annual award for famous people | c. you want to say          |
| 4. teachers around the world need    | d. what you mean            |
| 5. you can't always say              | e. grammar in class         |
| 6. guess what                        | f. with poor grammar        |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. respect and honor the              | a. spread the word     |
| 2. we lose our ability to communicate | b. good grammar        |
| 3. march forth and                    | c. contain bad grammar |
| 4. set him straight with a            | d. rules of English    |
| 5. ten top tips for                   | e. clearly             |
| 6. photos of public notices that      | f. friendly e-mail     |

## LISTENING GAP FILL

March 4 is a very important \_\_\_\_\_ language students. It is National Grammar Day (NGD). This is the day for you to \_\_\_\_\_ with your grammar in class. It is also a good day to promise yourself to make your grammar better. This day \_\_\_\_\_ students. Many native speakers of all languages have terrible grammar and make many mistakes. There is an annual award for famous people \_\_\_\_\_ and U.S. Presidents have won it in the past! NGD is also a day when teachers around the world \_\_\_\_\_ their teaching methods and make their activities better. If your grammar isn't good, you can't always say what you mean. People might not always be able \_\_\_\_\_ you want to say.

National Grammar Day \_\_\_\_\_ the Society for the Promotion of Good Grammar (SPOGG) and MSN Encarta. The NGD website says: "If we don't respect and \_\_\_\_\_ of English, we lose our ability to communicate clearly and well." So \_\_\_\_\_ on National Grammar Day? The folks at SPOGG advise us to: "Speak well! Write well! And on March 4, \_\_\_\_\_ spread the word. If you see a sign with a catastrophic apostrophe, send a kind note to the storekeeper. If your local newscaster says "Between you and I," \_\_\_\_\_ with a friendly e-mail." The site offers ten top tips for good grammar and encourages visitors to send photos of public notices \_\_\_\_\_ grammar.

## WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

**Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

March 4 is a very important day for all \_\_\_\_\_ students. It is National Grammar Day (NGD). This is the day for you to be \_\_\_\_\_ careful with your grammar in class. It is also a good day to \_\_\_\_\_ yourself to make your grammar better. This day is not just for students. Many native speakers of all languages have \_\_\_\_\_ grammar and make many mistakes. There is an annual \_\_\_\_\_ for famous people with poor grammar and U.S. Presidents have won it in the past! NGD is also a day when teachers around the world need to \_\_\_\_\_ their teaching methods and make their activities better. If your grammar isn't good, you can't always say what you \_\_\_\_\_. People might not always be able to \_\_\_\_\_ what you want to say.

*review*  
*promise*  
*guess*  
*terrible*  
*language*  
*award*  
*mean*  
*extra*

National Grammar Day was \_\_\_\_\_ by the Society for the Promotion of Good Grammar (SPOGG) and MSN Encarta. The NGD website says: "If we don't respect and \_\_\_\_\_ the rules of English, we lose our \_\_\_\_\_ to communicate clearly and well." So what do we do on National Grammar Day? The folks at SPOGG advise us to: "Speak well! Write well! And on March 4, march forth and \_\_\_\_\_ the word. If you see a \_\_\_\_\_ with a catastrophic apostrophe, send a kind note to the storekeeper. If your local newscaster says "Between you and I," set him \_\_\_\_\_ with a friendly e-mail." The site offers ten top \_\_\_\_\_ for good grammar and encourages visitors to send photos of public notices that contain \_\_\_\_\_ grammar.

*tips*  
*ability*  
*sign*  
*straight*  
*created*  
*bad*  
*honor*  
*spread*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

March 4 is a very *important / importance* day for all language students. It is National Grammar Day (NGD). This is the day for you to be extra *careful / carefully* with your grammar in class. It is also a good day to promise yourself to make your grammar better. This day is not *justly / just* for students. Many native speakers of all languages have terrible grammar and make *much / many* mistakes. There is an annual award for famous people with *poorly / poor* grammar and U.S. Presidents have won it in the past! NGD is also a day when teachers around the world need to *review / reviews* their teaching methods and make their activities better. If your grammar isn't *well / good*, you can't always say what you mean. People might not always be able *to / for* guess what you want to say.

National Grammar Day was *creation / created* by the Society for the Promotion of Good Grammar (SPOGG) and MSN Encarta. The NGD website says: "If we don't respect and honor the *ruler / rules* of English, we lose our *ability / able* to communicate clearly and well." So what do we do on National Grammar Day? The folks at SPOGG *advise / advise* us to: "Speak well! Write well! And on March 4, march forth and *spread / spreading* the word. If you see a sign with a catastrophic apostrophe, send a *kind / kindly* note to the storekeeper. If your local newscaster says "Between you and I," *set / sit* him straight with a friendly e-mail." The site offers ten top *tops / tips* for good grammar and encourages visitors to send photos of public notices that contain bad grammar.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

March 4 is a very (1) \_\_\_\_\_ day for all language students. It is National Grammar Day (NGD). This is the day for you to be extra careful with your grammar in class. It is also a good day to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ yourself to make your grammar better. This day is not just for students. Many native speakers of all languages have terrible grammar and make many mistakes. There is an (3) \_\_\_\_\_ award for famous people with poor grammar and U.S. Presidents have won it in the past! NGD is also a day when teachers around the world need to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ their teaching methods and make their activities better. If your grammar isn't good, you can't always (5) \_\_\_\_\_ what you mean. People might not always be (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to guess what you want to say.

National Grammar Day was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ by the Society for the Promotion of Good Grammar (SPOGG) and MSN Encarta. The NGD website says: "If we don't respect and honor the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of English, we lose our ability to communicate clearly and well." So what do we do on National Grammar Day? The folks at SPOGG (9) \_\_\_\_\_ us to: "Speak well! Write well! And on March 4, march forth and spread the word. If you see a sign with a catastrophic apostrophe, send a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ note to the storekeeper. If your (11) \_\_\_\_\_ newscaster says "Between you and I," set him straight with a friendly e-mail." The site offers ten top tips for good grammar and encourages visitors to send photos of (12) \_\_\_\_\_ notices that contain bad grammar.

### Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |                |                 |               |              |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) importance | (b) importantly | (c) important | (d) imported |
| 2.  | (a) promising  | (b) promises    | (c) promise   | (d) promised |
| 3.  | (a) annual     | (b) year        | (c) annul     | (d) annually |
| 4.  | (a) reviewing  | (b) reviewer    | (c) reviewed  | (d) review   |
| 5.  | (a) speak      | (b) tell        | (c) voices    | (d) say      |
| 6.  | (a) ability    | (b) able        | (c) enabled   | (d) enable   |
| 7.  | (a) created    | (b) creation    | (c) creator   | (d) creative |
| 8.  | (a) ruler      | (b) rules       | (c) rulings   | (d) ruled    |
| 9.  | (a) advice     | (b) advisory    | (c) advise    | (d) advising |
| 10. | (a) kindly     | (b) kind        | (c) kindest   | (d) kindness |
| 11. | (a) locally    | (b) locale      | (c) locals    | (d) local    |
| 12. | (a) public     | (b) publicity   | (c) in public | (d) publican |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. be extra rauflec
2. atievn speakers
3. an nnaua award
4. need to eriwve
5. teaching esmdhot
6. able to sesgu

### Paragraph 2

7. communicate rycleal
8. we lose our ybiltai
9. adpres the word
10. your callo newscaster
11. ten top tspi
12. libucp notices

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) to be extra careful with your grammar in class. It is also a good day to promise yourself to make your grammar
- ( ) better. This day is not just for students. Many native speakers of all languages have terrible grammar and make many
- ( ) National Grammar Day was created by the Society for the Promotion of Good Grammar (SPOGG) and
- ( ) to communicate clearly and well." So what do we do on National Grammar Day? The folks at SPOGG advise
- ( **1** ) March 4 is a very important day for all language students. It is National Grammar Day (NGD). This is the day for you
- ( ) MSN Encarta. The NGD website says: "If we don't respect and honor the rules of English, we lose our ability
- ( ) past! NGD is also a day when teachers around the world need to review their teaching methods and make their
- ( ) might not always be able to guess what you want to say.
- ( ) mistakes. There is an annual award for famous people with poor grammar and U.S. Presidents have won it in the
- ( ) us to: "Speak well! Write well! And on March 4, march forth and spread the word. If you see a sign
- ( ) with a catastrophic apostrophe, send a kind note to the storekeeper. If your local newscaster says "Between you
- ( ) tips for good grammar and encourages visitors to send photos of public notices that contain bad grammar.
- ( ) and I," set him straight with a friendly e-mail." The site offers ten top
- ( ) activities better. If your grammar isn't good, you can't always say what you mean. People

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. students language all for day important very a

---

2. for be This day to careful the you extra is

---

3. better yourself make grammar promise to your

---

4. always what mean can't say you you

---

5. not might People guess to able be always

---

6. lose clearly our and ability well to we communicate

---

7. do on Day what do Grammar So we National?

---

8. kind to storekeeper a note the send

---

9. tips site for offers good ten grammar top The

---

10. that photos contain of bad public grammar notices send

---

**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 GRAMMAR DAY SURVEY

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

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about National Grammar 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 Grammar 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.