

## Earthlings, Unite!

<p>What happened on April 22, 1970, to bring people all over the world together? That date marked the first celebration of Earth Day. Every year since then, people in record-breaking numbers have used April 22 to show their common concern for our environment. Our school needs to join the celebration by organizing a full schedule of Earth Day activities.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the purpose of the first sentence?</li> <li>2. What kind of opener is being used?</li> <li>3. Underline the thesis statement for this essay. What's the topic?</li> <li>4. What's the author's position on the topic?</li> </ol>
<p>First of all, celebrating Earth Day celebration would draw attention to important environmental problems on our planet. Toxic chemicals, hazardous wastes, and other pollutants are choking our air and water. Many of our fellow creatures on Earth, including some of the rarest animals and plants, may die out completely because they are losing their natural surroundings. Celebration of Earth Day would help to make us all more aware of environmental problems and how we might solve them.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Underline the author's first reason in support of the thesis.</li> <li>6. What type of evidence is being given to support the reason?</li> </ol>
<p>A second reason for our school to observe Earth Day is to have activities which could unite students, parents, teachers, and community members. As Ms. Ryan, our science teacher, said, "Our society is very divided, but we all breathe the same air—air that is getting dirtier every day. Earth Day can bring us together." For instance, students and adults could work in teams to clean up trash, plant young trees, or learn more about recycling. Everyone would benefit from working together.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Underline the author's second reason in support of her thesis.</li> <li>8. Circle the transitional phrases in the paragraph.</li> </ol> <p>What types of evidence are being given to support the reason?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9.</li> <li>10.</li> </ol>
<p>Some people argue that this event would take away from valuable time in the classroom. Wrong! Earth Day would be a great way for students to learn about environmental issues. Not all students are motivated by what they learn in class. Some are motivated when they have the opportunity to apply their classroom skills. Once I had a friend who disliked her English class until she spent a day working for a local newspaper. The experience helped her understand why the skills she learns in class are important. An Earth Day celebration could help students apply their classroom knowledge and motivate them to learn more.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. Underline the author's reason in support of her thesis.</li> <li>12. What type of evidence is the author using to support the reason?</li> <li>13. What technique is the author using in this paragraph?</li> </ol>
<p>We can help to make a difference by celebrating Earth Day at our school. So, Earthlings, unite! If you agree, write a letter to the school board or the administration today. All of us take life from Earth. Now let's give something back in return .</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. Underline the summary statement.</li> <li>15. What does the author do in the final sentence of the conclusion?</li> </ol>