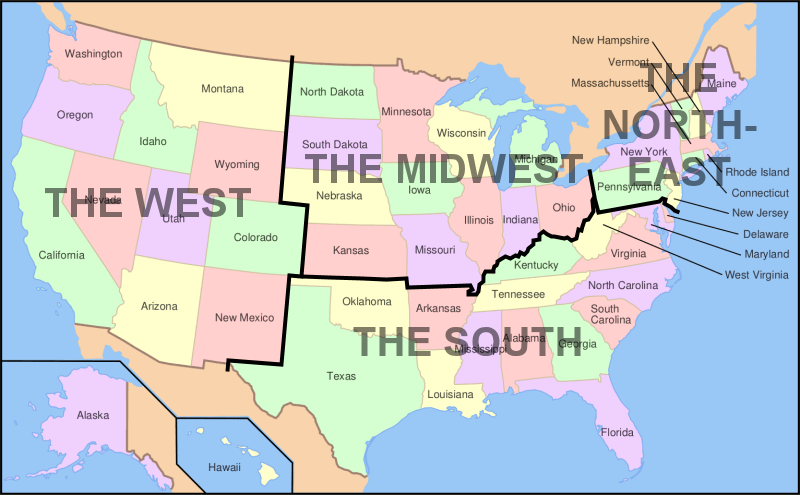
Arbor day 植树节 Zhí​shù​ Jié​

Arbor is Latin language (拉丁语 Lā​dīng​yǔ​) for “tree,” and it’s a worldwide holiday in which individuals (个人 gè​rén​) and groups (组 zǔ​) are encouraged

鼓励 gǔ​lì​ to go out and plant trees.

It started in the State of Nebraska in 1872 by Sterling Morton. It is estimated that about one million trees (1,000,000) were planted on that day.

[](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/af/Map_of_USA_showing_regions.png)



Sterling Morton

Every country has different Tree Planting Days.

China started celebrating this day in 1981.

Why are trees important?



For one thing trees produce oxygen 氧气 yǎng​qì​. A lot of oxygen.

About 20% of the air we breathe is oxygen. About half of the world’s oxygen comes from the oceans and *half from trees*.

This is one reason “deforestation” 砍伐森林 kǎn​fá​ sēn​lín​ is a very bad thing.

Thousands of trees are cut down every year in rainforests. 原始热带雨林 yuán​shǐ​rè​dài​yǔ​lín​ in South America and South Asia.

**Would you pay 10 Yuan a month to help prevent deforestation?**

**I would (not) pay 10 yuan a month to prevent deforestation because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**



Deforestation

[](http://www.moreinterestingfacts.com/deforestation-facts/deforestation-fact-1)

This is what happens when students lose their papers!

People have to cut rainforests down in Indonesia 印度尼西亚 Yìn​dù​ní​xī​yà​

and Brazil 巴西 Bā​xī​

to make for paper and the world becomes a desert 沙漠 shā​mò​

[](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A2KJke34sFxPzywAHdSJzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=desert&n=30&ei=utf-8&y=Search&fr=fp-yie9&tab=organic&ri=1&w=1600&h=1200&imgurl=yhareb.com/en/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Sahara-Desert-Morocco.jpg&rurl=http://yhareb.com/en/?p=163&size=164.2+KB&name=The+Desert+|+Yasser+Hareb&p=desert&oid=39a5e12d82965691f80ebd0b581c0b0c&fr2=&fr=fp-yie9&tt=The+Desert+|+Yasser+Hareb&b=0&ni=72&no=1&tab=organic&ts=&sigr=10ri9ot3q&sigb=138vspcq3&sigi=122l5m4oe&.crumb=V7LkVt..swc)

, and there will no oxygen 氧气 yǎng​qì for our children 子女 zǐ​nǚ​ and grandchildren!

[](http://images.search.yahoo.com/r/_ylt=A2KJke1hrVxPSGQABZujzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBpcGszamw0BHNlYwNmcC1pbWcEc2xrA2ltZw--/SIG=12k0t3rfa/EXP=1331502561/**http:/breadbreakers.typepad.com/bread_breakers_ministry/page/3/)

Do you think in the future people will have to buy oxygen to stay alive?

**[](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A2KJkIf1s1xP2jAAwl2JzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=buy+oxygen&n=30&ei=utf-8&y=Search&fr=fp-yie9&tab=organic&ri=46&w=640&h=480&imgurl=farm6.staticflickr.com/5288/5372024135_b38731cd51_z.jpg&rurl=http://www.flickr.com/photos/saud_helal/5372024135/&size=102.1+KB&name=-+Free+Oxygen+2011+.+-+Buy+Oxygen+2111+.+-+Model+Bro+!+-+Naja+Helal+.+-+Ask+Me+Here&p=buy+oxygen&oid=bc6f69af252d7b2b7b3c2f96b1d03b98&fr2=&fr=fp-yie9&tt=-+Free+Oxygen+2011+.+-+Buy+Oxygen+2111+.+-+Model+Bro+!+-+Naja+Helal+.+-+Ask+Me+Here&b=31&ni=72&no=46&tab=organic&ts=&sigr=11j4sshvb&sigb=13dha6gq8&sigi=11nenrg2a&.crumb=V7LkVt..swc)**

**Yes, I think in the future we will have to buy oxygen because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. **There are more and more people born every day?**
2. **We keep cutting down forests?**

**OR**

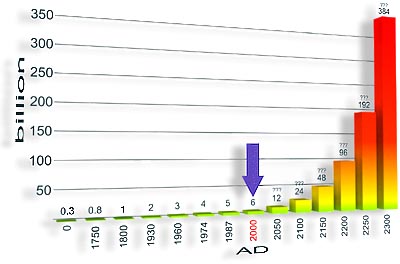
**No, I don’t think people will have to buy oxygen.**

Did you know that in the year 1800 there were only 1 billion people in the world (1,000,000,000)

, and now there are six billion (6,000,000,000)?

All those people are breathing and making CO2, using up the world’s limited oxygen while cutting down trees to make furniture 家具 jiā​jù​

and paper.

[](http://images.search.yahoo.com/r/_ylt=A2KJkIXYtFxPXCwAcECjzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBpcGszamw0BHNlYwNmcC1pbWcEc2xrA2ltZw--/SIG=11ss8bnia/EXP=1331504472/**http:/www.earth-parent.com/e-chart.html)

So, maybe tree planting day is important to remind us to conserve and protect 保护 bǎo​hù​ trees and not lose our papers in class!

[](http://www.moreinterestingfacts.com/deforestation-facts/deforestation-fact-1)

Finally:

**I think this discussion about trees is interesting.**

**OR**

**I think this discussion about trees is boring:**

[](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A2KJkK18uFxP50EAKIiJzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=Excited+students+in+class&fr=fp-yie9&fr2=piv-web&tab=organic&ri=3&w=506&h=337&imgurl=1.bp.blogspot.com/_rB33LSP41C4/SwmL4v_rohI/AAAAAAAAACQ/UNKBG1q4NZw/s1600/happy_students.jpg&rurl=http://graingerredm310fall2009.blogspot.com/2009_11_01_archive.html&size=58+KB&name=Robbie+Grainger&#39;s+EDM+310+Class+Blog:+November+2009&p=Excited+students+in+class&oid=a0c2c66c7a5f6b5f0a132dc9852c030b&fr2=piv-web&fr=fp-yie9&tt=Robbie+Grainger%26%2339%3Bs+EDM+310+Class+Blog%3A+November+2009&b=0&ni=72&no=3&tab=organic&ts=&sigr=1237461qk&sigb=13gk3hdom&sigi=12rq3usm2&.crumb=V7LkVt..swc)[](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A2KJkevwtlxP0RMAqdWJzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=sleeping+students&n=30&ei=utf-8&y=Search+Images&tab=organic&ri=20&w=350&h=284&imgurl=www.clipartguide.com/_named_clipart_images/0511-1007-2821-0135_Schoolboy_Sleeping_at_His_Desk_in_Class_Cartoon_clipart_image.jpg&rurl=http://www.clipartguide.com/_pages/0511-1007-2821-0135.html&size=91.5+KB&name=This+&quot;schoolboy+sleeping+at+his+desk+in+class+cartoon&quot;+clipart+image+can+be+licensed+as+part+of+a+low-cost&p=sleeping+students&oid=9fc3ecf10d0294ef77dea5d3bbad1b2f&fr2=&fr=&tt=This+&quot;schoolboy+sleeping+at+his+desk+in+class+cartoon&quot;+clipart+image+can+be+licensed+as+part+of+a+low-cost&b=0&ni=72&no=20&tab=organic&ts=&sigr=11rb7rbhb&sigb=13gk491va&sigi=140l9qfma&.crumb=V7LkVt..swc) [](http://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A2KJkevwtlxP0RMAltWJzbkF;_ylu=X3oDMTBlMTQ4cGxyBHNlYwNzcgRzbGsDaW1n?back=http://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=sleeping+students&n=30&ei=utf-8&y=Search+Images&tab=organic&ri=1&w=1024&h=768&imgurl=farm3.static.flickr.com/2168/2159407052_846ebcba41_b.jpg&rurl=http://conceptexcellence.blogspot.com/2007/03/thoughtdays-new-meaure-for-slow.html&size=418.2+KB&name=Sleeping+Students&p=sleeping+students&oid=c4a25d87b984a2d06ceac7f7a470958d&fr2=&fr=&tt=Sleeping+Students&b=0&ni=72&no=1&tab=organic&ts=&sigr=12ihkaibo&sigb=13fecaqsu&sigi=11o03cqt5&.crumb=V7LkVt..swc)

**IELTS Speaking test question:**

**Describe a meaningful event in your life:**

When I was six years old my father bought a sapling (baby tree) and put some water in a large bucket for planting a tree on a hill near our house. There were many other trees but he thought the hill needed one more. So, we took the sapling and water, climbed the hill, and dug a hole.

Then he put the sapling in the hole and covered the roots with earth. Then he poured water over it.

He explained the meaning of ecology 生态学 shēng​tài​xué​ to me, and the importance of trees. It was a very meaningful experience for me.

Is this a true story? It doesn’t matter to the IELTS examiner. They only rate your speaking based on pronunciation, fluency, grammar, and vocabulary.

Arbor day 植树节 Zhí​shù​ Jié​

individuals (个人 gè​rén​)

groups (组 zǔ​)

encouraged (鼓励 gǔ​lì)​

oxygen 氧气 yǎng​qì

deforestation” 砍伐森林 kǎn​fá​ sēn​lín

rainforests. 原始热带雨林 yuán​shǐ​rè​dài​yǔ​lín

desert 沙漠 shā​mò​

children 子女 zǐ​nǚ​

furniture 家具 jiā​jù​

protect 保护 bǎo​hù

ecology 生态学 shēng​tài​xué​