

# Unit One

# Water

## Section One Speaking

### Tasks

1. Look at the following pictures and translate the English names into Chinese.



A



B



C



D



E



F

A. River \_\_\_\_\_

B. Stream \_\_\_\_\_

C. Lake \_\_\_\_\_

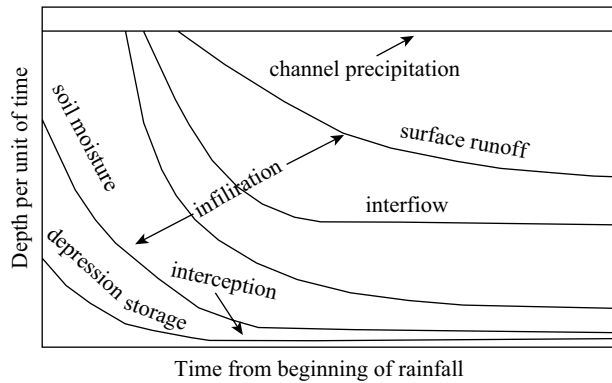
D. Sea \_\_\_\_\_

E. Glacier \_\_\_\_\_

F. Subterranean Stream \_\_\_\_\_

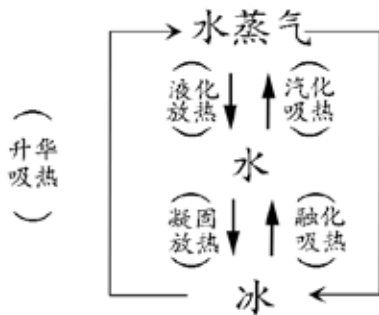
2. List the Chinese names of the marks in the following diagram of “The Disposition of Storm Rainfall”.

The Disposition of Storm Rainfall



3. Suppose you are an engineer. Give a presentation of each picture in English.

Picture 1



Picture 2



**Section Two Listening**

**Tasks**

1. Listen carefully and choose the words you hear.

- |               |            |            |            |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|
| (1) A. cloud  | B. round   | C. loud    | D. ground  |
| (2) A. past   | B. pass    | C. fast    | D. last    |
| (3) A. father | B. further | C. leather | D. weather |
| (4) A. shop   | B. shot    | C. shoot   | D. soft    |
| (5) A. white  | B. right   | C. red     | D. light   |



- |                |            |            |            |
|----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| (6) A. book    | B. boot    | C. foot    | D. fork    |
| (7) A. shoes   | B. whose   | C. nose    | D. mouse   |
| (8) A. message | B. massage | C. methods | D. markets |
| (9) A. show    | B. snow    | C. whole   | D. shoe    |
| (10) A. sink   | B. think   | C. sick    | D. thick   |

## 2. Listen to the short passage and choose the proper words to fill in the blanks.

Water is essential to life on the earth. Every living thing \_\_\_\_ (1) (keeps, needs, need) it in order to survive. Without water, plants, animals and microbes would all perish. About \_\_\_\_ (2) ( 75%, 85%, 95%) of our bodies are composed of water, which means we are essentially all walking bags of water. Water allows blood to flow through our veins, and dispose of waste matter via the excretory system. Our need for water becomes apparent when we are \_\_\_\_ (3) (thirty, hungry, thirsty), as we find in drinking this precious transparent resource. The first civilizations of mankind began near bodies of water. Rivers such as the Nile, the Euphrates and \_\_\_\_ (4) (the Yellow River, the Yangtze River, the Zhujiang River) are where mankind began to establish themselves on the earth. In all parts of the world, the major bodies of water \_\_\_\_ (5) (play, played, plays) a vital role in the evolution of mankind. Without it, life would not exist as we know it today.

## 3. Listen to the statements and choose the best responses to what you hear.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ___ (1) A. I'm flying back tomorrow.   | B. See you next time.                              |
| C. It's my pleasure.                   | D. It's Tuesday.                                   |
| ___ (2) A. Speaking.                   | B. I'd like to put up a telephone service, please. |
| C. Is this Susan speaking?             | D. You must have the wrong number.                 |
| ___ (3) A. It's delicious.             | B. It's lucky.                                     |
| C. It's sure.                          | D. It's fine.                                      |
| ___ (4) A. Yes, I think so.            | B. Do you really think so?                         |
| C. No, it's not very beautiful.        | D. Oh, thank you.                                  |
| ___ (5) A. Maybe.                      | B. The same to you.                                |
| C. Where are you going?                | D. OK. I'll visit my parents.                      |
| ___ (6) A. Sorry, I'm a stranger here. | B. Well, I'll never know what you say.             |
| C. Sorry, I won't give you the way.    | D. Well, I'll tell you the next time.              |
| ___ (7) A. Nice to see you.            | B. How about you?                                  |
| C. Not too bad.                        | D. How do you feel it?                             |
| ___ (8) A. You are so polite.          | B. We are so close friends.                        |
| C. Don't say so.                       | D. You are so welcome.                             |

## 4. Listen to the dialogues and choose the best answer to each question you hear.

- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (1) A. Strict.                        | B. Friendly.                    |
| C. Kind.                              | D. Patient.                     |
| (2) A. A terrible traffic accident.   | B. A rush hour.                 |
| C. A terrible air crash.              | D. An airport.                  |
| (3) A. The pronunciation of the word. | B. The spelling of the word.    |
| C. The meaning of the word.           | D. The explanation of the word. |
| (4) A. Some coffee.                   | B. Some juice.                  |
| C. Some cakes.                        | D. Some oranges.                |
| (5) A. Traveling.                     | B. Reading stories.             |
| C. Writing stories.                   | D. Writing magazines.           |

## 5. Listen to the dialogue and finish the answers by filling in the blanks.

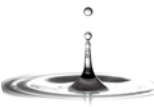
- (1) Who is Alice White?  
She is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) How old is she now?  
She is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (3) When did she become famous?  
She became famous \_\_\_\_\_.
- (4) Why has she given up swimming?  
Because \_\_\_\_\_.
- (5) When time did she get up to go to the pool when she was young?  
She got up \_\_\_\_\_.

## 6. Listen to the passage and fill in the blanks with words you hear. Some new words given below will be of some help to you.

### ► New Words and Expressions

surface *n.* 表面, 表层; 外观  
 vast *adj.* 巨大的, 广阔的  
 expanse *n.* 宽阔, 广阔区域  
 major *adj.* 主要的; 重要的  
 means *n.* 方式, 方法  
 mankind *n.* 人类

abundant *adj.* 丰富的, 充裕的  
 remain *v.* 继续, 保持  
 explorer *n.* 探索者  
 as long as 只要  
 ancient times 古代, 上古



Water covers around \_\_\_\_ (1) of the surface of the earth. The vast expanse of \_\_\_\_ (2) and \_\_\_\_ (3) has long been a major source of food and means of travel for mankind. Millions of \_\_\_\_ (4) live in the sea. They provide an abundant \_\_\_\_ (5) of food for us. In the modern age, most of us have \_\_\_\_ (6) fish and as long as man remains on this planet, we will \_\_\_\_ (7) to do so.

The rivers, seas and oceans have always provided mankind with an important means of \_\_\_\_ (8). Since ancient times, man has \_\_\_\_ (9) the corners of the earth via the sea. Much of what we are today is \_\_\_\_ (10) by these explorers.

## Section Three Reading

### Passage A

#### Treasuring Water

Every living organism needs water to survive. Plants need water to make food. All animals depend on plants for food either directly or indirectly. Therefore without water, all life forms will cease to exist. With the ever increasing population, water is becoming a scarce commodity. To worsen this situation, the few available sources of water for consumption by living organisms are being depleted at an alarming rate. Careless release of wastes into water bodies is also a major problem today. If nothing is done to reverse the situation, then it is predicted that it will be extremely hard to find clean water in future.

It is obvious that direct consumption by plants and animals is top among uses of water. Water has many other important functions such as washing, transportation, recreation, industrial applications, chemical uses, fire extinguishing among other uses. There is no other solvent that can be used to serve all these functions of water. This further stresses the importance of water in life. Without it life will be extremely difficult. Everyone is charged with the responsibility of taking care of water because survival depends on it.

There is a lot that an individual can do to conserve this precious commodity.

Turn off the tap when shaving, brushing teeth, doing dishes, washing hands and so on. Why should you leave the tap running when you are not using the water? When you soap up, turn off the tap to prevent unnecessary wastage of water. Turn it on only when you want to rinse.

Check for leaks. A lot of water can go into waste if your plumbing is leaking. Ensure that the whole plumbing system is watertight. Do not allow even a single drop of water to leak.

Water your lawn or garden at night. Watering during the day wastes a lot of water due to evaporation. Evaporation rate at night is slow and it gives water more time to soak in the soil.

Wash your car at the car wash. Car washes collect the water and reuse it to wash other cars. Car washes may also use less water than the amount you use at home.

These are just a few of things that can be done to conserve water. More can be done to minimize the amount of water that goes into waste. Check how you use water and identify the activities which waste a lot of water and make changes. Don't wait until there is real water scarcity to learn the importance of water.

### ► New Words

treasure *v.* 珍惜

organism *n.* 有机体, 生物体

survive *v.* 幸存; 活下来

directly *adv.* 直接地

indirectly *adv.* 间接地

therefore *adv.* 因此

form *n.* 形式

cease *v.* 停止

exist *n.& v.* 存在

increase *v.* 增长

population *n.* 人口

scarce *adj.* 缺乏的; 罕见的

commodity *n.* 商品

worsen *v.* (使) 恶化

situation *n.* 情况

available *adj.* 可用的

source *n.* 资源

consumption *n.* 消费

deplete *v.* 耗尽, 用尽; 使枯竭

alarm *v.* 报警, 警告

rate *n.* 速度, 比率

release *n.& v.* 释放; 发布

reverse *v.* (使) 反转

predict *v.* 预示

extremely *adv.* 极端地

obvious *adj.* 明显的

function *n.* 功能

transportation *n.* 运输

recreation *n.* 娱乐

industrial *adj.* 工业的

application *n.* 供应

chemical *adj.* 化学的

extinguish *v.* 熄灭

solvent *n.* 解决方法

serve *v.* 服务

stress *v.* 强调; 给……压力

responsibility *n.* 责任

individual *n.* 个人; 个体

conserve *v.* 保护; 保藏; 保存

precious *adj.* 珍贵的

tap *n.* 水龙头

shave *v.* 剃胡子

prevent *v.* 预防; 阻止

unnecessary *adj.* 不必要的

wastage *n.* 浪费

rinse *v.* 冲洗

check *v.* 检查

leak *n.* 漏水

plumbing *n.* 水管装置

ensure *v.* 确保

system *n.* 系统

watertight *adj.* 不漏水的, 防渗的



lawn *n.* 草地, 草坪

evaporation *n.* 蒸发

soak *v.* 浸透, 吸入

soil *n.* 土壤

reuse *v.* 再利用

minimize *v.* 把……减至最低数量

identify *v.* 确定; 识别

scarcity *n.* 稀少, 不足

### ► Phrases and Expressions

depend on 依靠, 依赖

either... or 或者……或者

in future 今后

be charged with 承担

take care 照顾

due to 由于

car wash 洗车处

### ► Tasks I

1. Fill in the blanks without referring to the passage.

Every living organism needs \_\_\_\_\_ (1) to survive. Plants need water to \_\_\_\_\_ (2). All animals \_\_\_\_\_ (3) plants for food either directly or indirectly. Therefore without water, \_\_\_\_\_ (4) will cease to exist. With the ever increasing population, water is becoming a scarce \_\_\_\_\_ (5). To worsen this situation, the few available sources of water for consumption by living organisms are being depleted at an alarming rate. \_\_\_\_\_ (6) of wastes into water bodies is also a major problem today. If nothing is done to reverse the situation, then it is predicted that it will be extremely hard to find \_\_\_\_\_ (7) in future.

2. Answer the following questions according to the passage.

(1) How will all life forms be without water?

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(2) What other important functions does water have except direct consumption by plants and animals?

---

(3) Why is everyone charged with the responsibility of taking care of water?

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(4) How many ways that an individual can do to conserve water are listed in the passage?

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(5) Why do you wash your car at the car wash according to the passage?

---

3. Complete each of the following statements according to the passage.

- (1) It is obvious that direct consumption by \_\_\_\_\_ is top among uses of water.
- (2) There is no \_\_\_\_\_ that can be used to serve all these functions of water.
- (3) We are charged with the responsibility of taking care of water because survival \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- (4) A lot of water can go into \_\_\_\_\_ if your plumbing is leaking.
- (5) Water your lawn or garden at night because watering during the day wastes a lot of water due to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (6) Please don't wait until there is real water scarcity to learn \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Translate the following sentences into English.

(1) 在发展中国家，水的消费量正在上升。( consumption )

\_\_\_\_\_

(2) 如今，人们面临越来越多的压力。( stress )

\_\_\_\_\_

(3) 这个地区的社会问题和经济形势每况愈下。( worsen )

\_\_\_\_\_

(4) 这个公司员工缺乏培训。( scarcity )

\_\_\_\_\_

(5) 这座大坝一点也不漏水。( watertight )

\_\_\_\_\_

(6) 所有动物和植物都直接或间接依赖水。( depend on )

\_\_\_\_\_

(7) 我们都有责任保护水资源。( be charged with )

\_\_\_\_\_

(8) 用洗发剂洗头后，要把头发好好冲洗干净。( rinse )

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Translate the following sentences into Chinese.

(1) With the ever increasing population, water is becoming a scarce commodity.

\_\_\_\_\_

(2) If nothing is done to reverse the situation, then it is predicted that it will be extremely hard to find clean water in future.

\_\_\_\_\_

(3) It is obvious that direct consumption by plants and animals is top among uses of water.

\_\_\_\_\_





- (4) There is no other solvent that can be used to serve all these functions of water.
- 
- (5) When you soap up, turn the tap off to prevent unnecessary wastage of water.
- 
- (6) Ensure that the whole plumbing system is watertight.
- 
- (7) Evaporation rate at night is slow, giving the water more time to soak in the soil.
- 
- (8) Car washes may also use less water than the amount you use at home.
- 
- (9) Check how you use water and identify the activities which waste a lot of water and make changes.
- 
- (10) Don't wait until there is real water scarcity to learn the importance of water.
- 

## Passage B

### The Water Resources of China and SNWTP

The water resources of China are affected by both severe water quantity shortage and severe water quality pollution. A growing population and rapid economic development as well as lax environmental oversight have increased water demand and pollution. China has responded by measures such as rapidly building out the water infrastructure and increasing regulation as well as exploring a number of further technological solutions.

China's water resources include 2,711.5 cubic kilometers of mean annual run-off in its rivers and 828.8 cubic kilometers of groundwater recharge. As pumping water draws water from nearby rivers, the total available resource is less than the sum of surface and groundwater, and thus is only 2,821.4 cubic kilometers. 80% of these resources are in the South of China.

China's experts have warned of future or current water shortages. Water resource usage is expected to peak in 2030 when the population peaks in China. Areas in the north of the Yangtze River are particularly affected with 80.9% of Chinese water resources being south of the river. Northern China has used 10,000-year-old aquifers which has resulted in ground cracking and subsidence in some regions.

Large-scale water transfers have long been advocated by Chinese planners as a solution to the water woes of China. The South-North Water Transfer Project (SNWTP), also translated as the South-to-North Water Diversion Project, is a multi-decade infrastructure mega-project in

the People's Republic of China. Ultimately it aims to channel 44.8 billion cubic meters of fresh water annually from the Yangtze River in southern China to the more arid and industrialized north through three canal systems: The Eastern Route through the course of the Grand Canal; The Central Route flowing from the upper reaches of the Han River (a tributary of the Yangtze River) to Beijing and Tianjin; The Western Route which goes from three tributaries of the Yangtze River near the Bayankala Mountain to provinces like Qinghai, Gansu, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Inner Mongolia and Ningxia.

### ► New Words

affect *v.* 影响

severe *adj.* 严重的

quantity *n.* 数量

shortage *n.* 短缺

quality *n.* 质量

pollution *n.* 污染

rapid *adj.* 快速的

economic *adj.* 经济的

lax *adj.* 宽松的; 不严格的

environmental *adj.* 环境的

oversight *n.* 监督; 照管

demand *n. & v.* 要求

respond *v.* 回应; 响应

measure *n.* 措施

rapidly *adv.* 迅速地

infrastructure *n.* 基础设施

regulation *n.* 规则; 管理

explore *v.* 探索

technological *adj.* 技术的

solution *n.* 解决

include *v.* 包括

cubic *adj.* 立方体的

mean *n.* 平均数

annual *adj.* 每年的

run-off *n.* 径流

groundwater *n.* 地下水

recharge *n.* 补充; 再装填

pump *v.* 抽水

nearby *adj.* 附近的

total *adj.* 总的

sum *n.* 总数

surface *n.* (地) 表

thus *adv.* 因此

expert *n.* 专家

current *adj.* 当前的

expect *v.* 期待, 预期

peak *n. & v.* (达) 峰 (值)

particularly *adv.* 尤其

aquifer *n.* 地下蓄水层

subsidence *n.* 下沉; 沉淀物

large-scale *adj.* 大规模的

transfer *n. & v.* 转移; 调动

advocate *v.* 提倡; 拥护

woe *n.* 灾难

translate *v.* 翻译

multi-decade *adj.* 数十年的

mega-project *n.* 大型项目

ultimately *adv.* 最终; 基本上