

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

### WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

International Women's Day (IWD) is \_\_\_\_\_ around the world on March 8 every year. It began as a \_\_\_\_\_ for better working conditions by women in New York at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the 20th century. The first official IWD was on February 28, 1909. No one knows for \_\_\_\_\_ why the date changed to March 8, but this is the date when thousands of women started \_\_\_\_\_ marches in New York's streets. The first international women's conference took place in 1910, in Denmark. Since then, IWD has spread around the world. Today it is an important day to \_\_\_\_\_ the economic, political and \_\_\_\_\_ contributions women have made to our world. Women can now be happier that things are moving in the right \_\_\_\_\_.

highlight  
turn  
sure  
social  
celebrated  
direction  
annual  
campaign

IWD is an \_\_\_\_\_ holiday in many countries, including Algeria, China, Cuba, Italy, Poland, Vietnam, and Zambia. All \_\_\_\_\_ the world, men give flowers and other gifts to the women in their lives - mothers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, teachers, etc. In Portugal and Romania, women \_\_\_\_\_ by having "women-only" dinners. IWD is a big \_\_\_\_\_ in India, where people hold celebrations throughout the day. Indian men want to show how important women are to their \_\_\_\_\_. All around the world women are becoming more \_\_\_\_\_ in business, entertainment, politics and other areas. There are over a \_\_\_\_\_ nations today with women leaders. However, IWD is still necessary to \_\_\_\_\_ the inequality millions of women still face.

society  
celebrate  
highlight  
event  
official  
powerful  
dozen  
across

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### PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

#### Paragraph 1

- |                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. a campaign for better working | a. to our world           |
| 2. at the turn of the            | b. the date changed       |
| 3. No one knows for sure why     | c. in the right direction |
| 4. IWD has spread around         | d. 20th century           |
| 5. contributions women have made | e. the world              |
| 6. things are moving             | f. conditions by women    |

#### Paragraph 2

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. IWD is an official holiday          | a. more powerful               |
| 2. men give flowers and other gifts    | b. of women still face         |
| 3. women celebrate by having           | c. in many countries           |
| 4. people hold celebrations throughout | d. "women-only" dinners        |
| 5. women are becoming                  | e. to the women in their lives |
| 6. highlight the inequality millions   | f. the day                     |