

# People at the Well

Since the beginning of time, people have depended on water—for drinking, for food, for bathing and for watering their crops. Water has always provided a highway to move people and products from place to place. As cities and societies grow, so does their need for water.

Today, water is essential in our homes, in industry and in agriculture. At home we use water for cleaning, cooking, drinking, flushing toilets and for bathing. But homes account for only 10 percent of all the freshwater used.

About 21 percent of the water we use goes to make everything from computers to cars. Water is used in hydroelectric plants to generate electricity and in petroleum plants to

make gas. In factories, water is used to heat things up or cool things down and to wash away waste. Water vapor (steam) even runs machinery. Water is also an ingredient in many products, such as lotions, shampoos, chemicals and drinks.

The remaining 69 percent of the freshwater we use goes into agriculture. Farms use huge amounts of water for crops and livestock.

Look around—almost everything you see was made using water. It took about 130 L (34 U.S. gal.) of water to make your bike. Water was used to grow and make the food you eat and the clothes you wear. Water was even used to make the paper for this book—and the ink used to print the words.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## AUTHOR'S POINT OF VIEW

The author's point of view tells how the author feels about the subject or topic. What clues in the text help you identify the author's point of view?

### Author's Point of View:

What does the author think about water?

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How do you know? List evidence from the text that shows that the author thinks that.

### Text Evidence:

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### Text Evidence:

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Do you agree or disagree with the author's point of view?

Explain:

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