

11+ Cloze Test: Water in Wales Answers

I **grew** up in Carmarthenshire, West Wales. My family moved **there** when I was nine years **old** and I left when I went to college ten **years** later. We lived on a 63 acre **dairy** farm. When we moved in, **there** was no heating in the house and it **was** routine to wake up to ice on the **inside** of the aluminium framed windows **during** the winter. My **parents** were resourceful, my father put in the **central** heating and my mother can make a good warming broth out of anything. I **don't** remember ever **feeling** cold.

We got our water from a spring. My parents had only ever experienced **mains** water before and had not **considered** enquiring as to how reliable the spring was when they **bought** the property. However, fortune favours the **brave** and luckily it was remarkably **reliable**. Even in the **drought** of 1977 it didn't run dry. Our **neighbours** had to carry water from the river three miles away but not us. The cows were **given** priority and every drop **was** treasured. A milking dairy cow drinks about 30 to 50 gallons of water each day. In hot **weather** this can double. But the spring kept going: just!

This experience at an influential age has left me with a lasting appreciation of clean , plentiful water. I hope I never fail to be grateful that I can turn on the tap and there it is! After thirty years of marriage I still find it incredibly indulgent to pour a bath more than three inches deep. My husband however likes to have a daily bath filled right up to the overflow: incredible ! So, I salve my conscience by hopping in with him.

However rubbish your day, take a moment to be thankful for clean and plentiful water : is truly a modern-day miracle. I hope I never take it for granted.