**I. FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH THE MOST APPROPRIATE LINK WORDS.**

 **A. according to B. although C. despite D. due to**

 **E. in addition to F. instead of G. since H. so that**

 **I. unless J. unlike K. whereas L. whether**

1. **Since** water is a key resource and we can never create more water, water management must be a priority in the development and preservation of any area.
2. Seventy percent of the planet is covered by water, but only 0.7 percent of this global resource is freshwater. And, it is very unevenly distributed across the planet. **Unlike** oil, for which there are multiple energy options, freshwater has no substitute.
3. **Although** the water crisis in the United States is not as noticeable as it is in developing countries, if it is left untreated, it might develop into a serious problem.
4. Millions of people living in the world’s poorest countries will be at increased risk from food and water shortages **unless** action is taken now, top scientists have warned.
5. **In addition to** distribution, it is also important to look at how the water is used when considering the question of adequate supply. While many uses do little to disturb water’s natural cycle, other uses ‒ such as agricultural, industrial and household uses ‒ can dramatically reduce a region’s immediate water supply.
6. British people use a lot more water than some of their counterparts in Europe, Tompkins says. "In Britain we use an average of 150 litres per day, **whereas** in Germany and France they use 125 and 110 litres per person per day. Denmark is as low as 100. On that basis, we are wasting a third of water," he says.
7. **Despite** all the wealth and technological advancements that the world has seen, a basic resource like water and a basic service like sanitation remains inaccessible to huge numbers of human beings.
8. **According to** the United Nations (2012), water shortages could affect 2 billion people in the next 20 years. The UN estimates that presently 700 million people in 43 countries experience water scarcity (defined as less than 1000 m3 per person per year).
9. Water Conservation is intelligent, equitable, efficient use and reuse of water **so that** we will have sufficient water for our current and future needs
10. China used to be home to 4,077 lakes, half of which have disappeared over the past several decades **due to** increased demand, consumption, global warming, and conversion of lakes to rice paddies.