

CHANGING CLIMATE, CHANGING MINDS

1. Read and listen to the sentences with words from the student presentation you will hear. Guess the meanings of the words in bold. then complete each sentence with the correct word.

- a. Before the flooding, government leaders did not believe that climate change was real. Now, they are finally **taking** it **seriously**.
- b. Some cities have already made plans for climate change. Unfortunately, other cities have **barely** started their preparations. They need to do more now.
- c. Sea walls can give cities on the coast some **protection** against floods.
- d. Scientists **predict** that by the year 2100, the sea level will rise by up to five feet.
- e. One city with no natural lakes has built an **artificial** lake. The new lake can hold a lot of rainwater during heavy storms.
- f. You can read about climate change in **documents** prepared by the United Nations.
- g. Many countries agreed to reduce pollution, but without a plan of action it was mainly a **symbolic** gesture.
- h. Loss of sea ice has dangerous **consequences**, such as more frequent floods.
- i. There has been a **dramatic** increase in the number of floods in the last 10 years—up 50 percent.
- j. At the **current** rate of increase, there will be more floods in the future.

- 1. The speaker has a soft voice so we can _____ hear her.
- 2. You should keep important _____, such as your passport, in a safe place.
- 3. The photographs are not worth a lot of money, but they have great _____ importance.
- 4. Experts _____ that the world's population will be 9.7 billion in 2050.
- 5. He spends four hours every night on his homework. He is _____ his schoolwork very _____ this semester.
- 6. There was a(n) _____ change in the price of oil in 2008. It fell from \$145 to \$30 in less than six months.
- 7. Any increase in the price of oil will have serious _____ for the whole country.
- 8. I use only real sugar in my coffee. I don't like the _____ kind.
- 9. The _____ temperature is 68 degrees F, but it will get warmer later today.
- 10. The police provide _____ for everyone in the city.

2. Take notes of the answers of these questions.

Try to use the words in bold in them.

1. Have there been any **dramatic** changes in your country in the last 10 years? Explain.
2. What have the **consequences** of these changes been?
3. What do you **predict** will happen in your life in the next five years?
4. What is something that you **take** very **seriously**?
5. What objects have **symbolic** importance for you or your family?

3. Read the statements below. Then listen to the student presentation. Write T for true, F for false, and N for not mentioned.

1. _____ Climate change has affected the Maldives more than other countries.
2. _____ The situation in the Maldives could happen to other countries in the future.
3. _____ The Maldives has not had a flood since the 2004 tsunami.
4. _____ Many coastal areas in Asia could be flooded by rising sea levels in the future.
5. _____ Most of the world's ice will probably melt by 2100.

WORDS IN THE PRESENTATION

tsunami (n): a large and dangerous wave caused by an earthquake under the ocean