Teacher: Andrea

Climate change: why does 1.5°C matter?

Watch the video:

https://youtu.be/5rFmYRXWVio?si=rdyuS-xMcxSJODW7

Choose the sentence that best summarizes it. ☐

1- In the video, it's suggested that the planet's climate has remained stable for centuries. It mentions that the average global temperature today is around 15 degrees centigrade. The World Meteorological Organization claims that the 20 coldest years on record have been in the past 22 years. Scientists predict that a 3 to 5 degree centigrade rise by 2100 would have negligible effects.

2- In the video, the concern over the rapid warming of the planet is discussed. It emphasises the need to limit the rise in global temperature to 1.5 degrees centigrade. The potential consequences of a 2-degree rise, such as the disappearance of coral reefs and loss of insect species, are highlighted. Scientists suggest solutions like carbon capture technology, tree planting, reducing meat consumption, and using sustainable transport to combat climate change.

3- In the video, the focus is on the impact of climate change on fashion trends. It explores how buying new clothes frequently contributes to greenhouse gas emissions. The video also discusses the importance of using electric cars and bicycles as a sustainable mode of transportation.

READING COMPREHENSION

Read the text about climate change:

CLIMATE CHANGE

The planet's climate has constantly been changing over thousands of years. The global average temperature today is about 15°C. Scientists are worried that the planet is warming faster than ever before. The 20 warmest years on record have been in the past 22 years, according to the World Meteorological Organization. If this trend continues, temperatures may rise by 3–5°C by 2100.

Scientists say we should try and stop this trend and not allow the average global temperature to rise more than 1.5°. But even a 2°C rise would be bad for us all. Now, half a degree doesn't sound like much – but it could make a big difference to the planet.

A 2°C rise would mean that all the coral reefs would disappear, but a 1.5°C rise means that there would still be some. Also, 18 per cent of the insects on Earth will disappear if the temperature goes up by 2°C, compared to 6 per cent disappearing at 1.5°C. Thirty-seven per cent of people will be affected by dangerous heatwaves at 2°C. That's twice the number compared to at a 1.5°C rise.

Whether it's coral reefs, crops, floods or the survival of species, scientists say everyone and everything is far better off in a world that limits the rise to 1.5°C.

So, what can we do? Scientists say that carbon will have to be sucked out of the air by machines and stored underground and that these devices exist already. They also say that billions of trees will have to be planted. People should buy less meat. Of all the foods we eat, beef has the biggest impact on climate change because it produces a high amount of greenhouse gases. Also, someone suggested not buying new clothes too often, because the fashion industry is a major source of the greenhouse gases that are overheating the planet. And, of course, using transport that doesn't burn fossil fuels, like electric cars. It's even better to walk or ride a bike.

Activity 1: **Write the statements in the correct group.**

plant trees | walk or ride a bike | 18.5 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves

18 per cent of insect species will disappear | buy less meat, especially beef | all coral reefs will disappear

37 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves | buy fewer new clothes

some coral reefs will disappear | 6 per cent of insect species will disappear

What will happen with a 1.5°C rise
- _____ - _____ - _____
What will happen with a 2°C rise
- _____ - _____ - _____
What we can do to help
- _____ - _____ - _____ - _____-

Activity 2: **Complete the sentences with the following words.**

twice	billions	average	high	by
half	compared	major	to	of

1- Today, the _____ temperature of the planet is about 15°C.

2- Scientists think that temperatures may rise _____ 3-5°C by 2100.

3- Although _____ a degree doesn't seem very much, it could make a big difference.

4- Eighteen per cent _____ insects on Earth will disappear if the temperatures rises by 2°C.

5- This is _____ to six per cent disappearing at 1.5°C.

6- If there is a 2 °C rise, _____ the number of people will be affected by heatwaves.

7- We will be in a better situation if we limit the rise _____1.5 °

8- We need to plant _____ of trees.

9- Beef production generates a _____ amount of greenhouse gases.

10- The fashion industry is a _____ source of greenhouse gases.