

Environmental Protection: Climate Change

My fellow students and esteemed teachers, as we all are gathered here today, I must address an urgent matter regarding climate change. This issue is something that is going to affect us all in the next few decades of our lives, unless we have something to do about it. Close your eyes for a moment, and imagine waking up to the desperate sound of the population's gasps of air as their lungs gradually strain against the thick, polluted air. Picture yourself, not walking on fresh, green grass but strolling across splintered pieces of fragile glass disguising as cracked, parched landscapes. Envision reaching out for water, but not grasping even just a droplet of water. Now open your eyes, and remember that this is not merely a nightmare, nor a dystopian film. This is something far worse, a problem with no solution, unless we make one. Let us all think deeply about this one question-*do you want this issue to continue, or not?*

Consider, for a moment, the barren, harsh world that awaits us. Scientists from NASA who are currently investigating Climate Change predict that our once vibrant blue oceans filled with marine choreography will become acidic teal wastelands where calcium-dependent creatures dissolve in slow,

excruciating deaths. These same waters that cradled life will rise by one metre by 2050, drowning coastal, marine cities under merciless tsunamis that sweep away centuries of human history and displace hundreds of millions of climate refugees. Is this the inheritance we wish to leave? Is this the legacy we wish to uphold? Is this the future we want our descendants to live in?

The truth still cuts even deeper. Here in Australia, our beloved bushlands were once alive with the golden wattle, now wilting to shreds and the eucalyptus trees, now reduced to mere branches. Each now transformed into summer hellscape where flames leap from crown to crown with terrifying velocity where the very air shimmers with intense heat. Wildlife trapped and panicked, unable to escape the ruthless fires of hell, flee until the heat eventually holds them captive. We saw this reality once in 2019-2020, where 3 billion animals died of hunger, starvation, and exposure to the temperature. Each cinder that rose from those fires carried on until now, where many countries, not just Australia, are suffering from intense calefaction.

Yet these catastrophes are just the visible symptoms of a deeper planetary fever, as Earth's delicate systems convulse against the infection of our excess. Make no mistake, when we talk about climate change, we are not discussing an abstract environmental challenge. We are talking about your future, your future, your prosperity,

your very ability to recognise the world your grandparents described to you. Even now, as we sit in our auditorium, with its luminescent lights and climate-controlled air, the molecules of carbon released are wrapping around our planet like a thick, steamy blanket. This is our moment, not someone else's, ours.

We stand now in our world, reduced to just an object of memory, something to remind us of the mistakes we have previously done by not addressing climate change at all. This problem can now be countered, if we all take a part in finding a solution. This is our problem, and for every single individual who doesn't join us in this revolution, 1% of our natural beauty we still have remaining gets reduced to a crisp. So let us all join in the fight, the rebellion, so that we can convert our world back to its pre-owned natural beauty.