

Topic: A Human Race Against Time to Save Our Planet

A reading comprehension skills lesson based on a persuasive text.

Grade 5

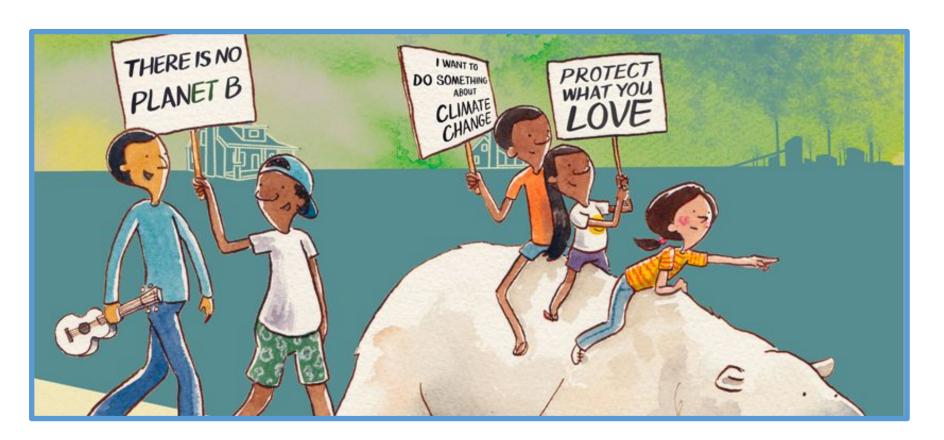
For today's lesson you will need:

A pen or pencil

Your notebook, or some paper

Some water to drink





Do you know what climate change is?

Write down one fact you know about climate change in your notebooks.





Let's watch the video



Video questions:

Describe what you saw in the video.

Do you care about climate change?

Why should humanity care about climate change?





Reasons humanity should care about climate change:



- The Polar ice caps are melting.
- The oceans are getting warm faster.
- Sea levels are rising and people are in danger.
- Weather is becoming more extreme over time.
- Climate change affects people all over the world.
- Unlike the game of Tetris, we will not get a chance to start over and play the game again.

United Nations Climate Change Poster:



What type of text is this?







persuasive



information



Who is the audience?

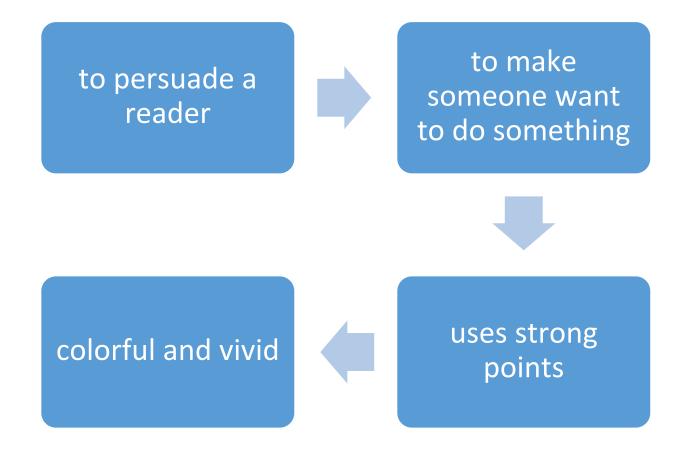




Can you spot three elements of a persuasive text in this poster?



Elements of a persuasive text:







In previous lessons we:

- read a leaflet about the Woodlands
 Adventure Park and answered reading comprehension questions on it.
- looked at different examples of persuasive leaflets and brochures.
- created our own adventure park posters using creative and persuasive language.



In today's lesson we will:

- read a comprehension text about why we should care about climate change
- answer a set of reading comprehension questions.
- complete a true or false quiz about climate change.



Features of this text:

non-fiction

information text

persuasive



A human race against time to save our planet

Paragraph 1

Why care about Climate Change?

Our planet is struggling to survive. We have been following overwhelming news articles and reports on the devastating effect that climate change has on our shared home. We see the evening news about the deforestation, storms, droughts, pollution and rising sea levels which are harming humans and animals worldwide. But the question we have to ask ourselves is: are we really listening?



A human race against time to save our planet

Paragraph 2

Every day there are more destructive floods and droughts all around the world. These disasters are leading to famine and extinction of endangered animals such as polar bears, giant pandas, whales and sea turtles. We can no longer pretend to be deaf. We must open our ears and listen to what is happening our world.





A human race against time to save our planet

Paragraph 3

The United Nations has recently stated that climate change is the "defining issue of our time and that we are in a defining moment". This means that climate change is one of the single most important concerns that we face as a human race and that we must take steps immediately to change our actions to help prevent climate change from destroying our planet. Simply put, it is now that we must take action to protect our planet.



A human race against time to save our planet

Paragraph 4

How can we tackle climate change?

Our human race now faces a race against time; we must take immediate action to tackle climate change before it is too late. There are two different levels on which we can take collective action:

- -On an international level, the United Nations and Governments are working together to put measures into place on how to protect nature from harmful greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
- -On an individual level, local action is key to tackle climate change.





A human race against time to save our planet

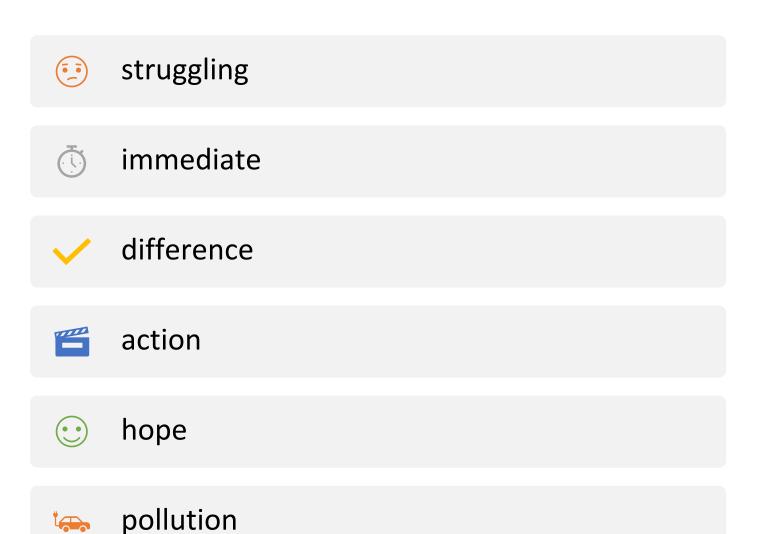
Paragraph 5

It is the individual level that gives us the most hope that this is a race against time that we can win. In the last few years we have seen the power of the individual in tackling climate change. An increasing number of people are reducing their plastic use and recycling on a daily basis as well as taking other small steps to tackle climate change. It is these small acts of the individual that help to make a difference. In the end, it is not only about winning the race against time to save our planet; but also how we participate in the race. After all, the best way to participate in this race to save our planet is to take action daily; however small.



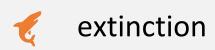


Vocabulary from previous lessons:





New Vocabulary:



United Nations

droughts

tackle

collective action

overwhelming



Digital Worksheet Reading comprehension questions

Answer the following questions based on the text: A human race against time to save our planet. Do not forget to go back to the text whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.





- 1) What is the main purpose of this text?
- 2) Who is the possible audience for this text?
- 3) In the first paragraph, the author refers to our "shared home". What is our "shared home"?
- 4) What are some of the negative effects of climate change that we see on the news?

Why care about Climate Change?

Our planet is struggling to survive. We have been following overwhelming news articles and reports on the devastating effect that climate change has on our shared home. We see the evening news about the deforestation, storms, droughts, pollution and rising sea levels which are harming humans and animals worldwide. But the question we have to ask ourselves is: are we really listening?





- 5) In the second paragraph, the author states "we can no longer pretend to be deaf." What does this mean?
- 6) What type of language is the author using when writing "we must open our ears?"
- 7) What does it mean that climate change is the "defining issue of our time and that we are in a defining moment?"

Every day there are more destructive floods and droughts all around the world. These disasters are leading to famine and extinction of endangered animals such as polar bears, giant pandas, whales and sea turtles. We can no longer pretend to be deaf. We must open our ears and listen to what is happening our world.

The United Nations has recently stated that climate change is the "defining issue of our time and that we are in a defining moment". This means that climate change is one of the single most important concerns that we face as a human race and that we must take steps immediately to change our actions to help prevent climate change from destroying our planet. Simply put, it is now that we must take action to protect our planet.





8) What does "collective action" mean?

9) According to the author, how many levels are there to tackle climate change? What level is the most important and why?

How can we tackle climate change?

Our human race now faces a race against time; we must take immediate action to tackle climate change before it is too late. There are two different levels on which we can take collective action:

-On an international level, the United Nations and Governments are working together to put measures into place on how to protect nature from harmful greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

-On an individual level, local action is key to tackle climate change.





- Answers:

 1. What is the main purpose of this text?

 To persuade people to care about climate
 - To persuade people to care about climate change and to persuade people to take action to prevent / stop climate change.
 - 2. Who is the possible audience for this text? adults, people, children, students
 - 3. In the first paragraph, the author refers to our "shared home". What is our "shared home"? Planet Earth/ the planet/ Earth
 - 4. What are some of the negative effects of climate change that we see on the news?
 - Some of the negative effects of climate change we see on the news are deforestation, storms, droughts, pollution and rising sea levels,

Answers:

5) In the second paragraph, the author states "we can no longer pretend to be deaf". What does this mean?

This means that we can no longer ignore the problem of climate change. It means that we cannot pretend that we do not understand the problem. We must face it and solve it.

6) What type of language is the author using when writing "we must open our ears?"

The author is using idiomatic language (an idiom) to show that we must acknowledge/accept the problem and solve it.

7) What does it mean that climate change is the "defining issue of our time and that we are in a defining moment?"

Copy from the text - "This means that climate change is one of the single most important concerns that we face as a human race and that we must take steps immediately to change our actions to help prevent climate change from destroying our planet. Simply put, it is now that we must take action to protect our planet".

- 8) What does "collective action?" mean? Collective action means that people/institutions work together to solve climate change.
- 9) According to the author, how many levels are there to tackle climate change? What level is the most important and why? There are two levels to tackle climate change: international and individual. The most important level is the individual level because this level gives us the most hope that we can win the race against time. The small acts of individuals help to make a difference in tackling climate change.

In today's class we:



TALKED ABOUT PERSUASIVE TEXTS



READ A NON-FICTION, PERSUASIVE INFORMATION TEXT ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE



COMPLETED A SET READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS



LEARNT NEW
VOCABULARY
WORDS AND
PRACTICED
SAYING THE
WORDS.



CHECKED THE
ANSWERS OF
THE READING
COMPREHENSIO
N QUESTIONS
AND MARKED
THEM



Final quiz time:

Are the following statements true or false?

The United Nations has recently stated that climate change is the "defining issue of our time and that we are in a defining moment".

There are four different levels on which we can take collective action.

In the end, it is not only about winning the race against time to save our planet; but also how we participate in the race.

The question we have to ask ourselves is: are we really smelling?

It is the individual level that gives us the most hope that this is a race against time that we can win.



Final quiz time:

Answers

The United Nations has recently stated that climate change is the "defining issue of our time and that we are in a defining moment".

There are four different levels on which we can take collective action.

In the end, it is not only about winning the race against time to save our planet; but also how we participate in the race.

The question we have to ask ourselves is: are we really smelling?

It is the individual level that gives us the most hope that this is a race against time that we can win.







Poster Time!

- Create your own poster about why we should care about climate change.
- You must use the information from the text in your poster.
- Please think of a title for your poster.
- You can show your poster to everyone at the end of the lesson.



