

Greenhouse gas emissions are a natural and normal phenomenon



Consumerism drives economic growth and boosts innovation



Developed countries have a duty to reduce their **carbon footprint**



Population decline will have severe social and economic impacts



Rising temperatures create commercial opportunities



Climate change deniers have a right to be heard like everyone else



Greenhouse gases must be regulated and controlled by the government



Consumerism leads to environmental and moral degradation



Developing nations shouldn't worry about their **carbon footprint**



Fears about **overpopulation** are racist and xenophobic



Rising temperatures threaten the global ecosystem



Climate change deniers are dangerous and disingenuous



The way I look
at it...



In my
opinion...



To my mind...



As far as I'm
concerned...



I'm a firm
believer that...



My main
concern is...



Carbon Dioxide & Methane

/ 'kɑ:bən daɪ'ɒksaɪd /

/ 'mi:θeɪn /

Climate Deniers

/ 'klaɪmɪt dr'naɪəz /

Rising Temperatures

/ 'raɪzɪŋ 'temprɪtʃəz /

Consumerism

/ kən'sju:mərɪzəm /

Carbon Footprint

/ 'kɑ:bən 'fʊtprɪnt /

Overpopulation

/ ,əʊvə,pəpju'leɪʃən /

...are gases that contribute to the greenhouse effect by absorbing radiation and trapping heat in the atmosphere.

...dismissal or doubt that contradicts the scientific consensus on climate change and its effects on nature and human society.

...are climate patterns attributed to the increased levels of atmospheric CO₂ produced by the use of fossil fuels.

...encourages the acquisition of goods and services in ever-increasing amounts.

...is the amount of CO₂ and carbon compounds emitted due to the consumption of fossil fuels by a particular person or group.

...occurs when a species exceeds the carrying capacity of its environment and is often linked to a depletion of resources.

A rhetorical question is sometimes used to draw attention to a **negative situation**.

Rhetorical Question	Meaning
Do you know what time it is?	You are late.
Who cares?	Nobody cares.
Have you lost your tongue?	Speak.
Could this day get any worse?	I'm having a terrible day.

Questions beginning with '**how**' or '**why...should/would**' can be used to **aggressively** reject requests or questions.

Suggestion / Request	Rhetorical Rejection
When does the train arrive?	How (the hell) would I know?
Can you help us?	Why (the ****) should I?
Shouldn't you be in bed?	Why should I be?

Negative modal/auxiliary verbs are sometimes used to **emphasize** things.

Rhetorical Question	Meaning
Didn't I tell you she would come ?	I told you that she would come.
Haven't you been listening to anything I've been saying ?	You never listen to me.
Wouldn't it be a shame if something were to happen to you ?	(Dangerous Threat)
Shouldn't you be leaving ?	Get out.

1. **Prime Minister:** Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for joining this crisis meeting at such short notice.
2. With rising temperatures and extreme weather badly affecting the country, the public are starting to ask what this government is doing about climate change.
3. We need to give them the right answers to stand any chance of winning the next election.
4. Your opinions, please.
5. **Minister 1:** The way I look at it, our biggest problem is CO2 and methane emissions.
6. Our country is the world's largest producer of both these gases.
7. This information is publicly available and in my opinion it could lose us the election.
8. **Minister 2:** To my mind, greenhouse gases are the by-product of a healthy economy.
9. As far as I'm concerned, we can blame the temperature rises and changes in weather on the Earth's natural cycles.
10. **Minister 3:** Yes, we could pass the blame... there are certainly many climate change deniers out there who would accept that idea.
11. However, I'm a firm believer that we can reduce our carbon footprint whilst still encouraging the age of consumerism.
12. My main concern is the problem of overpopulation.
13. I've prepared the following report for you to take a look at.