

**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**

/ 'kɑːbən daɪ'ɒksaɪd /

/ 'miːθeɪn /

## **Climate Deniers**

/ 'klaɪmɪt dɪ'naɪəz /

## **Rising Temperatures**

/ 'raɪzɪŋ 'tɛmpərɪʃəz /

## **Consumerism**

/ kən'sjuːməɪzəm /

## **Carbon Footprint**

/ 'kɑːbən 'fʊtprɪnt /

## **Overpopulation**

/ ,əʊvə'pɒpjʊ'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 CO<sub>2</sub> produced by the use of fossil fuels.*

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

*...is the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> 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?  | <b>You are late.</b>              |
| Who cares?                    | <b>Nobody cares.</b>              |
| Have you lost your tongue?    | <b>Speak.</b>                     |
| Could this day get any worse? | <b>I'm having a terrible day.</b> |

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? | <b>How</b> (the hell) <b>would</b> I know? |
| Can you help us?'           | <b>Why</b> (the ****) <b>should</b> I?     |
| Shouldn't you be in bed?    | <b>Why should</b> I be?                    |

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

| Rhetorical Question   | Meaning                         |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <b>Didn't</b> I tell you <b>she would come</b> ?                          | I told you that she would come. |
| <b>Haven't</b> you been listening to anything <b>I've been saying</b> ?   | You never listen to me.         |
| <b>Wouldn't</b> it be a shame if <b>something were to happen to you</b> ? | (Dangerous Threat)              |
| <b>Shouldn't</b> you be <b>leaving</b> ?                                  | 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 CO<sub>2</sub> 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.