



# TAKE A STAND

CHALLENGING CLIMATE CHANGE

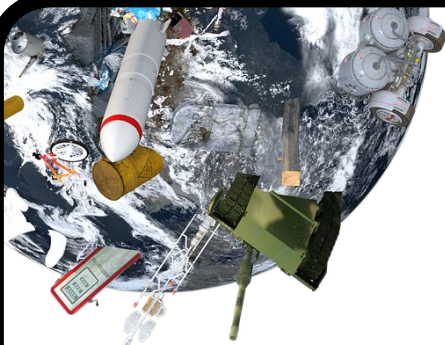
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planning, resources and videos here:**

**<http://j.mp/StandKS2> or**

**<http://j.mp/StandKS34>**





# WRITING TO CHALLENGE CLIMATE CHANGE

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## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

What is climate change?  
What causes it?  
What are the effects?  
How can it be reduced?  
How should we respond to climate change?  
Who has the power to make changes?  
How can we contact people who have more power?  
How can we respond from the classroom?



## TECHNICAL VOCABULARY

**Atmosphere** The layer of gases surrounding our planet that protect us from the sun's harmful rays.

**Carbon Dioxide** A natural gas that is emitted or absorbed by all living things

**Emissions** Gases put into the air, for example from cars or power stations burning fossil fuels

**Fossil fuels** An energy source derived from coal, gas, or oil created from the remains of living things from thousands of years ago.

**Global warming** The rise of the earth's temperature due to increased greenhouse gases.

**The Greenhouse Effect** The trapping of the sun's warmth beneath the atmosphere. This effect is increased by more greenhouse gases being added to the atmosphere.

**Greenhouse gases** These are gases which trap heat from the sun against our planet, such as Carbon Dioxide. If there is too much of these in the atmosphere, global warming occurs.



## WRITING A PERSUASIVE LETTER

If you are writing a letter to ask those in power to change, remember these sections.

**Introduce** Who are you? Where are you from? Why are you writing to this person?

**Inform** Give details about the problem and why you think something needs to change.

**Instruct** Tell the reader what you expect them to do in response to this issue, and in response to your letter.

## RHETORICAL QUESTIONS

Is it right that...?  
How does it make you feel knowing that...?  
Who is responsible for...?  
Why should children...?  
Do you really think...?



# TAKING A STAND ON CLIMATE CHANGE: KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Use this page to make notes while you research climate change.

## *CAUSES of Climate Change*

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## *EFFECTS of Climate Change*

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## *Words to look up*

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## *Notes and useful facts*

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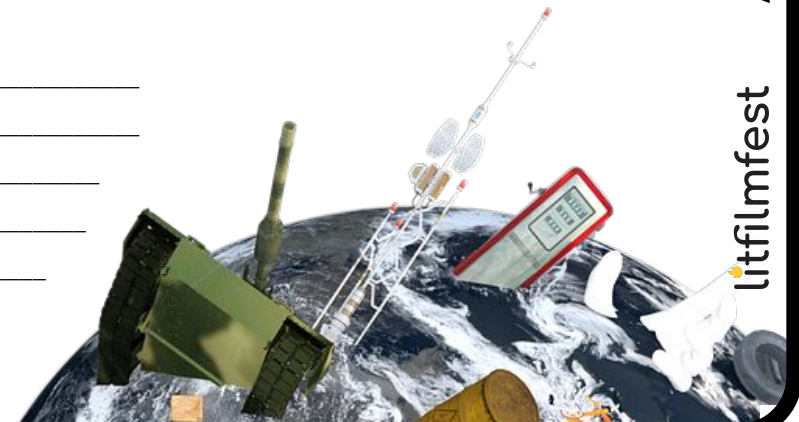
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# FEATURES OF A FORMAL PERSUASIVE LETTER



## The recipient's address

X-T Plastics  
Redhill Road  
Coventry  
CV7 0UC

**A formal greeting.** Other options might include 'To whom it may concern...'

## Introduce

Who are you? Where are you from?  
Why are you writing to this person?

## Inform

Give details about the problem and why you think something needs to change.

## Instruct

Tell the reader what you expect them to do in response to this issue, and in response to your letter.

## A formal sign off and the sender's name

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are the children from class 4 at Humberdill Farm School. We have been researching the effects of oil exploration in order to create plastic on climate change, and we have a message for you. It is time to stop and take responsibility for the position of power you hold over the future of our planet.

Our world is the only one we have. You may see this as your world - one you can take from without giving back. The effects of oil exploration and the creation of more plastics means that excess carbon dioxide is being added into our atmosphere, endangering the delicate balance of gases that block our planet from the sun's harmful rays.

We understand that this is not a simple issue. However, we would like to see you making a commitment to finding more green energy solutions, and by using recycled plastics instead of making more. In this way, we can save our world for a cleaner and safer future. We are looking forward to your reply, and to understanding how you will help make this change.

Yours sincerely,  
Class 4, Humberdill Farm School

Humberdill Primary School  
Arpee Road  
Coventry  
CV1 L1T  
Friday 23rd February 2020

## The sender's address

## The date you are writing

## Formal starters

We are writing in order to...  
I understand that,  
However,  
It is clear that...  
Despite the fact that...  
In this way...  
Without a doubt,

## Evidence and facts used to back up opinions



## Email?

How might these features change or stay the same if you decided to write a formal persuasive email instead of a letter?

What other methods of communication are there?  
Are they formal?



# WRITING LETTERS: KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Use this page to collect features of letters.

## *Features of a letter*

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## *Formal language*

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## *Useful vocabulary*

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## *Notes and useful facts*

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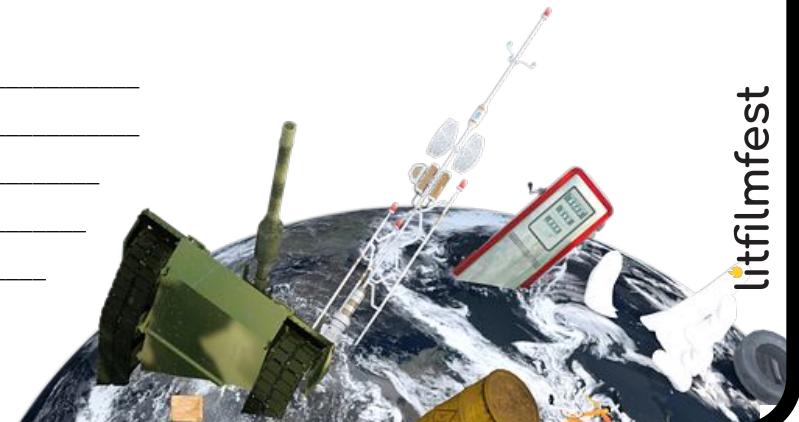
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# MY PERSUASIVE LETTER

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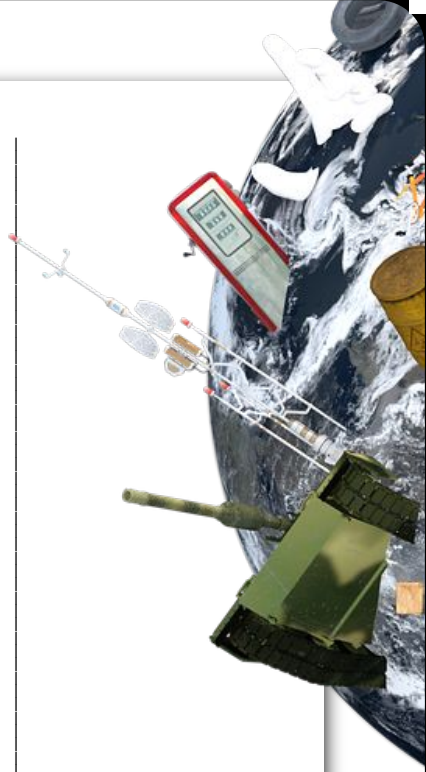
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# CLIMATE CHANGE COMPREHENSION

Access complete planning, resources and videos here: [i.mp/StandKS2](https://i.mp/StandKS2) or [i.mp/StandKS34](https://i.mp/StandKS34)



Article adapted, with thanks, from  
The Week Junior News

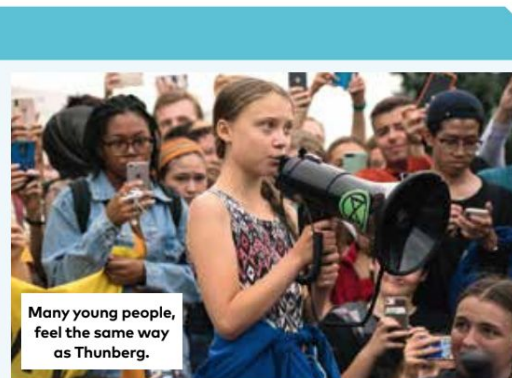
**G**reta Thunberg is one of the most influential figures in the fight against climate change (see box below). In just over a year, she has gone from being a regular student to a leading activist who has inspired a global movement to help protect the environment. Thunberg is publicising the scientific evidence for climate change and trying to force politicians to take action.

## Taking action

At school, Thunberg says she was part of a group who were concerned about the effect of climate change on the environment.

They also worried that adults were not doing enough to protect the planet. In August 2018, when she was 15 years old, Thunberg decided to skip school to go and protest by herself outside the Swedish parliament. She made a sign on a piece of wood and some flyers that listed a few climate change facts, and spent the whole day sitting there.

On the second day, a few people joined her, and after three weeks of striking she gave a speech at a climate protest. Thunberg's strike was spoken about in newspapers and on TV around the world. She encouraged other students to take action, and a global movement began called "Skolstrejk för Klimatet", which translates as "school strike for climate". Now young activists around the world skip school on Fridays to hold demonstrations, demanding politicians and businesses take more action to reduce emissions of harmful gases that cause climate change.



## What is climate change?

Climate change is long-term shifts in Earth's average temperatures. Human actions such as burning fossil fuels (coal, oil and gas), farming and cutting down forests are a major cause of climate change. These activities release certain gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, into Earth's atmosphere, which absorb the Sun's heat and stop it from escaping into space. Rising temperatures can result in extreme weather, such as droughts, floods and storms.

A UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has said emissions of these gases have to fall by 2030, to stop further damage to the environment. There are some easy things you can do to help. Some good tips are to walk, cycle or take the bus or train instead of using a car, avoid flying and try and use less electricity.

## What is Greta's advice?

Thunberg says the best thing people can do is to inform themselves about what is happening. She says the world is running out of time to solve the problem and so action has to be taken quickly. Her advice is "no one is too small to make a difference".

## QUESTIONS

1. How old was Greta when she first decided to take a stand against climate change?
2. Why did Greta think it was a good idea to skip school?
3. Write these statements in the order they took place:  
A. Greta becomes a leading activist.  
B. People join Greta's strike.  
C. Greta is a regular student.  
D. Students begin to skip school on Fridays.
4. TRUE OR FALSE: Farming does not have an affect on climate change.
5. What happened as a result of Greta protesting outside the Swedish Parliament?
6. What will happen after 2030 if gas emissions are not reduced?
7. What is the purpose of the article? Why was it written?
8. What does the word 'skip' mean in the article?

**CHALLENGE:** Write a short speech that Greta could give at her next protest.





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The Week Junior News

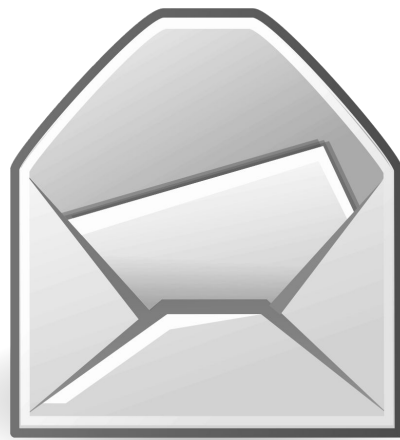
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# CLIMATE CHANGE COMPREHENSION

## ANSWERS

1. FACTUAL: How old was Greta when she first decided to take a stand against climate change?  
**She was 15 years old.**
2. INFERENCE: Why did Greta think it was a good idea to skip school?  
**She thought that the issue of climate change was important, and that adults weren't doing enough to stop it.**
3. SEQUENCING: Write these statements in the order they happened:  
**C. Greta is a regular student.**  
**B. People join Greta's strike.**  
**D. Students begin to skip school on Fridays.**  
**A. Greta becomes a leading activist.**
4. TRUE OR FALSE: Farming does not have an affect on climate change.  
**FALSE**
5. CAUSE AND EFFECT: What happened as a result of Greta protesting outside the Swedish Parliament?  
**As a result of Greta's protest, she was joined by others and ended up giving a speech at a climate protest. This was then in newspapers and television, leading to her being known around the world.**
6. BEFORE / AFTER: What will happen after 2030 if gas emissions are not reduced?  
**If emissions are not reduced by 2030 then there will be further damage to the environment such as extreme weather, floods and storms.**
7. INFERENCE: What is the purpose of the article? Why was it written?  
**The purpose of the article is to inform people about Greta Thunberg and her message. It was written because the author thinks this is an important idea / because Greta is now famous and people want to know about her.**
8. 8. APPLIED VOCABULARY: What does the word 'skip' mean in the article?  
**It is used in the sense of missing something - in this case a day of school.**





# **TAKE A STAND**

## CHALLENGING CLIMATE CHANGE





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We are writing to  
**challenge climate**  
**change!** Who could we  
write to that could help?

**Access to complete unit with  
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Humberdill Primary School  
Arpee Road  
Coventry  
CV1 1LT  
Friday 23rd February 2020

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X-T Plastics  
Redhill Road  
Coventry  
CV7 0UC

**A formal greeting.** Other options might include 'To whom it may concern...'

**Dear Sir/Madam,**

**Introduce**  
Who are you? Where are you from? Why are you writing to this person?

**Inform**

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**Formal starters**  
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I understand that,  
However,  
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In this way...  
Without a doubt,

**Evidence and facts used to back up opinions**

## WRITING TO CHALLENGE CLIMATE CHANGE

Access complete planning, resources and videos here: [Lms3Stand532](#) or [Lms3Stand534](#)

**TECHNICAL VOCABULARY**

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- How does it make you feel knowing that...?
- Who is responsible for...?
- Why should children...?
- Do you really think...?

## CLIMATE CHANGE COMPREHENSION

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**Greta Thunberg**

Article adapted, with thanks, from The Week Junior News

**QUESTIONS**

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**CHALLENGE:** Write a short speech that Greta could give at her next protest.

## MY PERSUASIVE LETTER

This is not a time to find a compromise. We need to take action now.

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