

IELTS ENGLISH PODCAST. CLIMATE CHANGE. TRANSCRIPT

Part 1. Do You Believe That Climate Change Is A Serious Problem?

Yes, I do believe it's a very serious problem. I can't really tell you much about the facts and statistics, but personally, I can feel that certainly over the last 10 or 15 years, the temperature has got warmer. The summers are hotter and the winters, we just get so much less snow unfortunately, because I'm a huge fan of snow, so yes, I would say serious problem and we're seeing a lot of the effects around the world.

Part 1. What Causes Climate Change?

Well, the key cause of climate change are greenhouse gases. Obviously, the main one is CO₂ (carbon dioxide) and this comes from the factories particularly, certainly what I can see is these coal, the energy generating factories that use coal. They put a lot of CO₂ into the air and then on top of that, we're cutting down the trees which is which is deforestation and that is caused...that's getting rid of the thing that removes carbon dioxide from the air so those I would say are the two key reasons for climate change.

Part 2. Describe An Environmental Problem Or Event In Your Country.

I think I'd like to tell you about the problem in England, which is increased flooding. When I was young it was quite rare to hear news about flooding. You know, there with the order events maybe sometimes in winter where you get sustained rainfall. There were sometimes some events or maybe isolated incidents of thunderstorms that cause flooding, but it was fairly rare. Nowadays it seems like there's just news all the time in England from different areas of the country and you can see the map of the country and it shows you the warning levels of flooding and it just always seems that there's some kind of flood warning around the country.

Let me tell you a little more about this problem. I don't know when it really started. I suppose it's just gradually increased over time. Particularly where I live, we drive past rivers and some real lowland where very often you see the rivers have burst their banks or even just simply the water table is very close to the surface of the ground. So it makes it very difficult for things like gardening or as being a golfer, it makes it difficult to play golf because the golf courses get shut. I think this is just as a result of climate change, global warming. It's caused a lot more rainfall. I'm not quite sure of why that is, I don't know much of the science behind it, but we definitely need some radical rules and policies set out by the government in order to combat global warming and therefore that will combat this extra rainfall which is causing such a problem.

VOCABULARY

burst (verb) - when something breaks open or explodes quickly.

cause (verb) - to make something happen.

coal (noun) - a black rock that burns and is used to make heat or energy.

deforestation (noun) - cutting down trees in a forest to make land for other uses.

fairly rare (adjective) - something that doesn't happen often.

flooding (noun) - when water covers land that is usually dry.

generating (verb) - making something, like power or energy, happen or appear.

gradually (adverb) - happening slowly, over time.

greenhouse gases (noun) - gases like carbon dioxide that trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere and make it warmer.

incident (noun) - an event or something that happens, especially something bad or unexpected.

isolated (adjective) - something that is far away from everything else or very alone.

policies (noun) - rules or ideas that guide decisions and actions.

radical (adjective) - very different from what is usual or traditional.

thunderstorm (noun) - a storm with heavy rain, lightning, and thunder.