

Climate change: why does 1.5°C matter?

Why is it so important that we limit the rise in temperature to 1.5°C? Watch this video to find out.

Tasks

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a heatwave
2. a species
3. carbon
4. a coral reef
5. an impact
6. a greenhouse gas
7. global
8. to suck something out

Definition

- a. relating to the whole world
- b. a rock-like structure under the sea which provides a home for many fish and other sea animals
- c. a period of time when the weather is much hotter than usual
- d. a group of animals or plants which are the same and can reproduce with each other
- e. a chemical substance that is found in all living things and especially in coal, oil, etc.
- f. to pull something out with great force
- g. a powerful effect
- h. a gas (such as carbon dioxide) that scientists think is making the Earth get hotter

Task 1

Write the statements in the correct groups.

plant trees	6 per cent of insect species will disappear	18.5 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves
some coral reefs will disappear	buy less meat, especially beef	buy fewer new clothes
18 per cent of insect species will disappear	walk or ride a bike	37 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves
		all coral reefs will disappear

What will happen with a 1.5°C rise	What will happen with a 2°C rise	What we can do to help

Task 2

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

twice	billions	average	high	by
half	compared	major	to	of

1. Today, the temperature of the planet is about 15°C.
2. Scientists think that temperatures may rise 3–5°C by 2100.
3. Although a degree doesn't seem very much, it could make a big difference.
4. Eighteen per cent insects on Earth will disappear if the temperature rises by 2°C.
5. This is to six per cent disappearing at 1.5°C.
6. If there is a 2°C rise, the number of people will be affected by heatwaves.
7. We will be in a better situation if we limit the rise 1.5°.
8. We need to plant of trees.
9. Beef production generates a amount of greenhouse gases.
10. The fashion industry is a source of greenhouse gases.

Discussion

What do you think we should do to help limit climate change?

Answers

Preparation task

1. c
2. d
3. e
4. b
5. g
6. h
7. a
8. f

Task 1

What will happen with a 1.5°C rise	What will happen with a 2°C rise	What we can do to help
<p>some coral reefs will disappear</p> <p>6 per cent of insect species will disappear</p> <p>18.5 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves</p>	<p>all coral reefs will disappear</p> <p>18 per cent of insect species will disappear</p> <p>37 per cent of people will be affected by heatwaves</p>	<p>plant trees</p> <p>buy less meat, especially beef</p> <p>buy fewer new clothes</p> <p>walk or ride a bike</p>

Task 2

1. average
2. by
3. half
4. of
5. compared
6. twice
7. to
8. billions
9. high
10. major