Thank you for letting me speak to you today about the most pressing issue our planet is facing- climate change. Some of you may be wondering what climate change is, so I will explain. Climate change is the process of our weather systems becoming more unstable due to greenhouse gases, like the infamous Carbon dioxide, being released into the atmosphere. Due to various astronomical cycles, Earth’s climate is constantly changing, going through ice ages and warmer eras. However, due to drastic advances in technology since the Victorian times, we have been emitting so many greenhouse gases in much larger amounts, that our planet is currently the warmest it has ever been.

You may be wondering why this is so important, especially as many people are constantly craving warmer temperatures and go on many holidays abroad to achieve this desire. Surely, warmer temperatures everywhere is a good thing, right? Well, this rise in global temperatures will affect everyone negatively, albeit at different points in our futures. First of all, the polar ice caps will start to melt. This will cause a rise in sea levels globally, which will flood many low lying areas of land, especially those on or near the coast, like London, the Maldives, and the Netherlands. All of these floods will lead to many people losing their homes, businesses, and possibly even lives.

Warmer temperatures will also make wildfires, like the ones in Australia at the start of 2020, much more common. Both of these disasters will also cause mass extinction of many animals and plants, that once gone, can never be brought back.

Whilst you may be feeling a sense of despair after what I’ve said, you don’t need to worry. We can change the course that we’re on, but we all need to change, even a small change is better than none at all. We need to move away from using fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas; to using renewable energies like wind power, solar power, and HEP.

Thank you for listening. I’m going to leave you with five things that you can do to help stop climate change and I hope that you all try and do at least one of these things in your day to day life to help stop climate change.

1. Cycling instead of driving
2. Installing renewable energy generators on/in your home (solar panels)
3. Turning off electronic devices when they are not being used
4. Going on more local holidays, rather than abroad
5. Turning your heating off when the weather is getting warmer