



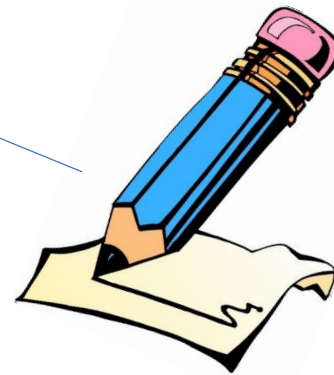
New Internationalist
The world unspun

What can I do to stop climate change?

New Internationalist Easier English

Ready Intermediate Lesson

this lesson



Make a list of 4 things we can do to stop climate change.



Are your ideas connected to these headings?

- a) Cut home energy use**
- b) Travel with less or no carbon**
- c) Talk about it**
- d) Buy less, and carefully**
- e) Use your power**
- f) Change your diet**
- g) Clean up investments**

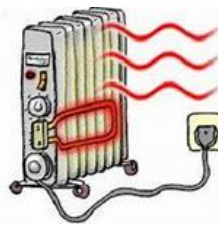




Match:

- 1) thermostat
- 2) radiator
- 3) solar panels
- 4) air conditioning
- 5) reforestation
- 6) mangetout
- 7) asparagus
- 8) emergency
- 9) carbon footprint
- 10) hybrid
- 11) junk

a)



b) a very very serious situation

c)



d) It shows the temperature in a house

e)

f) growing trees again

g)



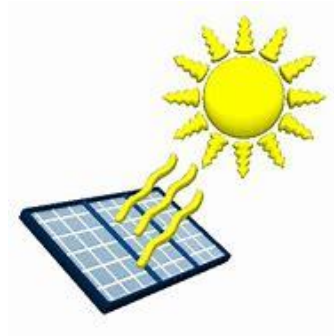
h) how much CO2 a person, company, or country makes

i)



j) a car which uses petrol and electricity

k) useless things



What do you think? True or false? And why?

- 1) (a) It's a good idea to be vegetarian.
(b) It's not a good idea to eat fruit which is from another country.
(c) It's Ok to throw away about 8 % of the food we buy.
- 2) (a) There are more carbon emissions from planes than cars.
(b) It's better for the planet to catch a bus than to drive a car.
(c) Electric cars have no carbon footprint.
- 3) (a) It's not a good idea to buy cheap things.
(b) If you are buying clothes made abroad, it's a good idea to think about the people who made them before you buy.
(c) If your hairdryer stops working, it's a good idea to throw it away and buy a new one.
(d) It's a good idea to take your own cup to a coffee shop.

Now read the text and check if your answers are the same:



- 1. Stop eating meat and dairy, especially beef and lamb. And make sure you eat everything that you buy. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization says food waste makes about eight per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. Don't buy food which comes by air, such as vegetables like berries, mange-tout or asparagus, when they are out of season.**
- 2. Transport's biggest emissions come from planes and then cars. For a family of four, a return trip from the UK to Australia makes 12 times more carbon than a car for a year. So if you fly a lot, this will be the biggest part of your carbon footprint. Fly less or, better still, stop. To cut your car emissions, try walking, cycling, public transport, car shares, working from home. You can sell your car or get a smaller one and drive it carefully. At 95 kilometres per hour (60 miles/hr) you use 30 per cent less fuel per kilometre than at 128 kilometres (80 miles/hr). If you need a new car, buy an electric or plug-in hybrid, if you can. But remember the industrial production of the car itself makes about a third of the footprint of driving so it is also a good idea to keep old, efficient cars on the road.**
- 3. Buy less junk, buy local. Understand the supply chain of everything in your weekly shop, check for carbon responsibility, fair livelihoods, and all the other sustainability ideas. Buy good quality things and make them last. Buy things that it is possible to repair and make sure that they are repaired. When you finish with them, sell them or give them away. Choose the most energy-efficient white goods – like fridges and dish washers. Always take a reusable cup with you and understand that this shows how you are making less junk.**

Now match the titles to the paragraphs:

Paragraph 1

a) Travel with less or no carbon.

Paragraph 2

b) Buy less, and carefully.

Paragraph 3

c) Change your diet.



What do you think? True or false? And why?

- 4) a) A 20 minute shower is OK.
- b) If you are feeling cold, put on more clothes and don't turn up the heating.
- c) If you are hot, it's better to have a cool shower than to put on the air conditioning.
- d) All green energy companies are good.
- 5) a) It's not a good idea to save money with a company that uses oil.
- 6) a) Not taking action on climate change is as bad as smoking and drink driving.
- 7) a) Most people are doing a lot to stop climate change.

Now read the text and check if your answers are the same:



4. Turn lights off, hang your washing out to dry. Wash at a lower temperature and have short showers. In a cool climate, wear a jumper, turn the thermostat down, and turn radiators off in empty rooms. If you have money for your home, the best for carbon cutting are in order: insulation (starting with drafts, then the loft, windows and walls), smart heating (efficient boilers, remote controls that include radiators), solar panels, or heat pumps (a renewable energy technology that changes energy in the ground or air into heat). In a hot climate, take a shower to stay cool. If you can, choose the most climate-friendly air conditioner and don't use it very often. Buy electricity from a green energy company if they can show that your money all goes towards extra renewable power.

5. Use any money you have for the future you want to see. Use pension and saving plans that don't use fossil fuel companies. Invest instead in the things we urgently need, such as renewables and reforestation.

6. Cutting carbon won't show there is a climate emergency if no-one knows you are doing it. Take your low-carbon ideas to work, to the pub, and into your own home. Be friendly but be clear. All of us can help make a culture in which it is embarrassing to ignore climate change – in the same way we don't ignore other bad behaviours like smoking or drink-driving.

7. Very few of us are very clean in carbon terms. You don't have to change immediately but most of us need to make serious changes in the next few years. It's important to move in the right direction and enjoy cutting carbon. Don't be angry with yourself but don't take it too easy.

Put these in the right order:

8. Use your power.

**And because there is so little progress,
elections that we want strong climate policies
All our politicians need to hear long before
we need to think about how and where to take to the streets.**

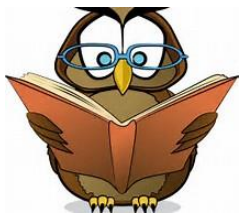
9. Do all of these things.

emergency.

Make a plan

It's an

and follow it.



Put these in order with the most important first and discuss why:

- a) **Cut home energy use**
- b) **Travel with less or no carbon**
- c) **Talk about the climate emergency**
- d) **Buy fewer clothes**
- e) **Protest on the streets**
- f) **Be vegetarian**
- g) **Don't invest your money in fossil fuels**



Make a poster for your classroom to help people to know what to do to stop climate change:



Homework

Read the original:

[https://eewiki.newint.org/index.php?title=What can I do to stop climate change%3F](https://eewiki.newint.org/index.php?title=What%20can%20I%20do%20to%20stop%20climate%20change%3F)

Find words meaning:

Paragraph 1: time when fruit and vegetables do not naturally grow

Paragraph 2: adjective to describe a car that works really well

Paragraph 3: adjective for something you can use again and again

Paragraph 4: clothing made of wool

Paragraph 5: green energy

Paragraph 6: making you feel confused and shame

