

Section 1:

#1 "Climate change is no longer a distant threat. It's here, now, in our homes, our cities, and our very way of life. In 2025, global temperatures reached record highs, while natural disasters have become part of the new normal. Just last summer, wildfires ravaged parts of California, turning forests into ash, and floods submerged entire communities in Europe. These events are not isolated—they are the warning signs that our planet is on the brink."

Strengths:

- You effectively use current examples to create urgency
- Your short, punchy sentences at the beginning create impact

Weaknesses: Limited evidence → Your examples are quite general and lack specific details that would make them more compelling. When you mention wildfires in California and floods in Europe, you could add specific locations, dates, or the scale of impact to make these examples more powerful and convincing.

Exemplar: ***"Climate change is no longer a distant threat. It's here, now, in our homes, our cities, and our very way of life. In 2025, global temperatures reached record highs of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, while natural disasters have become part of the new normal. Just last summer, wildfires ravaged Santa Rosa County in California, destroying over 500 homes and turning 10,000 hectares of forests into ash, while floods submerged the historic town centres of Dresden and Prague, displacing more than 20,000 people across Europe."***

#2 "Think about the feeling of stepping into a field of wildflowers in full bloom—imagine the scent of fresh earth and the rustling of leaves in a breeze. These experiences are the heartbeat of our planet. We must protect them, for they are not just beautiful—they are life itself. If we continue to ignore climate change, we risk losing the very essence of the Earth's vitality. Can we really stand by and let that happen?"

Strengths:

- Your sensory language creates a vivid emotional connection
- You effectively use a rhetorical question to engage the audience

Weaknesses: Unclear connection → The jump from the sensory description to the call for action feels disconnected. You need to strengthen the link between the beautiful natural imagery and the specific threats climate change poses to these experiences. This would help your audience understand precisely what they stand to lose.

Exemplar: ***"Think about the feeling of stepping into a field of wildflowers in full bloom—imagine the scent of fresh earth and the rustling of leaves in a breeze. These experiences are the heartbeat of our planet. Yet these wildflower meadows are disappearing at an alarming rate due to changing rainfall patterns and rising temperatures. We must protect them, for they are not just beautiful—they are essential ecosystems supporting countless pollinators and wildlife. If we continue to ignore climate change, we risk losing not just these moments of natural wonder, but the vital biodiversity they represent. Can we really stand by and let that happen?"***

#3 "I call on each of you to take action today. Whether it's reducing your carbon footprint, supporting policies that combat climate change, or educating others about the urgency of this crisis, every step counts. It's time to demand change from those in power and to hold ourselves accountable for the future we are creating."

Strengths:

- You provide several concrete action options for the audience
- Your closing creates a sense of shared responsibility

Weaknesses: Vague actions → Your suggested actions remain too general. For your audience to feel empowered, they need specific, achievable actions they can take immediately. Rather than broadly suggesting to "reduce your carbon footprint," provide concrete examples like switching to renewable energy providers or using public transport.

Exemplar: ***"I call on each of you to take action today. Whether it's switching to a green energy provider this week, writing to your local MP about supporting the Renewable Energy Bill, or starting a community garden at your school, every specific step counts. It's time to demand change from those in power by attending the Climate Action Rally on May 15th and to hold ourselves accountable by tracking our household waste for one month."***

■ Your persuasive speech has powerful imagery and emotional appeals that help create urgency about climate change. However, your arguments would be more convincing with specific examples rather than general statements. Try to include more concrete details about the impacts of climate change. Also, your call to action needs more specific, actionable steps that your audience can take right away. You could improve the flow of your speech by adding clearer transitions between paragraphs. For instance, when you move from describing problems to solutions, add a phrase like "Fortunately, we have solutions at hand." Additionally, your speech would benefit from a stronger structure with clear signposting. Consider starting each main point with a clear statement like "The first reason we must act is..." to help your audience follow your argument. Your conclusion could also be strengthened by restating your main points before your final appeal.

Section 2:

Fellow Inhabitants of Earth,

Imagine waking up tomorrow to a world where the air is too thick to breathe, where the oceans have swallowed the beaches ~~;~~ [,] we once walked upon, and where wildfires rage as a constant reminder of our collective failure. 'The oceans have swallowed the beaches we once walked upon'.

#1 Climate change is no longer a distant threat. It's here, now, in our homes, our cities, and our very way of life. In 2025, global temperatures reached record highs, while natural disasters have become part of the new normal. Just last summer, wildfires ravaged parts of California, turning forests into ash, and floods submerged entire communities in Europe. These events are not isolated—they are the warning signs that our planet is on the brink.

You may wonder, 'How did we get here?' It's simple: we have been extracting from the Earth without regard for what we leave behind. Every factory that spews carbon into the air, every forest we clear for urban sprawl, every ounce of plastic we discard like it doesn't matter—these actions have consequences. But there is still time. We can change the trajectory. We have the power to reverse the damage, if only we take action now.

We know what the solutions are: renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, reforestation, and reducing waste. These solutions are not just theoretical; they're tangible. Countries around the world are already transitioning to greener alternatives, and some companies are putting the planet before profits.

But we must do more. We must demand that our governments and businesses act with urgency. The clock is ticking. ~~So,~~ [So] why does this matter? Because the future is not something that just happens to us—it's something we build, every day, with every choice we make.

Imagine a world where your children can breathe clean air, where vibrant forests are not just memories, and where rising seas no longer threaten to drown coastal cities. This is a world within our reach, but only if we act now.

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#3 I call on each of you to take action today. Whether it's reducing your carbon footprint, supporting policies that combat climate change, or educating others about the urgency of this

crisis, every step counts. It's time to demand change from those in power and to hold ourselves accountable for the future we are creating.

Together, we have the power to restore balance to our planet, to turn the tide before it's too late. ~~So, let's~~ [Let's] stand up, not just for ourselves, but for future generations. The Earth is not a resource to be exploited—it is our home, our responsibility, and it deserves our protection. Thank you