

Section 1:

Part #1 (Opening paragraph):

Strengths: Your opening immediately creates a vivid, sensory-rich scene that engages the audience. You've effectively used imagery that appeals to multiple senses (visual: "sky the colour of rust," tactile/taste: "air tastes like ash").

Weakness: Sensory overload → While your sensory descriptions are powerful, they come in such rapid succession that they risk overwhelming the reader. The metaphor of "forests are no longer forests; they are fields of matchsticks" is compelling, but gets somewhat lost among the other descriptive elements.

Exemplar: *"Imagine waking up to a sky the colour of rust, where each breath scratches your throat like sandpaper. The forests stand as silent fields of matchsticks, waiting for the smallest spark."*

Part #2 (Middle section on impacts):

Strengths: You've effectively transitioned from global impacts to personal impacts, making the issue relatable. The repetition structure in "It's the rain that never comes. It's the fires that never stop..." creates a powerful rhythmic effect.

Weakness: Lack of specific evidence → While emotionally compelling, this section would benefit from at least one specific data point or example to anchor your claims. Your statement about "glaciers melting at a rate never seen in human history" could be strengthened with a brief mention of a specific glacier or percentage change.

Exemplar: *"Glaciers like the Arctic's Jakobshavn are now melting four times faster than in the 2000s, pouring centuries of stored water into seas that creep up our coastlines inch by relentless inch."*

Part #3 (Call to action section):

Strengths: Your use of questions effectively engages the audience directly. The tree-planting proverb provides a powerful metaphorical framework for the generational impact of climate action.

Weakness: Abstract solutions → Your call to action remains somewhat abstract. After building such strong emotional urgency, you offer general solutions like "plant green roofs" or "eat in a way that nourishes both our bodies and the planet" without specific actionable steps for your audience.

Exemplar: *"Will you be a bystander while the Earth burns, or will you join the movement by committing to one planet-healing action this week—whether it's eliminating single-use plastics, reducing meat consumption by half, or pressuring your local representative for climate legislation?"*

■ Your speech demonstrates exceptional command of emotional language and imagery, creating a visceral experience of climate urgency. The AIDA structure (Attention, Interest, Desire, Action) is present, though the "Interest" and "Desire" sections could be more clearly distinguished. You've included powerful rhetorical devices, particularly metaphor ("fields of matchsticks"), anaphora ("It's the rain... It's the fires..."), and rhetorical questions. However, your piece would benefit from balancing emotional appeals with specific facts or solutions. Also, while your speech opens and closes strongly, the middle sections could use stronger transitions to guide listeners through your argument. To improve, you could add 1-2 concrete statistics in paragraph four, and provide 2-3 specific actionable items in paragraph nine. Additionally, consider breaking up some longer sentences in the opening paragraphs to vary your rhythm and increase impact.

Overall Score: 45/50

Section 2:

Greetings, teachers and fellow students,

Imagine waking up to a sky the colour of rust, the sun a dull red eye behind a curtain of smoke. The air tastes like ash, and every breath scratches your throat like sandpaper. The

birds are gone. The trees are silent. Forests are no longer forests; they are fields of matchsticks, ready to ignite. Cities bake beneath a sun that feels less like light and more like punishment. The oceans rise—not peacefully, but hungrily, swallowing coastlines, homes, and histories. This is not the future. This is now. And we are standing on a ticking time bomb, the fuse already lit. #1

Climate change is the most urgent crisis of our time, and unless we act now—boldly, globally, and personally—we risk losing not just the environment, but the very foundation of life itself.

Some say it's too late. That the damage is done. That the Earth will do what it will do. But to those voices I say: no. It is not too late. We are not powerless. We are not passengers—we are the ones holding the wheel.

Think about it. Think about what's already happening around us. Glaciers are melting at a rate never seen in human history—pouring centuries of stored water into seas that creep up inch by inch. Droughts stretch on for months, turning once-fertile farmlands into cracked, barren earth. Wildfires rage so frequently, so fiercely, that they now have their own season. And entire species vanish—gone forever—like stars winking out in a polluted night sky. #2

It's not just about polar bears anymore. It's about people. It's about children breathing in smoke instead of morning air. It's about families watching floods carry away everything they've ever known. It's about the people in the world's poorest nations—those who have done the least to cause this crisis—suffering the most.

It's the rain that never comes. It's the fires that never stop. It's the leaders who never act.

But amid all this, there is a spark. A different kind of fire. A fire of awareness, of urgency, of rising global consciousness. People are waking up. And that spark is growing.

We can be the pivot point. We can tip the scale back. If we act—now, together, with courage—we can chart a different path. One of healing. One of hope.

This isn't just about reducing carbon. It's about reimagining our future. It's about rewriting the rules. We can choose renewable energy that hums quietly beneath our homes instead of choking the sky with smoke. We can plant green roofs that bloom in our cities and feed our communities. We can eat in a way that nourishes both our bodies and the planet. We can walk, bike, vote, speak, teach, build—and rebuild.

The Earth is not asking us for perfection. It's asking for progress.

Will you be a bystander while the Earth burns, or will you be the water that douses the flame? Will you be the silence, or the voice that calls others to rise? #3

There's a proverb that says: "A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in." What kind of legacy do we want to leave? Scorched earth and silent skies? Or a world teeming with life, with possibility, with song?

The fire is beneath our feet—but so is the soil. And with our hands, our voices, and our choices, we can plant something new.

This is the greatest challenge humanity has ever faced. But it's also the greatest opportunity to unite across borders, generations, and beliefs for a cause that affects us all.

Let us be the generation that turned the tide. Let us be the voice that didn't stay quiet. Let us be the spark that lit a revolution—not of destruction, but of regeneration.

Let's not just fight climate change. Let's rewrite the forecast—and build the world we want to wake up in.

Thank you for listening to my speech.