Imagine standing in what was a once lush forest, now filled with leafless coal-black charred trees. The variety of tranquil wildlife has vanished. The soulless forest floor feels unnaturally warm, you can almost feel the light haze of smoke brushing across your skin. Is this really the world we're going to leave to our beloved future generations. This is now becoming reality all across the world, the root of these devastating events is climate change. This problem affects us, affects nature, and earth.

Starting today, not tomorrow, not next week, but today. I'm asking each of you to make three simple changes. First, reduce single-use plastics by keeping a reusable water bottle in your school bag. Second, talk to your parents about switching to green energy for your home. The cost of action is temporary, but the cost of inaction is permanent.

When I see children playing outside enjoying the "almost" fresh air my heart pangs with guilt as I watch them giddily playing unaware of the rotten land they might inherit. It is earth who raised them, it is earth who cared for them, it is earth that deserves protection.

Is this really the legacy we want to leave? Is this really the stories you want future generation to tell? Is this really what we will do? *nothing*? Some people may argue that taking action on climate change will hurt our economy and cost jobs. I have very much considered this. No one wants to see families struggle financially.

 However, government companies have done surveys on renewable energy jobs, and studies shows that renewable energy is already creating more jobs than the fossil fuel industry. The renewable energy sector employed 35,000 Australians last year, and this number is growing rapidly. Countries like Germany and Denmark that invested early in renewable energy are now global leaders, with strong economies and low unemployment. The real economic threat isn't taking action, it's failing to act. The Australian Business Council estimates that climate disasters could cost our economy $100 billion annually by 2050 if we continue on our current path. By transitioning to clean energy now, we can create new jobs, protect our economy from climate shocks, and build industries that will thrive in the future.

This is how progress happens, not all at once, but little steps at a time. Each little action taken by thousands is one big step for humanity.