



CLIMATE CHANGE IS HEATING UP

By Murty Ulu



Today I'm going to be talking about climate change. Climate change is, simply put, the warming up of the Earth resulting in the weather getting more and more violent. Cars and companies produce a lot of dangerous pollutants into the air. Every time you use electricity you are burning fossil fuels because the energy comes from the power plant. We only have a limited amount of fossil fuels, but we are burning them up.

Another dangerous cause is cutting down too many trees. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and produce the oxygen that we breathe. Maybe you might have heard about the Amazon Rainforest. The Amazon Rainforest is also referred to as the lungs of the Earth and contains an estimated 390 billion individual trees divided into 16,000 species. These trees together make up roughly 6-9% or more of the world's oxygen supply. Sadly though, the Amazon Rainforest is on fire. This has been going on since August and is still going on. Trees also provide habitats like forests which are important for many species, but we are cutting down trees so it's contributing to global warming and habitat loss.

Sea turtles rely on nesting beaches to lay their eggs, many of which are threatened by rising sea levels. Did you know that the temperature of nests determines whether the eggs are male or female? Unfortunately, with temperatures on the rise, this could mean that many more females are born than males. Crocodiles are like this as well. Think about it. If there are more females than males that would affect the crocodile population, which would increase the prey population. This would disrupt the

food chain and ecosystem.

Raising the temperature also means that the ice caps are melting. It further destroys habitats for arctic animals like polar bears that live on the ice. Rising sea levels also can lead to floods in coastal cities like Osaka. This can be a massive problem because water can easily flood the city. Liquid like water can go through small cracks or openings so building a wall would be hard, even for Trump.

Things you can do to help can be small changes in your house that can make a difference. Try to use energy-saving light bulbs, walk or cycle instead of using a car, turn off electrical devices when you're not using them, recycle, and use less plastic. Do your part to help protect Earth.

A good example of a person that is trying to change the world is Greta Thunberg. She is a 16-year-old girl that spoke at the United Nations and is trying to spread awareness to the world about this issue. Greta Thunberg made it to New York City after a 15-day voyage by yacht from Plymouth, England. She traveled in the Malizia II which has its own solar panels and hydro-generators to power the yacht. Check out these links to learn more about her fight for the Earth:

- <https://www.natgeokids.com/au/discover/geography/general-geography/what-is-climate-change/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkaV2jJMq4>



Loss of habitat



16 year old Greta Thunberg

SPOTLIGHT ON: MR. IRSAD

HM: Where are you from?

Mr. Irsad: I am from Turkey.

HM: When is your birthday?

Mr. Irsad: My birthday is April 20, 1994.

HM: How old are you?

Mr. Irsad: I am 25 years old.

HM: What are your hobbies?

Mr. Irsad: Video games (Winning Eleven), soccer, and travel. Last time I went to Shikoku.

HM: Do you like reading?

Mr. Irsad: Yeah, I read sometimes.

HM: When you were a student what was your favorite class and why?

Mr. Irsad: PE because I can play soccer.

HM: How many years have you taught?

Mr. Irsad: Less than a year.

HM: Where is your favorite place in Japan?

Mr. Irsad: Asahikawa, Hokkaido.

HM: Do you have a hidden talent?

Mr. Irsad: Yes, I think I am good at driving.

HM: What is your favorite food?

Mr. Irsad: Turkish kebabs.

HM: What is your favorite season and why?

Mr. Irsad: Autumn and Spring because it is cool and my body gets so hot.

HM: What was the scariest time in your life?

Mr. Irsad: Passing the University exam or not was the scariest in my life because of its importance in my life.

HM: If you could be an animal then what animal would you want to be and why?

Mr. Irsad: I want to be an eagle because I want to fly in the sky and feel good.

HM: What was your happiest memory in your life?

Mr. Irsad: University graduation ceremony and getting a degree. No school, no homework, and no tests.

HM: What is your favorite movie and can you describe it?

Mr. Irsad: Three Idiots movie. It is funny. And I like to go the way I chose, not for money.

ART CONTEST

The first Art Alley winner is **Miles Yamamoto!** Because there were so many great submissions, we decided to pick 2nd and 3rd place winners. 2nd place from grade 2 is **Yuto Hayashi** and 3rd place from grade 5 is **Karina Nakamura**. Every art submission was excellent. Thank you for participating in our first art contest. Try again this month to see if you will be the next champion!!

Our new theme is "Laboratory" and every grade can join. Make up a story using this word in any way, and draw it like a comic book.



Mr. Irsad (above) interviewed by Hyunmin Cho