



Global warming

GLOSSARY:

Global warming: le réchauffement planétaire	A reality : une réalité
To read : lire	An assumption : une hypothèse
To happen : arriver (un fait), survenir	The current trend : la tendance actuelle
To face : faire face	A major shift in the climate : un bouleversement climatique
To double : doubler	Human activity : l'activité humaine
To rise/rose/risen : s'élever	Consumer habits: les habitudes des consommateurs
To reverse: inverser	The consensus: le consensus, l'accord
To choke: étouffer	The scientists: les scientifiques
To be caused: être causé	The main problem: le problème principal
To look up: <i>ici</i> s'améliorer	The outlook: les perspectives
To scare: effrayer	A climatic regime: un régime climatique
To undermine: miner, saper, ébranler	Ecosystems: les écosystèmes
To be at risk: être en danger, compromettre	The world: le monde
To cut: couper, <i>ici</i> réduire	The process : le processus
To pay : payer	Damage : les dommages
To stop the rot : redresser la situation	Ozone depletion: diminution de la couche d'ozone
To ward off: parer à, éviter	Greenhouse gas emissions: les émissions de gaz à effet de serre
The newspaper: le journal	Glacier retreat: le recul des glaciers
The heatwave: la vague de chaleur, la canicule	Coastal flooding : les inondations côtières
Hot summers : les étés chauds	The rise of sea level : augmentation du niveau de la mer
The frequency : la fréquence	Alternative energy sources : des énergies de substitution
A sad but true fact : un fait triste mais réel	Polluters : les pollueurs
Degrees : les degrés	Effective action : agir efficacement



Climate change : le changement climatique	Disaster : un désastre
By 2020 : d'ici 2020	To my mind : à mon avis
Likely : probable	Bleak : sombre, inquiétant
Among : parmi	Throughout : partout
Irreversible : irréversible	Already : déjà

Dialogue:

Sarah: Wentworth, have you read the newspaper today?

W: No yet. What's happening?

Sarah: it's about the heatwave were facing at the moment. They say that hot summers will double in frequency by 2020!

W: Yes, that a sad but true fact. Actually global average temperature is likely to rise by 1.4 to 6 degrees by 2100. Climate change and global warming are becoming a reality, not just an assumption.

Sarah: But is the humanity able to reverse the current trend?

W: Interesting question. I do think the planet is choking and this major shift in the climate is caused by human activity. Things would be looking up if there were a shift in consumer habits. The consensus among scientists is that global warming is irreversible, and that is, to my mind, the main problem.

Sarah: it's scaring! The outlook is bleak. A new climatic regime would undermine ecosystems throughout the world...

W: I know, and the process has clearly started already and the list of damage is long: from ozone depletion to greenhouse gas emissions, from glacier retreat to coastal flooding, and from the rise of sea level to heat waves, we are particularly at risk.

Sarah: Do you think that with alternative energy sources, to cut one's emissions and to make polluters pay, humanity could stop the rot?

W: I honestly don't know, but what I'm sure of is that it's time to take effective action to ward off disaster.