

Lesson Plan: Discussing climate change (advanced)

LEVEL Advanced (C1+)	TIME 60-90 minutes
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Objective

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Discuss climate change causes, impacts, and solutions using advanced vocabulary.
- Analyze a short article or video on climate change.
- Express and defend opinions in a structured discussion or debate.

Materials Needed

- Printed articles or video access + projector
- Vocabulary handout
- Debate guidelines / discussion prompts

Warm-up Discussion (10-15 minutes)

Activity: Small group discussion

Prompt questions:

- What do you know about climate change?
- Have you noticed any effects of climate change in your country?
- Do you think individuals or governments should do more?

Language focus:

Encourage use of opinion phrases:

- In my opinion, I strongly believe, From my perspective, etc.

Vocabulary Pre-teaching (10 minutes)

Activity: Matching or gap-fill

Key vocabulary:

- Greenhouse gases
- Carbon footprint
- Fossil fuels
- Renewable energy
- Mitigation / adaptation
- Deforestation / reforestation
- Climate resilience

Optional: Add example sentences or images.

Listening or Reading Activity (15-20 minutes)

Option A (Listening):

- Watch a short video (e.g., TED-Ed: Climate Change Explained, or part of a documentary like Before the Flood).
- Task: Note down 3 causes, 3 effects, and 2 proposed solutions.

Option B (Reading):

- Provide a short article or excerpt from a reputable source (e.g., The Guardian, National Geographic).
- Task: Answer comprehension questions + identify author's tone or purpose.

Critical Thinking & Discussion (20-25 minutes)

Activity: Structured debate or discussion

Debate statement:

Developed countries should bear more responsibility for combating climate change.

Instructions:

- Divide into two groups (for and against).
- Each side prepares arguments for 5-10 minutes.
- Conduct the debate. Encourage rebuttals and structured speaking.

Language focus:

Argumentative phrases: It's important to consider..., While that's a valid point, we must also acknowledge...

Writing Extension / Homework (Optional)

Task: Write an opinion essay (250–300 words) on one of the following:

- What is the most effective solution to climate change?
- How can individuals make a meaningful difference?

Assessment Criteria

- Participation in discussion and debate
- Use of vocabulary and complex sentence structures
- Comprehension of source material
- Clarity and depth of opinion