The World is on Fire

Podcast on Climate Change

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**Introduction:**

 My group and I researched climate change and created a podcast on it. In the podcast we went into depth on different topics within climate change and how it affects the world such as how we can fix climate change and how it affects the ice caps. Climate change is when the expected climate in an area changes from the how it normally is. We chose to talk about this topic because we believed it was important to inform people on what could destroy the world. At first my topic was how rising sea levels affected the earth but then decided to switch it to go more in depth about what climate change is. We decided it was a good choice for me to change my topic because there was another person in our group who was doing how melting ice is affecting climate change which can also mention the sea levels. Even though we couldn’t cover all of climate change we went over the parts we thought were most important.

**Reflection:**

I feel as if we covered our subtopics well and we were able to keep the flow of the conversation so it didn’t seem scripted. I personally feel like I covered my topic well. I went into depth on how the increase of carbon dioxide is causing the climate to increase. The reason carbon dioxide was a key point in my topic because carbon dioxide traps heat and doesn’t allow it to go back into outer space like a greenhouse that’s why they refer to them as greenhouse gasses. Another subtopic I talked about was how big corporations are on of the biggest causes of climate change. The fact that big businesses are doing so well is just making the carbon dioxide spike even worse because they run on fossil fuels. They use fossil fuels to run everything because it’s the easiest to obtain and it’s the most consistent. The alternatives to fossil fuels are solar panels, wind mills, and hydroelectricity. Wind mills are the most consistent of the three but they cost more to produce than fossil fuels in the short term. I also had to fill in for a group member who was out due to some medical issues, he was supposed to cover how climate change affects ecosystems. When I went into depth on this topic I talked about how the melting ice caps is threating certain species such as the polar bears. I also talked about how the rising waters affected how marine animals migrate and how close to the ocean floor. Those are the key points I talked about in my section of the podcast.

The other members of my group talked about how sea ice affects global warming, postponing climate change, and what we can do to stop climate change. My group did really well when talking about their topics. I really enjoyed hearing the other parts of climate change because I was so focused on one topic. When Joe Destro (2019) talked about the ice caps melting in the podcast he said “With the increase of temperature it is melting the ice and turning it into water and the water absorbs the heat instead of reflecting it like the ice would.” I thought this was interesting because I never thought about how the ice reflected the heat back into the atmosphere. Also, when the water absorbs the heat it is decreasing the time it takes for the ice to melt and it just gradually getting faster. Shailyn St. Brice talked about postponing climate change. One thing that she said that stood out to me was when she “we could stop using so much plastic.” Shailyn St. Brice (2019). This statement stood out to me because I did not realize how much plastic is actually harming out world around us. To finish the podcast Ben Kiernan talked about what we could do to help stop or reverse climate change. One thing he did was he had a segment where he introduced two big corporations and talked about what they were doing to decrease climate change.

**Research:**

Looking back at the podcast there are a few things I wish I covered more. I didn’t go into enough detail about how the significance of climate change. If I had gone into the significance of climate change it would have helped lead into the other topics that my group was covering. One example is I could have gone briefly over how the ice caps are melting and stated some facts on how the rising sea level is affecting reefs, beaches, and polar bears. I should have started the podcast stronger than I did and gave more information than I did. I also could have talked about what the United States is doing to or not doing to help prevent it. As of right now climate change isn’t the United States main priority even though most of the world agrees its going to be a national emergency soon if we don’t do anything. Another thing I could have done is prepare better for the podcast by practicing my parts on my own so I sounded smoother. One big topic that I read about on was how increasing climate is causing health issues like Ebola according to Patrick Murphy and Tracy Tinga (2019). If I knew I was going to cover Nathans part on how climate change is affecting ecosystems I would have done more research on it. I still looking into it after the podcast because I thought it was an interesting topic.

There were somethings I would have liked to hear from my group member as well. I would have really enjoyed if Nathan was there to go more into depth about the affect of climate change on ecosystems. Even though I read through his part and covered for him I was only scratching the surface. I would have liked to hear Nathan talk about how with ice melting how it affects the polar bears and the lack of food. For Joes part I would have liked it if he talked more about how we could stop or reverse the melting as individuals. Shailyn did a great job going over her part. One thing I would say is to make it more like a conversation with the rest of the group and talk a little louder to the mic can pick up the sound. The last part was covered by Ben his part was how we could stop or reverse climate change but he was also the MC. He did well help the transition by asking questions about our topics.

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