



Climate Change Role Cards (1 of 2)

CATEGORY 1	<p>CASEY. You are very concerned about climate change; you believe it is happening and that it is caused mostly by human actions. In particular, you know that burning coal, natural gas, and oil for energy production is increasing the amount of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere, which is causing climate change. You believe that people need to take immediate and substantial action to reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide and to adapt to projected changes in temperature, precipitation, and weather events. This is not a political issue to you but a matter of maintaining life on Earth. You heard about a tree planting campaign and are interested in starting something similar in your town.</p>
	<p>MORGAN. As a religious youth leader in your community, you have strong faith and believe that God created the world and will take care of the Earth. At the same time, you believe that humans are responsible for their actions. You believe that climate change is happening and it is mostly due to human actions. And, you are greatly concerned about the impacts of climate change in your community, such as extreme weather and its effects on both people’s health and the surrounding forests and wildlife. You have spent much time thinking about climate change and it is a big concern for you. You believe that we are obligated to leave future generations a healthy planet.</p>
CATEGORY 2	<p>KENDALL. You work for a local environmental organization called Carbon Sink. You are very concerned about climate change; you believe it is happening and that it is caused mostly by human actions. In particular, you know that burning coal, natural gas, and oil for energy production is increasing the amount of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere, which is causing climate change. You believe that people need to take immediate and substantial action to reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide and to adapt to projected changes in temperature, precipitation, and weather events. This is not a political issue to you but a matter of maintaining life on Earth. You heard about a campaign to reduce fossil fuel dependence and you are interested in starting something similar in your local community.</p>
	<p>JESSIE. You work for a small grocery store in your town. You believe that climate is changing due to a combination of natural causes and human activities. Humans are playing a large role in increasing and accelerating natural climate change. You think that practical solutions are needed at the local, regional, national, and global level. However, you are concerned that people might not be willing to make large behavior changes for benefits that will occur in the future. You think that climate change solutions need to have more immediate benefits so that people will be more likely to adopt them. For example, reducing fossil fuel use saves people money, reduces air pollution, and helps reduce atmosphere carbon dioxide.</p>
	<p>QUINN. You are a school teacher, and you believe that climate is changing as a result of natural causes and human activities. You understand that humans are playing a large role in increasing and accelerating natural climate change. You believe that educating youth about climate change is the most important way to change behavior, since one day your students will be making decisions and voting as adults. In your classroom, you teach about the scientific process and how scientists use data to make conclusions. You are also interested in community education programs that teach adults and families about the environment and sustainable solutions for environmental issues.</p>



Climate Change Role Cards (2 of 2)

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">CATEGORY 3</p>	<p>KRIS. You believe that climate change is happening, but that the climate has been changing for a long time and humans have nothing to do with it. Therefore, there is no way for people to affect climate change because they have no control over the climate. This theory about human-influenced climate change is all part of a political agenda and scientists are supporting it to fund their research. We really shouldn't be spending so much effort researching causes and solutions for climate change. We should focus on people's ability to adapt to this new climate, for example, by changing food production strategies or by improving community preparedness and disaster response.</p>
	<p>HARPER. You have strong faith and believe that God created a perfect world and there is nothing humans can do to affect it. In your mind, climate has been changing for a long time and humans have nothing to do with it. Therefore, there is no way for people to affect climate change. This theory about human-influenced climate change is all media hype. We really shouldn't be spending so much effort researching causes and solutions for climate change. We should focus on people's ability to adapt to this new climate, for example, by changing food production strategies or by improving community preparedness and disaster response.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">CATEGORY 4</p>	<p>TAYLOR. You believe that the science on climate change is not at all clear. The news reports are contradictory. For example, when there is a heat wave, the headlines read "Global Warming Effects Being Felt in the Southeast!" But when we have a colder winter than usual, the headlines changes to "Snow in the Southeast? Who Said the Climate is Warming?" There are scientists on both sides of the issue making different conclusions about whether it is happening, the causes, and the effects. Once the science has been settled, and the news media are consistent, you will be receptive to either side. You are just not sure that we should be taking action on climate change when there is so much that is still being debated.</p>
	<p>JORDAN. You work for an international company and have traveled to different countries. You believe that the science on climate change is not at all clear. The news reports are contradictory. But you do know that some countries are already doing a lot to adapt to climate changes and other countries are very vulnerable to future disasters. Floods, typhoons, and drought will affect developing countries more severely than they affect the United States. You are confused, but you also care about people around the world. But you aren't sure what you can do.</p> <p>SAM. You believe that climate change is happening but you are not sure whether it is due to natural or human causes. You are also unsure whether or not a change to the climate is a bad thing. You do not spend much time thinking about climate change, so it is not a big concern for you. However, you are greatly concerned about other environmental issues, such as air pollution in your city and its effects on people's health and the surrounding forests and wildlife. Also, you think natural resource conservation is a good idea to ensure both healthy environments and productive economies for future generations.</p>