



# A Transcript of Earth Today **Answers**

**Q1:** Find and copy three ways that the Earth is changing according to scientists.

**Accept any three of the following answers:**

- **Sea levels are rising.**
- **Polar ice caps are reducing in size.**
- **Weather inland is becoming more erratic / extreme.**
- **There has been an increase in flooding.**
- **There has been an increase in hurricanes.**
- **There has been an increase in tornadoes.**
- **Insects are being born sooner.**
- **Flowers are blooming earlier.**
- **Birds are laying their eggs sooner.**
- **Birds are migrating sooner.**
- **Some animals have stopped hibernating.**

**Q2:** How does Patricia feel about the way that the Earth is changing? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

**Accept answers which state that Patricia does not like the way that the Earth is changing and incorporate the evidence 'unfortunately, it isn't for the better'.**

**Q3:** Which two words show that Patricia knows a lot about the planet Earth and its environment?

**Accept the words 'specialist' and 'expert' only.**

**Q4:** By how many degrees Celsius do scientists predict that the Earth's temperature could rise by the year 2100?

**Accept the answer 'five (degrees Celsius)' only.**

**Q5:** Why do you think that Patricia compares excess greenhouse gases in the atmosphere as like 'a thick duvet on the hottest summer day'?

**Accept answers which discuss that this analogy makes it easier for viewers / readers / Brooke to understand the concept in terms they are familiar with / have experienced from themselves, e.g.**

- **By describing it in this way, it helps people to understand it better because it is compared to something they have experienced.**

**Q6:** Why doesn't Brooke think that the Earth's predicted rise in temperature is a bad thing?

**Accept answers which discuss the following themes:**

- **She does not understand its severity / consequences.**
- **She does not understand the impact of a global temperature rise.**
- **She has experienced 5 degrees hotter than England and does not think that this is bad.**

**Q7:** 'Imagine what that would do to the little ice we have left in our polar regions!'

**What effect does this sentence have on the reader?**

**Accept answers which discuss the fact that the reader is encouraged to think for themselves about the consequences / impact of the temperature rise, such as:**

- **Writing in this way makes the reader think for themselves and imagine the changes.**
- **The sentence emphasises that we already have 'little' ice left and makes the reader consider the impact of the changes.**

**Q8:** Describe how both Brooke and Patricia feel about the change in the Earth's temperature at this point of the transcript.

**Accept answers which discuss the feelings of both participants about the Earth's temperature, in line with the following themes:**

**Brooke:**

- **feels as though it isn't necessarily a bad thing.**
- **doesn't understand the severity so isn't really bothered.**
- **compares the weather to that in Spain and doesn't feel that it is 'too bad'.**

**Patricia:**

- **feels passionately about how severe the changes will be.**
- **tries to impart the seriousness of the temperature change to Brooke.**
- **feels desperately that it is serious and damaging.**

**Q9:** Why doesn't Brooke initially think that the melting of the polar ice caps will affect her?

**Accept answers which discuss that Brooke does not think it will affect her because she lives in England and does not live in the Polar Regions, such as:**

- **Brooke thinks that the polar ice caps are far away from her so their melting will not affect her life.**
- **She thinks that because she lives in England she will be fine so she is not bothered about the polar ice caps melting.**

**Q10:** Which word in the text means that something has vanished from existence and will never return?

**Accept the answer 'extinct' only.**

**Q11:** Why does Brooke suddenly start taking global warming seriously?

**Accept answers which discuss that Brooke only starts to take global warming seriously when she realises that it affects her and the things she likes, such as:**

- **Brooke suddenly starts taking it seriously when she realises that her house might become flooded.**
- **She starts to take it seriously because things she likes will be affected, such as her home and animals she likes.**
- **She realises her lifestyle will be affected and does not want that to happen.**

**Q12:** Summarise what you have learned about global warming from this transcript in 30 words or less.

**Accept any reasonable recap of global warming, which includes many of the key aspects covered in this text, in thirty words or less, such as:**

**'Global warming is when the Earth's temperature rises too much because excess greenhouse gases will not let the sun's heat escape the Earth's atmosphere.'**