



## Fighting Climate Myths

Denying humanity's **responsibility** for causing climate change and, more broadly, spreading misinformation on this topic, can prevent effective remedial action. This is in part why climate education is so important: knowledge and critical thinking can help **prevent** the dissemination of misinformation.

In this activity, students will use their critical thinking and persuasive writing skills whilst developing their ability to discuss scientific concepts in accessible language.

### Instructions

Students are asked to read a series of 5 posts containing false information or conclusions related to climate change. They should respond to each post such that each response addresses every false claim made in the original post. We've provided sources that should help them respond to each claim.

Alternatively, if you wish to further test your students research skills, you can remove the sources provided by editing the document. However, if you choose to do so, we recommend reviewing what is considered to be an accurate and reliable source. Providing keywords related to each post may also prove useful to students when researching.

### Answer key

Answers will vary, but students should touch upon certain key points in each of their responses.

#### Mr. Tan Dudlop

Snowing in Texas and Louisiana, record setting freezing temperatures throughout the country and beyond. Global warming is an expensive hoax!

- [Explanation of the difference between weather and climate](#)

#### Lucy Lee

If your house catches on fire, it's not because you set the thermostat one degree too high, it's because you have bad fire prevention practices. The cause of dangerous wildfires is not the one degree of global warming in the last 150 years – it is bad forest management.

- [Explanation of the effects of climate change on the severity and frequency of wildfires](#)
- [Wildfires are a natural occurrence and will occur regardless of poor forest management](#)



## Muyat Gunni

Over the past two years, sea levels have not increased at all – actually, they show a slight drop. Should we not be told that this is much better than expected?

- Sea levels have increased on average and continue to increase
- Sea levels are rising at an increasing rate due to global warming
- Two years is an insufficient time frame from which to conclude that sea levels have stopped rising (i.e., that the trend has reversed)

## Rosario Gomez

The climate apocalypse is coming!! To prepare for it, we need to admit that we can't prevent it.

- Climate change is likely to have severe implications for humans and the environment, but it is not the apocalypse/end of the world
- There are lots of different solutions to climate change and we are continuing to uncover more through research and development

## Jayesh Amadeo

We need fossil fuels to hold up our economies. Solving climate change is impossible and will ruin the global economy!

- Renewable energy is a viable alternative to fossil fuels that could provide many jobs and sustain a global economy
- Solving climate change is not synonymous with ruining the global economy
- If climate change were to continue as is, it would be disastrous for the global economy (optional)

We welcome feedback and would be delighted to hear your thoughts on this activity. Feel free to send an email to [schools@climatescience.org](mailto:schools@climatescience.org) and we'll be sure to get back to you soon :)

