D18 Climate Change and Poverty

Narrator (speaks slowly in a calm voice):

Imagine that we are currently living in the year 2070. The world has been affected by climate change*. People live in a hostile environment; there are two seasons which are either

(a) extremely hot and dry with periods of flooding rain – as a result sea level has risen – called the SUMMER SEASON, or

(b) very cold with long periods of snowfall – called the WINTER SEASON.

A group of young, active people has decided to work together, and propose ways to improve quality of life on planet EARTH. This group is determined to convince governors to change the climate in a way that benefits the environment – rather than destroys it. This is their first meeting**

* Students need to show somehow the change

****** Students appear at the meeting and they are all very concerned; what can be done to change the climate? Is this something that can be achieved?

Play 1 – Year 2070:

The "leader" begins to speak about the climate and how this has affected everyone's life – including animals, plants, fish.... He/she highlights the importance of their meeting and how things have to change fast, because the majority lives in extreme in poverty.

Everyone shares the leader's concerns but are not quite sure of how to proceed. They agree that these are the ones who will somehow "change the world", but they will meet again in a few days with concrete proposals and solutions. So they leave the meeting place.

Narrator (speaks slowly in a calm voice):

Once they leave the meeting room, the group finds a time machine, which transfers them back to year 2020^{***}

It is the year 2020. The world is different than we know it. One year has 4 seasons!!! (SPRING, SUMMER, AUTUMN and WINTER) which differ depending on the altitude and the continent.

Governments are concerned about climate change. Governors from 100 countries are meeting here today to discuss alternative sources of energy

which can protect the environment from excess carbon dioxide (CO2) emission.

******* Students are now transferred to the year 2020.

Play 2 – Year 2020:

Students need to act as they are present in today's world. They need to consider what causes climate change (for eg use of petrol as a heating source, etc) and what can protect the environment (for eg use of wind/solar power, etc).

Once they figure out what needs to be changed (in order to prevent poverty due to climate change), they structure a speech with concrete ideas regarding climate change and how this affects the (a) ecosystem, (b) quality of life, (c) poverty, and decide to present it in the meeting of the 100 governors which is held today.

Will they be able to change the course of the planet?