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Dear Prime Minister

We need a change. Carrying on at this rate, you will doom my generation's future. You need to take more action now. Thousands of promises to help the environment have been made at past COPs, few have been carried out. Now that the Glasgow Climate Pact has been agreed, we need to ensure that it will be carried out which will be the biggest challenge of them all. Previously, some countries pledged to reduce deforestation and look at where we got to. Instead of decreasing, deforestation continued to rise with 2020 being the third worst year for forest destruction since 2002 according to Global Forest Watch. According to the UN, the amount of forest has gone down by 6% since 1950! One third of the world's forests have been destroyed – half of which occurred in the last century. As the temperature rises so should the measures that you need to take, and with great speed and urgency too. We only have **one** world, a planet that has no alternatives, and we need to save it.

In the earlier times, people were in harmony with the planet and didn't pollute it in the horrific way that we do now. The world is suffering from the effects of climate change around the world; extreme weather, food shortages, water shortages and floods have been seen by many places around the globe. In the north, south, east and west, everywhere has been affected by the effects of global warming. According to the United Nations, in the past 50 years natural disasters' economic loss has increased sevenfold since 1970 to the 2010s. The places that are most impacted by natural disasters are often developing countries where they also tend to have economic problems. Additionally, 91% of the deaths from these disasters took place there. Storms attributed to the most economic loss since the 1970s and in the top 10 most financially costly disasters, 5 of them took place from the 2010s onwards, 3 of which in 2017. This shows that climate change has caused more natural disasters given the frequency of disasters in recent years. It is crucial we get back to the balance we were once at or the planet will never recover and we, as humans, will go extinct. We, the UK, need to lead by example and make sure we stick to our targets so that unnecessary increase of natural disasters will not happen in the future.

The Climate Change Committee says that the UK's target of going carbon neutral "could be met at a manageable cost, equivalent to 1-2% of GDP each year, but it would only be credible if accompanied by stronger policies to meet the new target". My ideas of such policies would be having shops gaining financial support for having packaging that isn't plastic and is long life, single-use corn starch bags or other biodegradable materials could be considered as alternatives; there could be a rewards system of sorts to the shops. Another policy that we could introduce is giving fines to businesses if they exceed an amount of carbon dioxide that isn't acceptable. Lastly, grants should be provided towards helping people buy electric cars for they could help reduce many tons of CO2 made per person.

Transport is the UK's main contributor to net greenhouse emissions at 27%. Since 1990 emissions from the major emitters like energy, business and homes have all fallen over the years except for one – transport. HGV, cars and many other road vehicles produce the bulk of our CO2 emissions. We need to cut down on petrol cars and diesel cars. They are the biggest producers of CO2 since we use them every

day and for that reason they therefore produce more than planes. Thousands and thousands of cars and trucks are persistently around, polluting and polluting. The main way we can stop this is having fully electric vehicles sooner than 2030 (when the sales of petrol and diesel cars will be banned). As I mentioned earlier, grants could help them to be more affordable but the government should also spend on educating people about the benefits of switching to an electric vehicle.

One thing that the UK needs to tackle is greenwashing by corporations. This is when companies or businesses say that they are eco-friendly when they are not. We need to hold the companies accountable for putting out false messages or slogans to mislead consumers because that is wrong. Businesses are making money and increasing sales from making people believe they are buying products that are environmentally conscious. Something needs to be done so that instead of putting effort into marketing, they actually take action to be greener and making environmentally friendly products and services.

Renewable energy is something that the UK is leading on and we should congratulate ourselves on it but we need to keep that lead. Over 40.2% of energy produced in the UK is renewable, our leading energy source being wind and in second, solar power. The government should invest money on researching other sources of cleaner energy like nuclear power or solar power. Perhaps we could even find a new source of renewable energy that is safer and better for the environment than ever before.

I very much hope that you can make effective and lasting changes to help our country as well as the world.

Yours sincerely,

Jenson C  
Aged 9