

COP 26: THE POWER OF PERSPECTIVES

SESSION 1



STEP ONE
–Build knowledge–
Session 1

STEP ONE
–Build knowledge–
Session 2

STEP TWO
–Evaluate & decide–
Session 3

STEP TWO
–Evaluate & decide–
Session 4

STEP THREE
–Prepare & present–
Session 5

Objective: to understand the decisions that need to be made at COP26



Before the session you will need to:

- Have the *Game* on screen and ready to play (bit.ly/TopicalTalkGame) OR print the *Script*
- Print and cut out the *Cards*
- Print the *Newsflash*



Short on time? To make the most of this session, complete the **red** activity first.

ACTIVITY

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

ACTIVITY ONE



Play the *Game* as a class. Students will listen to a series of clips and need to make decisions as a class throughout. They should discuss the choices with a partner and then take a group vote to decide the next move.

Afterwards *ask*: which decision from the story was the most difficult? Why? What makes it difficult to make decisions in a crisis? For example, time pressure. Create a class list of factors.

Hand out the *Cards* to six students. Work through the *Game* again but, this time, when students see the audio symbol and number that is on their card they should hold it up so you can pause the video. If reading the script instead, pause when you see the audio symbol. The student should read their card aloud. As a class, decide whether to make a different decision.

ACTIVITY TWO



Split the class into two groups. Ask one group: why do experts use the phrase “climate crisis”? Ask the other group: what decisions will be made at COP26? Choose two students to read the *Newsflash*. Groups should listen for the answers to their questions and then improve their initial answers.

Remind students about the class list from ACTIVITY ONE of factors that make it difficult to make decisions in a crisis.

Ask:

- How many of these factors will affect COP26?
- What can we learn from the *Game* about how decisions should be made at COP26?
- What advice would you give to world leaders making decisions at COP26?

Keep the discussion going: Take part in this week’s poll: talk.economistfoundation.org/project-poll to find out what students globally think about this issue.



Research: How will your country be represented at COP26? What targets does your country have to help slow climate change? Students should share what they find out before the next session.



COP26: THE POWER OF PERSPECTIVES

SESSION 1: SCRIPT

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read the script aloud. When you reach a decision point, read the choices and then stop. Students should discuss what to do in pairs, before sharing their ideas with the rest of the group.

Take a vote on what decision to make. Go to the step that the decision is linked to and continue with the script. You do not need to read the blue instructions.

STEP ONE

Imagine you are on holiday with a friend on a beautiful island called Getaway. You look out of the window and see dark clouds rolling in over the sea. You turn on the radio to find out what's happening.



STEP TWO

"Breaking news! A dangerous storm is heading towards the small island of Getaway. It will cause great damage. Experts urge people to evacuate immediately."

You tell your friend to get the car so you can drive to safety. You hear her sound the horn and have 20 seconds to pack one more thing. What's your decision? Ready... GO!



WATER BOTTLE

BINOCULARS

BLANKET

PEN AND NOTEPAD

MONEY

If everyone voted for WATER BOTTLE, BLANKET, PEN AND NOTEPAD OR MONEY, go to **STEP FOUR**

If everyone voted for BINOCULARS, go to **STEP THREE**

STEP THREE

You rush to the car and show your friend what you chose. "Thank goodness you brought my binoculars! They are my lucky charm – I've never got into danger when they're in my backpack."

Luckily you find a packet of biscuits on the back seat.

Go to **STEP FIVE**





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SESSION 1: SCRIPT

STEP FOUR

You rush downstairs and see your friend waiting in the car. You show her what you chose. “My binoculars! I can’t believe you left my binoculars! They are my lucky charm – I’ve never gotten into danger when they’re in my backpack. I can’t leave without them. I’ll have to go back upstairs!”

It takes 10 minutes for your friend to return. The storm is now too close to escape. You have no choice but to find a safe place to wait it out.

Go to **STEP FIVE**



STEP FIVE

Local people and tourists run from their houses, looking for a safe place to shelter.

Where should you drive to? On the beach, there are some cold and crumbly caves. On the hill there is a big stone castle. In the town, there is an old shop with a basement. Nearby, the mayor’s house stands on the edge of the woods. What’s your decision?



CRUMBLY BEACH CAVES

STONE CASTLE

SHOP BASEMENT

THE MAYOR’S HOUSE

If everyone voted for **SHOP BASEMENT**, **STONE CASTLE** or **THE MAYOR’S HOUSE**, go to **STEP SEVEN**

If everyone voted for **CRUMBLY BEACH CAVES**, go to **STEP SIX**

STEP SIX

The beach caves... good choice! This is where the locals are hiding too. The caves might look crumbly but everyone around here knows they are safe and strong.

Go to **STEP EIGHT**





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SESSION 1: SCRIPT

STEP SEVEN

You've made a big mistake. You might have thought a building was a good idea but it's no match for the strong winds and heavy rain. The room starts to flood! You have no choice but to run to the caves – where the rest of the town is sheltering.

Go to **STEP EIGHT**



STEP EIGHT

After hours in the cold cave, you remember your packet of biscuits. You haven't eaten today and feel faint. You have no idea how long the storm will go on. What's your decision?

**EAT THE
BISCUITS
YOURSELF**

**SHARE THE
BISCUITS
WITH YOUR
FRIEND**

**GIVE
EVERYONE
IN THE CAVE
A BISCUIT**



If everyone voted to **EAT THE BISCUITS YOURSELF**, go to **STEP NINE**

If everyone voted to **SHARE THE BISCUITS WITH YOUR FRIEND**, go to **STEP TEN**

If everyone voted to **GIVE EVERYONE IN THE CAVE A BISCUIT**, go to **STEP ELEVEN**

STEP NINE

You try to eat the biscuits as quietly as you can. Unfortunately, everyone else hears you crunching and is angry. They refuse to share their blankets and water with you. You are cold, thirsty and scared for the long night ahead.

Go to **STEP TWELVE**





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SESSION 1: SCRIPT

STEP TEN

You chose to give everyone a biscuit! But one man becomes angry. He says that his two young children deserve more biscuits. People begin to shout and argue.

Go to **STEP TWELVE**



STEP ELEVEN

You chose to share the biscuits quietly with your friend but argue over who should have the last one. Your friend stops talking to you. They refuse to share their blankets and water with you. You are cold, thirsty and scared for the long night in the cave.

Go to **STEP TWELVE**



STEP TWELVE

In the morning there are bigger problems. Several people have arrived at the cave with injuries.

One person notices your car keys. "YOU! You need to drive these people to the hospital!"

Everyone agrees. You look outside. The storm is more dangerous than ever. For you, it would be safer to stay in the cave. But if you stay, other lives might be lost. What's your decision?



DRIVE PEOPLE TO HOSPITAL

STAY IN THE SAFETY OF THE CAVE

GIVE SOMEONE ELSE THE KEYS

If everyone voted to **DRIVE PEOPLE TO HOSPITAL**, go to **STEP THIRTEEN**

If everyone voted to **STAY IN THE SAFETY OF THE CAVE**, go to **STEP FOURTEEN**

If everyone voted to **GIVE SOMEONE ELSE THE KEYS**, go to **STEP FIFTEEN**



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SESSION 1: SCRIPT

STEP THIRTEEN

You start driving but soon you have to stop. The road is completely flooded. You have no choice but to wait until the rain eases.

You get out of the car to see how deep the water is but you drop the keys. They are washed away by the flood. There is no other way to get the people to hospital.

You have no choice but to walk back to the cave. Everyone is very upset.

Go to **STEP SIXTEEN**



STEP FOURTEEN

Your friend convinces everyone you made the right choice. They look out and see the roads are flooded and realise it is unlikely you would have made it to the hospital. Most people calm down quickly.

One woman is very upset that you would not take her injured family member to hospital. She takes your car keys and throws them out of the cave and into the sea. They are lost forever. "But at least nobody can force you to drive!" you think.

Go to **STEP SIXTEEN**



STEP FIFTEEN

You lend your keys to someone else. They start driving but soon have to stop. The road is completely flooded. They have no choice but to wait until the rain eases.

They get out of the car to see how deep the water is but drop the keys. The keys are washed away by the flood. There is no other way to get the people to hospital.

When the person gets back to the cave, everyone is very upset.

Go to **STEP SIXTEEN**





COP26: THE POWER OF PERSPECTIVES

SESSION 1: SCRIPT

STEP SIXTEEN

Everyone spends another long, cold night in the cave.

At last, as the sun rises, the clouds clear and the rain stops. A loud voice from the back of the cave makes an announcement: "I am the mayor of the island. Everyone can now leave the cave but they must not leave the island. I want everyone to help to fix the damage done by the storm!"

Your friend looks frustrated. "Let's just go straight to the airport," she says. "They'll never notice that we are missing! I want to go home and see my family."

A local family looks sad. "Please stay and help," they beg. "We won't be able to rebuild our house without you."

Who should you listen to? What's your decision?

LISTEN TO YOUR FRIEND AND LEAVE

LISTEN TO THE FAMILY AND STAY

If everyone voted to LISTEN TO YOUR FRIEND AND LEAVE, go to **STEP SEVENTEEN**

If everyone voted to LISTEN TO THE FAMILY AND STAY, go to **STEP EIGHTEEN**



STEP SEVENTEEN

While everyone is getting their things together, you and your friend try to sneak away via a hidden tunnel. "I think this leads to the beach! Come on!"

It gets darker and darker, then suddenly... "OUCH! My foot! It's stuck! Help!"

You can hear the people in the cave coming closer to find out what's happening. A torch flicks on and shines towards you. It's the mayor... and she is not happy.

"I told everyone that they must stay and help! For trying to escape you must now stay even longer and work even harder."

You are now stuck on Getaway for months.

Go to **STEP NINETEEN**





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SESSION 1: SCRIPT

STEP EIGHTEEN

Everyone leaves the cave together. The mayor hands out tools and people get to work.

The family is very grateful for your help so they introduce you to a mechanic who gives you new keys for your car.

After a few days, the mayor thanks you for your work and lets you leave the island.

Go to **STEP NINETEEN**



STEP NINETEEN

At last, you're home! Well done for making all those difficult decisions.

It might not have been quite the holiday you expected, but I wonder what you have learnt..



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SESSION 1: CARDS



I am your friend. The storm sounds awful doesn't it?
My binoculars are special because my grandma gave them to me! They're my lucky charm –
I always seem to be safe when I have them. Please can you pack them for me?
We'll come back after the storm to get the rest.



- **How does my perspective affect your decision?**
- **Why is my perspective important to hear?**

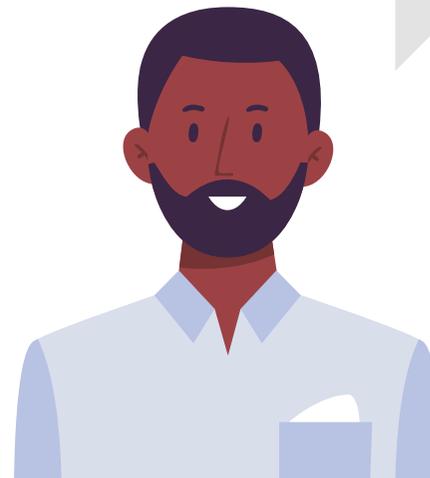


I am a local person on my way to a safe place. Do you have any questions to ask me?

I am taking my family to the caves on the beach. They look crumbly but actually they are very strong. The last time a storm came, every building in the town flooded!



- **How does my perspective affect your decision?**
- **Why is my perspective important to hear?**



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SESSION 1: CARDS



- How many different ways are there to share the biscuits?
- The cave is filled with different people from the island. Who might feel differently?
- Is it possible to please everyone?



I'm in the cave with you. I'm an expert on storms and I know the area well. I know that by now, the river will have flooded so trying to drive to the hospital is pointless and dangerous.



- How does my perspective affect your decision?
- Why is my perspective important to hear?



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SESSION 1: CARDS



- Does hearing a range of perspectives make things easier? Why/why not?
- Which perspective is most important for you to listen to: the family and the mayor or your friend?



- What impact did different people's perspectives have on this story?
- Is it ever ok to ignore some perspectives?



COP26: THE POWER OF PERSPECTIVES

SESSION 1: NEWSFLASH

NEWSREADER 1

Welcome to Climate News!
Thank you for joining us.

NEWSREADER 2

Experts around the world agree that the planet is facing a climate crisis. It is causing natural disasters, extreme weather, food and water shortages and conflict.

NEWSREADER 1

It is destroying habitats. Sea levels are rising, the Arctic is melting, coral reefs are dying and forests are burning.

NEWSREADER 2

Experts say we need to act fast to slow climate change, before more irreversible damage is done.

NEWSREADER 1

In November 2021, world leaders will meet in Glasgow, Scotland, for the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26). This is where countries will set individual targets to protect the environment. These are called Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

NEWSREADER 2

For example, they must decide how the world can reach the target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, how to protect habitats and people from the effects of climate change and how these things should be paid for.

NEWSREADER 1

So far, world leaders have found it difficult to agree on what to do. However, one thing is for sure: the world leaders at COP26 will feel the pressure of those decisions.