

Lieber Englischkurs,  
anbei schicke ich euch Aufgaben für diese Woche. Ich bitte euch, diese gewissenhaft zu erledigen und sie mir bis nächsten Dienstag (24.03.2020) entweder (leserlich) abfotografiert oder direkt am Computer geschrieben zu schicken. Dafür schicke ich euch hier nochmal meine Mail-Adresse: [l.kruse@petrinum-brilon.de](mailto:l.kruse@petrinum-brilon.de).

Sollte dies aus gesundheitlichen Gründen nicht möglich sein, gebt mir bitte Bescheid. Ich selbst habe leider auch noch keine weiteren Informationen, inwiefern die versäumte Klausur nach den Osterferien nachgeholt wird. Sobald ich näheres weiß, gebe ich euch aber Bescheid. ☺

Ich wünsche euch für die kommende Zeit viel Gesundheit, achtet auf euch und eure Mitmenschen und versucht euch etwas vom stressigen Schulalltag zu erholen, erledigt aber dennoch, in eurem eigenen Sinne, die euch gegebenen Aufgaben.

Liebe Grüße und bleibt Gesund

Fr. Kruse ☺

## **Speech on Climate Change**

By BARACK OBAMA

22 September 2009

*The following text is an extract of Obama's speech on climate change which was delivered at the United Nations Climate Change Summit in 2009.*

[...] No nation, however large or small, wealthy or poor, can escape the impact of climate change. Rising sea levels threaten every coastline. More powerful storms and floods threaten every continent. More frequent drought and crop failures breed hunger and conflict in places where hunger and conflict already thrive. On shrinking islands, families are already being forced to flee their homes as climate refugees. The security and stability of each nation and all peoples – our prosperity, our health, our safety – are in jeopardy. And the time we have to reverse this tide is running out.

And yet, we can reverse it. John F. Kennedy once observed that "Our problems are man-made, therefore they may be solved by man." It is true that for too many years, mankind has been slow to respond to or even recognize the magnitude of the climate threat. It is true of my own country as well. We recognize that. But this is a new day. It is a new era. And I am proud to say that the United States has done more to promote clean energy and reduce carbon pollution in the last eight months than at any other time in our history. [...]

As we meet here today, the good news is that after too many years of inaction and denial, there is finally widespread recognition of the urgency of the challenge before us. We know what needs to be done. We know that our planet's future depends on a global commitment to permanently reduce greenhouse gas pollution. We know that if we put the right rules and incentives in place, we will unleash the creative power of our best scientists, engineers, and entrepreneurs to build a better world. [...]

The journey is long. The journey is hard. And we don't have much time left to make it. It is a journey that will require each of us to persevere through setback, and fight for every inch of progress, even when it comes in fits and starts. So let us begin. For if we are flexible and pragmatic; if we can resolve to work tirelessly in common effort, then we will achieve our common purpose: a world that is safer, cleaner, and healthier than the one we found; and a future that is worthy of our children. Thank you.

(383 words)

Taken and abridged from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/23/us/politics/23obama.text.html> [23 November 2019]

### Annotations:

l. 7: **drought** (n.) – a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water; **crop** (n.) – a cultivated plant that is grown on a large scale commercially, esp. a cereal, fruit, or vegetable; (to) **breed** sth. (v.) – here: (to) cause to produce sth.; l. 9: **refugee** (n., sg.) – a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster; l. 10: **prosperity** (n.) – the state of bringing wealth and success; **jeopardy** (n.) – danger of loss, harm, or failure; l. 14: **magnitude** (n.) – size; great importance; l. 16: (to) **promote** sth. (v.) – (to) support or actively encourage (a cause, venture, etc.); further the progress of; l. 18: **denial** (n.) – negation; l. 20: **commitment** (n.) – responsibility; dedication; l. 21: l. 22: **incentive** (n., sg.) – reason; motivation; l. 22: (to) **unleash** sth. (v.) – (to) release/free sth.; l. 25: (to) **persevere** (v.) – (to) persist/continue; **setback** (n.) – problem; difficulty; **inch** (n., sg.) – a unit of linear measure equal to one twelfth of a foot (2.54 cm); l. 26: **in fits and starts** – irregularly; interruptedly; l. 27: **pragmatic** (adj.) – practical; **tirelessly** (adv.) – with great effort or energy; l. 29: (to) **be worthy of** sth. – (to) deserve sth.

Tasks:

**1) Examine** the way in which Barack Obama tries to convince the audience of his views on climate change. Put special focus on his line of argument (i.e. the structure of his speech) and his use of stylistic devices.

**2) Write a letter** to Barack Obama in which you react to his speech.