Innovation English Integrated Course Book 4

**Unit Three**

**International Conference**

**Objectives**

Students will be able to:

1. Grasp the main idea (that negotiation results at Bali Climate Change Conference, and developing countries and developed countries should shoulder their responsibilities.) and structure of the text (introduction of the topic by U.S. rejected the *Kyoto Protocol*; development of the article by the procedure of the conference; conclusion of the article by the words of the India’s Minister of state for the Environment and Forests);
2. Appreciate that climate change is a global issue;
3. Acquire the key language points and grammatical structures in the text;
4. Participate in a series of reading, listening, speaking and writing activities related to the theme of the unit.

**Suggested Teaching Steps**

Lead-in

Text A

* Word Study
* Sentence Study
* Structure Study

After-reading

Additional Materials

**Lead-in**

**Directions: Please watch the video clip and answer the questions.**

l . What situation does the clip depict?

2 . Use the table below to tick what you see in the clip.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Opening ceremony |  | Registration |  |
| Discussion |  | seminar |  |
| Presentation |  | Question and Answer Session |  |
| Keynote Speech |  | Closing Ceremony |  |

Reference answers:

l . The clip depicts a conference situation.

2 . Use the table below to tick what you see in the clip.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Opening Ceremony |  | Registration | √ |
| Discussion | √ | seminar | √ |
| Presentation | √ | Question and Answer Session | √ |
| Keynote Speech | √ | Closing Ceremony |  |

**Text A: Who Won and Lost at The Bali Climate Change Conference?**

In nearly a decade since the U.S. rejected the landmark climate change agreement known as the *Kyoto Protocol*, the U.S. has become accustomed to being attacked at U.N. environmental gatherings. (Explanation: Sentence 1) But the pounding it took in the tortured all-night negotiations during the U.N. climate change conference in Bali was unprecedented. (Explanation: Sentence 2) Not only did developing nations big and small from India to Papua New Guinea openly criticize the U.S. for its last-minute refusal to support the new agreement entitled the Bali Roadmap, but — with the exception of a confused statement from Japan — not one of the allies that had generally stood with the U.S. in the past two weeks — Australia, Russia, Canada — rose in its defense. (Explanation: Sentence 3)

In the end, the U.S.’s total isolation was too much for even it to bear. (Explanation: Sentence 4) “We’ve listened very closely to many of our colleagues here during these two weeks, but especially to what has been said in this hall today,” said lead American negotiator. “We will go forward and join the consensus.” Boos turned to cheers, and the deal was essentially sealed. Here’s a breakdown of what it means, who won and who lost. (Explanation: Sentence 5)

The roadmap is essentially the beginning of a beginning. The negotiations to come have a specific end date — 2009 — and for the first time, dismantles what the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change executive secretary called “the Berlin Wall of climate change”, the idea that only the rich nations need to take responsibility for fighting global warming. (Explanation: Sentence 6) Both developed countries and developing countries have signed up to the climate change fight.

The two sides still have different responsibilities, with developed nations ready to take on more quantifiable emissions cuts, and developing nations preparing to take on less specific national actions, but no country is left behind. (Explanation: Sentence 7) That matters because the majority of future carbon emissions will come from the developing world, and no climate deal can work without the participation of the developing nations. “The developing nations of the south are on the same road as the North,” says the director for the climate and air program for Environmental Defense. “They’re using the same roadmap.”

The Bali Roadmap contains no specific commitments or figures on the emissions reductions that developed countries will need to take, beyond language that “deep cuts” will be needed. (Explanation: Sentence 8) Earlier in the week, the EU ( European Union) fought hard to include a specific target of 25 to 40% cuts for developed nations by 2020, and a need to halve global emissions — two figures cited by the U.N.’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC) latest assessment of global warming science.

Neither made it into the final text, thanks largely to determined opposition from the U.S., although a footnote points to the IPCC report. (Explanation: Sentence 9) For environmentalists who had hoped that the recent avalanche of data underscoring the rising crisis of climate change might prompt tougher action, Bali was a disappointment. “It was a rather weak deal,” said the Chair of Friends of the Earth International. “It’s compromised.” (Explanation: Sentence 10)

But the clear big winners are China and India, which have fully arrived as major players on international climate action. While India began the negotiations seemingly disengaged, the country elevated its game in the final day, and showed that it was willing to go beyond its own narrow national interests. (Explanation: Sentence 11) That was the case for the developing world as a whole, which stood up to the U.S. without ruining the possibility of a future deal. (Explanation: Sentence 12) “The developing countries allowed this discussion to begin in a whole new way,” says the policy director for the Natural Resource Defense Council’s climate center.

It should be difficult for a country to make the final concession that allows a landmark deal to fall into place, and still appear selfish and stubborn — but the U. S. somehow managed to do that. (Explanation: Sentence 13) Years of blocking climate action at every turn meant the Bush Administration came into the Bali talks with little public credibility, and while there was a sense before the talks that the U.S. might show flexibility, that hope was quickly dispelled. (Explanation: Sentence 14) “The U.S. needed to come in here and build up its credibility,” says the President of the Union of Concerned scientists. “Instead, they just polished their Darth Vader image.”

The roadmap outlines the next steps for negotiation. and calls for a deadline of 2009 — in time to have a formal successor to the *Kyoto Protocol*. But as tortuous as Bali was, the next round will have to tackle the specific actions to be taken by developed and developing nations alike. (Explanation: Sentence 15)

But at least we all seem to be headed in the same direction, if not at the same speed. “This is not an issue between the developed world and the developing world,” said the India’s Minister of State for the Environment and Forests. “This is a global issue. The challenges are huge. The task is huge.”

**Word Study**

Word Study: Reject

reject *vt.*

1. to refuse to accept or acknowledge 拒绝

e.g. Hans was rejected by the army because of his bad eyesight.

He rejected his brother’s offer of help.

1. to throw away sth. that has just been made, because it’s quality is not good enough

抛（摈）弃，剔除

e.g. Imperfect articles are rejected by our quality control.

Choose the good apples and reject the bad ones.

Word Study: Landmark

landmark *n.*

1. one of the most important events, changes, or discoveries that influences sb. or sth.

划时代的事，里程碑

e.g. The discovery of penicillin was a landmark in the history of medicine.

(2) a conspicuous, clearly visible, object in an area 地标，陆标

e.g. The pavilion on the hilltop was a well known landmark.

Word Study: Accustom

accustom *vt.* ( ~ oneself/sb./sth. to sth.) to make yourself or another person become used to a situation or place 使习惯于……

e.g. He quickly accustomed himself to this new way of life.

We have to accustom ourselves to the hot weather here.

be/become/get accustomed to: to be familiar with sth. and accept it as normal 习惯于

e.g. I’m not accustomed to getting up so early.

He has been accustomed to hard work.

Word Study: Torture

torture

*vt.* to cause (sb.) great physical or mental suffering 折磨，拷打

e.g. She was tortured by guilt.

Rachel sat alone for hours at home, tortured by jealousy.

*n.*

1. severe physical or mental suffering 折磨，煎熬

e.g. The waiting must be torture for you.

(2) an act of deliberately hurting sb. in order to force them to tell you sth., to punish them, or to be cruel 拷打

e.g. He gave in when he was threatened with torture.

tortured *adj.* experiencing intense pain, especially mental pain 受尽折磨的

e.g. Only when I looked once more upon that tortured face could I make my decision.

Words Study: Unprecedented

unprecedented *adj.* never having happened before, or never having happened to such an extent 前所未有的，空前的

e.g. His statement made an unprecedented splash.

China’s industry is developing at an unprecedented rate.

Word Study: Isolation

isolation *n.* the act of separating sb./sth.; the state of being separate 孤立，隔离

e.g. Because of its geographical isolation, the area developed its own unique culture.

Retirement can often cause feelings of isolation.

Word Study: Consensus

consensus  *n.* an opinion, statement, etc., that everyone in a group agrees with or accepts 意见一致，共识

e.g. The two parties have reached a consensus.

There is a broad consensus of opinion in the country on this issue.

Word Study: Breakdown

breakdown  *n.*

(1) analysis 分析，剖析

e.g. The accountant gave a breakdown of the expenses.

(2) an occasion when a car or a piece of machinery breaks and stops working 故障

e.g. Our car had a breakdown on the motorway.

The truck had a breakdown and was towed to the garage.

Word Study: Opposition

opposition  *n.* ( ~ to sb./sth.) strong disagreement 反对

e.g. There’s not much opposition to the scheme.

Her proposal met with strong opposition.

oppose  *v.* 反对 (抗)，抵制

e.g. Oppose extravagant eating and drinking and pay attention to thrift and economy.

Word Study: Prompt

prompt

*v.*

(1) ( ~ sb. to do sth.) to make people say or do sth. as a reaction 促进，推动

e.g. What prompted him to be so generous?

His evasive reply prompted me to ask another question.

(2) to inspire or cause ( a feeling or an action)激起(感情)，唤起(行动)

e.g. What prompted that remark?

Her question was prompted by worries about her future.

*adj.*

1. done quickly, immediately, or at the right time 及时的，迅速的

e.g. Prompt replies are greatly appreciated.

(2) ( ~ in doing sth./to do sth.) (of a person) quick to take action 敏捷的，动作迅速的

e.g. She was very prompt in answering my letter.

Word Study: Compromise

compromise

*v.* to reach an agreement in which everyone involved accepts less that what they wanted at first 作出妥协，折中解决

e.g. She admitted that she was unable to compromise.

I wanted to go to Greece, but my wife wanted to go to Spain, so we compromised on Italy. His workmates demanded that he never compromise with the bosses.

*n.* an agreement that is achieved after everyone involved accepts less than what they wanted at first, or the act of making this agreement 妥协，折衷

e.g. After several hours of discussions, they managed to reach a compromise.

Everyone has to be prepared to make compromises.

Word Study:Ruin

ruin

*v.* to spoil or destroy sth. completely 毁坏(灭)

e.g. His carelessness ruined his prospects.

The continuation of this drought will ruin the harvest.

*n.* severe damage or destruction 毁坏(灭)，灭亡

e.g. The news meant the ruin of all our hopes.

in ruins 严重受损，破败不堪

e.g. An earthquake left the whole town in ruins.

Word Study: Concession

concession *n.* sth. that you allow sb. to have in order to end an argument or a disagreement 让步 e.g. Employers made concessions to the workers in the negotiations.

As a concession to her inexperience they allowed her to have some help.

concede *v.* to admit that sth. is true or correct, although you wish it were not true 承认

e.g. I conceded that I had made a number of errors.

I was forced to concede that she might be right.

Word Study: Block

block

*vt.*

1. to stop sth. happening, developing, or succeeding 阻碍 (止)

e.g. Their application to join the club was blocked.

(2) to prevent anything moving through a space by being or placing sth. across it or in it 阻塞 (挡)

e.g. Heavy snow is blocking all roads into Scotland.

*n.*

1. sth. that prevents movement or progress 妨碍物，阻(障)碍

e.g. His stubborn attitude is a block to our negotiation.

(2) (*AmE*) the buildings/area surrounded by four city streets: this used as a unit of length along one of the streets 街区

e.g. He lives three blocks away from here.

Word Study:Tackle

tackle *vt.* to try to deal with a difficult problem 处理，解决

e.g. Can you suggest how we might tackle the problem?

I suggested to him that we should tackle the problem another way.

**Sentence Study**

Sentence Study 1

1. **In nearly a decade since the U.S. rejected the landmark climate change agreement known as the *Kyoto Protocol*, the U.S. has become accustomed to being attacked at U.N. environmental gatherings:** It has been almost ten years since the U.S. refused to accept the Kyoto Protocol, a very important agreement on climate change. Ever since then, the U.S. has become used to being criticized at U.N. environmental meetings.

【译文】自美国拒绝签署划时代的气候变化协议——《京都议定书》近 l0 年来，美国在联合国环境问题的历次会议上一直广受抨击。

Sentence Study 2

1. **But the pounding it took in the tortured all night negotiations during the UN climate change conference in Bali was unprecedented:** Never before had the U.S. received such criticism as it did during the difficult talks during the Bali conference.

【译文】在此次巴厘岛联合国气候变化大会的连夜磋商中，美国受到的批评更是空前。

本句的主干是“But the pounding was unprecedented”句中包含两个定语从句，分别修饰“the pounding”和“negotiations”。

Sentence Study 3

1. **With the exception of a confused statement from Japan — not one of the allies that had generally stood with the U.S. in the past two weeks — Australia, Russia, Canada — rose in its defense:** In the past two weeks, none of its allies — Australia, Russia, Canada — supported the U.S. except Japan, which gave an ambiguous statement.

【译文】除日本的立场有些模棱两可外，连过去两周与美国立场相近的澳大利亚、俄罗斯和加拿大，也无一站出来支持美国。

with the exception of: except, but 除……之外

e.g. With the exception of John, everyone passed the exam.

I enjoyed all his novels with the exception of his last one.

exception *n.* 例外

e.g. Most of the students did well, though there were one or two exceptions.

Sentence Study 4

1. **In the end, the U.S.’s total isolation was too much for even it to bear:** Finally, even the U.S. itself couldn’t stand the state of being completely isolated.

【译文】最终，这彻底的孤立感令美国不堪承受。

Sentence Study 5

1. **“We will go forward and join the consensus.” Boos turned to cheers, and the deal was essentially sealed. Here’s a breakdown of what it means, who won and who lost**: “We will agree with you.” Everyone was pleased that agreement was now a fact. Here are the details showing what it means and the winners and losers.

【译文】“我们将往前走，融入这一共识。”顿时，会场内的嘘声变成了欢呼声，协议基本达成。但“路线图”究竟意味着什么？谁是赢家？谁是输家？

Sentence Study 6

1. **The negotiations to come have a specific end date — 2009 — and for the first time, dismantles what the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change executive secretary called “the Berlin wall of climate change”, the idea that only the rich nations need to take responsibility for fighting global warming:** The new negotiations will have to be concluded in 2009, and for the first time it rejects the idea that only developed countries are responsible for the battle against global warming, which the secretary referred to as the Berlin wall of climate change.

【译文】 它规定 2009 年年底前完成随后的谈判。此外，它还首次拆除了《联合国气候变化框架公约》 秘书处执行秘书所说的“气候变化的柏林墙”，即不仅仅是发达国家负有应对全球变暖的责任。

该句的结构比较复杂。“to come”在句子中作定语，“The negotiations to come”意思是“马上要进行的谈判”。“what”引导了一个宾语从句，在从句中作“call”的宾语。“idea”后面的“that”引导的是一个同位语从句。

take responsibility for: to agree to be in charge of sth. or sb. 负起的……的责任

e.g. Who do you trust to take responsibility for Britain,s defense?

I take responsibility for losing the money.

Sentence Study 7

1. **The two sides still have different responsibilities, with developed nations ready to take on more quantifiable emissions cuts, and developing nations preparing to take on less specific national actions, but no country is left behind**: The two sides will take on different tasks. While the developed countries are to reduce emissions by a required amount, the developing countries also need to cut emissions though no detailed requirements are made. There is no exception for any country.

【译文】双方仍肩负着不同责任：发达国家将负有更多的量化减排任务，而发展中国家虽无具体量化要求，但没有国家可以置身事外。

该句有两个由“with”构成的独立主格结构作伴随状语，而这两个伴随结构分别有其逻辑主语“developed nations”和“developing nations”。

e.g. I’m reading the newspaper. with my dog sleeping next to me.

He ran up to the man. with a sword in his hand.

leave behind

1. to neglect or forget to take along 遗漏 (留)

e.g. I think I might have left my wallet behind.

(2) to cause as a result of an action 留下

e.g. The storm left behind a trail of destruction.

Sentence Study 8

1. **The Bali Roadmap contains no specific commitments or figures on the emissions reductions that developed countries will need to take, beyond language that “deep cuts” will be needed:** Except for the words “deep cuts” mentioned in the Bali Roadmap, there are no concrete commitments or figures regarding the amount by which the developed countries must reduce emissions.

【译文】“巴厘岛路线图”中没有任何关于发达国家减排方面的具体承诺和数字，只提及需要“大量减排”。

Sentence Study 9

1. **Neither made it into the final text, thanks largely to determined opposition from the U.S., although a footnote points to the IPCC report:** Neither (of the proposed figures) was included in the final written agreement because the U.S. disagreed strongly, but there was a note in the text pointing to the IPCC report.

【译文】但主要由于美国的坚决反对，“路线图”的最终文本中没有出现这些数字，只是以脚注形式提到了IPCC评估报告。

thanks to: because of sb. or sth. 由于，多亏

e.g. The company has had a successful year. thanks to the improvement in export sales.

Thanks to the disease, I have the opportunity to improve my character.。

Sentence Study 10

1. **For environmentalists who had hoped that the recent avalanche of data underscoring the rising crisis of climate change might prompt tougher action, Bali was a disappointment. “It was a rather weak deal,” the chair of Friends of the Earth International. “It’s compromised.”:** For the environmentalists who had hoped the substantial amount of evidence showing increasing climate change might have resulted in stronger action, Bali was disappointing. “The agreement, as a result of concessions, was rather weak,” said the Chair of Friends of the Earth International.

【译文】环保论者希望最近涌现的有关气候变化危机不断升级的大量证据促成更严厉的举措，巴厘岛会议却令他们失望。环保组织国际地球之友的主席说：“‘路线图’是一项毫无约束力的决议。它是折衷的产物。”

“underscoring the rising crisis of climate change”为现在分词短语，作“avalanche of data”的定语。

Sentence Study 11

1. **While India began the negotiations seemingly disengaged, the country elevated its game in the final day, and showed that it was willing to go beyond its own narrow national interests:** India, apparently not concerned at the start, became involved in the end, showing it would do more than follow its own limited concerns.

【译文】尽管谈判伊始，印度表现得有些事不关已，但在大会最后一天，它展示了愿意超越狭隘的本国利益的高姿态。

“ while” means “whereas” or “although” here.

e.g. While never a big eater, he did snack a lot.

While there was no conclusive evidence, most people thought he was guilty.

Sentence Study 12

1. **That was the case for the developing world as a whole, which stood up to the U.S. without ruining the possibility of a future deal:** The developing world was acting together faced up to the U.S. without jeopardizing the chance of any further deal.

【译文】发展中国家整体上也是如此，它们一致反对美国的态度，同时又为未来的谈判留了余地。

stand up to:

(1) confront fearlessly, oppose boldly 勇敢地面对……

e.g. His sister had the backbone to stand up to all the difficulties.

(2) to stay healthy or in good condition in a difficult environment 经得起，顶得住

e.g. Their love can stand up to the test of time.

Will this building stand up to typhoons?

Sentence Study 13

1. **It should be difficult for a country to make the final concession that allows a landmark deal to fall into place, and still appear selfish and stubborn — but the U.S. somehow managed to do that:** The U.S. still appeared selfish and was unwilling to give up its position, despite its concession at the last minute that allowed the deal to be made.

【译文】很难有国家能做到既最终妥协以成就一个里程碑式的协议，同时又显得自私顽固，但美国做到了这一点。

Sentence Study 14

1. **Years of blocking climate action at every turn meant the Bush Administration came into the Bali talks with little public credibility, and while there was a sense before the talks that the U.S. might show flexibility, that hope was quickly dispelled:**Years of continual opposition to climate action meant that in Bali no one was ready to believe in the Bush Administrations commitment: and the earlier hopes that the U.S. might change a little soon disappeared.

【译文】布什政府多年来总是阻碍应对气候的行动，因而其参与巴厘岛谈判时就没什么公众信任度。虽然谈判前，大家对美国尚抱一线希望，期望它能在谈判中灵活变通，但这希望很快落空了。

Sentence Study 15

1. **But as tortuous as Bali was, the next round will have to tackle the specific actions to be taken by developed and developing nations alike:** As complex as the Bali conference was, the next round of negotiations is to deal with the concrete actions to be taken by all nations.

【译文】但下一轮谈判会像此次巴厘岛大会一样曲折，它将为发达国家和发展中国家制定出具体的减排措施。

**Structure**

**Structure**

**Directions: The text can be divided into four parts. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words from the text complete the main idea of each.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Parts** | **Paragraphs** | **Main Ideas** |
| Part One | Paras. 1—2 | Through l) **tortured** negotiations, the Bali Roadmap, a new climate change 2) **agreement**, was born at the end of the Bali Conference. |
| Part Two | Paras. 3—6 | Although there was much 3) **disappointment** at the Bali Conference, the “Berlin Wall” of climate change was 4) **dismantled**. Both developed and developing countries have signed up to the fight 5) **against** climate change. |
| Part Three | Paras. 7—8 | The big winners at the Bali Conference are 6) **developing** countries such as China and India. At the last minute the U. S. had to make the final 7) **concession** that allowed a landmark deal to 8) **fall** into place. |
| Part Four | Paras. 9—10 | The next steps are to 9) **tackle** the specific actions to be l0) **taken** by developed and developing nations alike. |

**Directions: Choose the best answer that best completes each sentence or answers each question.**

1) What was the attitude of the U.S. toward the *Kyoto Protocol*?

A) Indifferent. B) Neutral.

C) supportive.  **D) Opposing.**

2) What does “the Berlin Wall of climate change” ( Para. 3) refer to?

A) The idea that only developing nations are responsible for global warming.

**B) The idea that only rich nations need to make commitments to fighting global warming.**

C) The idea that both poor and rich nations have responsibility for global warming.

D) The idea that developed and developing nations have different responsibilities for global warming.

1. The specific target of emission cuts set by the Bali Roadmap for developed nations by 2020 is .
2. 35 to 45% B) 25 to 50%

**C)** 25 to 40%  **D) no specific target**

4) Why does the author say that no climate deal can work without the participation of developing countries?

A) Because developing countries have been getting richer and richer in recent years.

B) Because developing countries have a larger population than developed ones.

C) Because developing countries are getting more and more industrialized.

**D) Because the majority of future carbon emissions will come from the developing world.**

5) What is the great significance of the Bali International Climate Change Conference?

**A) The Bali conference tore down the Berlin wall of climate change, reaching an agreement on a global response to climate change.**

B) The U.S. made a final concession that allowed a landmark deal to fall into place.

C) The Bali conference has raised the level of awareness of climate change among developing nations.

D) The Bali Roadmap will stop developing countries from cutting down forests.

**Key to Exercises — Vocabulary**

1. compromises 2) outlined 3) breakdown 4) unprecedented

5) prompted 6) ruined 7) opposition 8) tackle

1. elevate 10) concessions
3. refusal 2) resources 3) ruined 4) successor

5) emissions 6) estimation 7) compromise 8) credibility 9) contains 10) participation

**Key to Exercises — Structure**

**1.**

1. **With the exception of Mary** (除了玛丽), all the students had finished class assignments when the bell rang.  
   2) **With the exception of an emergency** (除了紧急情况), no person is allowed to open this door.  
   3) **With the exception of children under 10** (除了十岁以下的孩子), everyone in this village should be informed of the sad news..  
   4) You can have access to all the books in this study, **with the exception of two journals** (除了两本期刊).  
   5) We are fully satisfied with life in Kunming, **with the exception of housing and transport** (除了住房和交通).

**2.**

1. In the neighborhood there is nobody who does not know me.
2. Nothing is impossible if you try your best.
3. We could not achieve such great success without the help of our teachers.
4. It is not impossible to pass CET-4 next time if you work harder.
5. Our work has no meaning without consi4ering most peoples fundamental interests.

**Key to Exercises—Comprehension**

1) raising 2) criticism 3) primarily 4) distinguish 5) amid  
6) utmost 7) estimates 8) treaty 9) flow 10) vulnerability

**Key to Exercises — Translation**

As the world is getting more and more densely populated, air pollution has become an unprecedentedly severe problem. This problem has called for the increasing attention of environmentalists. The four major human activity sectors containing industry, energy, transportation, and agriculture are somehow responsible for air pollution. Energies are needed to run factories, to power trains, planes and buses. Nearly all of these energies are produced by burning fuels, which would prompt air pollution. Scientists are studying new ways of generating electricity that can be less damaging to the environment. The increased public environmental awareness has led to the avalanche of activities such as recycling.

**After-reading**

**Activity One: Talking about Pictures**

**Directions: Various kinds of conferences are held each year to tackle different challenges facing the world. The following are two examples of them. Share what you know about them with your classmates.**

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**Activity Two: Group Work**

**Directions: Plan a small conference on any theme related to your university life. Work with your group members to decide the theme of your conference and outline a plan for it. Later you may be asked to share your ideas with the whole class.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Theme** |  |
| **Goal** |  |
| **Slogan** |  |
| **Agenda** |  |

**Additional Materials**

**Activity One**

**Directions: Every year, different conferences are held nationally or internationally for various purposes. The pictures below are for different conferences. Guess as to the purpose of each of them according to the title, and explain whether international conferences are of great importance. Why or why not?**

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**Tips:**

Aims of international conferences:

① to promote the understanding, communication, coordination and cooperation among nations;

② to establish peace and harmony, and friendship among countries;

③ to address and cope with concerns and problems together;

④ to share practical experiences;

⑤ to arouse the worlds awareness of protecting the planet on which we live;

⑥ to realize the differences among cultures; to promote the progress of human civilization, etc.

**Background information**

**The *Kyoto Protocol***

The *Kyoto Protocol* is an international agreement linked to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The major feature of the *Kyoto Protocol* is that it sets binding targets for 37 industrialized countries and the European Union for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. These amount to an average of five per cent against l990 levels over the five-year period 2008—2012 .

The major distinction between the Protocol and the Convention is that while the Convention encouraged industrialized countries to stabilize GHG emissions, the Protocol commits them to do so. Recognizing that developed countries are principally responsible for the current high levels of GHG emissions in the atmosphere as a result of more than l50 years of industrial activity. the Protocol places a heavier burden on developed nations under the principle of“common but differentiated responsibilities”.

The *Kyoto Protocol* was adopted in Kyoto, Japan, on 11 December l997 and entered into force on 16 February 2005. 182 Parties of the Convention have ratified its Protocol to date. The detailed rules for the implementation of the Protocol were adopted at COP 7 in Marrakesh in 200l, and are called the “Marrakesh Accords”.

**United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Bali**

The 2007 United Nations Climate Change Conference took place at the Bali International Conference Center. Nusa Dua, in Bali, Indonesia, between December 3 and December 15, 2007 (though originally planned to end on December). Representatives from over 180 countries attended, together with observers from intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations. The conference encompassed meetings of several bodies, including the 13th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the *Kyoto Protocol*, together with other subsidiary bodies and a meeting of ministers.

Negotiations on a successor to the *Kyoto Protocol* dominated the conference. A meeting of environment ministers and experts held in June called on the conference to agree on a road-map, timetable and concrete steps for the negotiations with a view to reaching an agreement by 2009. It has been debated whether this global meeting on climate change has achieved anything significant at all.

**Darth Vader**

Darth Vader is the central antagonist in George Lucas’s first three *Star Wars* films and *Revenge of the Sith,* voiced by James Earl Jones and portrayed physically by David Prowse in the original *Star Wars* trilogy and by Canadian actor Hayden Christensen in *Star Wars* *Episode III*: *Revenge of the Sith*. Vader is one of the most iconic villains of all time, and was listed as the third greatest movie villain of all time on a list by AFI.