

Greta Thunberg 'not officially' invited to COP26

1st November, 2021



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Presidents, prime ministers and dignitaries from nearly 200 nations have descended on the city of Glasgow in Scotland. They are congregating for the 26th UN Climate Change Conference - COP26. However, one notable person seems to have

been omitted from the invitation list. That person is 18-year-old Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg. Ms Thunberg is in Glasgow for the global summit, but is unsure as to whether she will be allowed to attend any of the meetings. Speaking to the BBC, she said: "I don't know. It's very unclear. Not officially [invited]." She added: "I think that many people might be scared that if they invite too many radical young people, then that might make them look bad."

U.S. President Joe Biden will be at the event, and China's President Xi Jinping will attend via video link. President Biden was in Rome on Friday for a meeting with the Pope. A number of climate activists noted the irony of his motorcade having 95 cars in it, just two days ahead of a climate conference. Ms Thunberg criticised the conference for what she views as a lack of delegates from developing countries. She said: "We need more representation from the Global South, from the most affected people and areas." The UK's Prime Minister Boris Johnson is hosting the conference. He said: "COP26 must mark the beginning of the end of climate change." He added: "Too many countries are still doing too little."

Sources: yahoo.com / reuters.com / glasgowtimes.com

Writing

The COP26 summit will help to tackle climate change. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

presidents / prime ministers / climate change / conference / activist / invitation / event / video link / irony / motorcade / delegate / Global South / beginning / end

True / False

- 1) Leaders from over 200 countries are attending COP26. T / F
- 2) COP26 is taking place in the Scottish city of Edinburgh. T / F
- 3) Greta Thunberg will be able to attend many meetings at COP26. T / F
- 4) Ms Thunberg said COP26 officials may be afraid of young radicals. T / F
- 5) China's leader will attend COP26 via a video link. T / F
- 6) Joe Biden travelled in a motorcade of 100 cars to meet the Pope. T / F
- 7) Greta Thunberg said the Global South has too few delegates at COP26. T / F
- 8) The UK's Boris Johnson says too many countries are doing too little. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. dignitaries | a. be present at |
| 2. congregating | b. identify |
| 3. notable | c. revolutionary |
| 4. activist | d. gathering |
| 5. radical | e. paradox |
| 6. attend | f. important |
| 7. irony | g. putting on |
| 8. lack | h. VIPs |
| 9. hosting | i. dearth |
| 10. mark | j. campaigner |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about COP26?
- b) What do you think of international climate change conferences?
- c) What do leaders need to agree on at COP26?
- d) How hopeful are you that COP26 will bring change?
- e) Why has Greta Thunberg not been invited to the conference?
- f) Should Greta Thunberg have been invited to the conference?
- g) What do you think of Greta Thunberg?
- h) What advice do you have for Greta Thunberg?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Presidents, prime ministers | a. have been omitted |
| 2. descended | b. the Global South |
| 3. one notable person seems to | c. young people |
| 4. the global | d. video link |
| 5. too many radical | e. of his motorcade |
| 6. attend via | f. doing too little |
| 7. activists noted the irony | g. and dignitaries |
| 8. We need more representation from | h. of the end |
| 9. mark the beginning | i. on the city |
| 10. Too many countries are still | j. summit |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What advice do you have for the leaders at COP26?
- What do you want your nation's leader to say at COP26?
- Does Joe Biden need a 95-car motorcade?
- What must happen to satisfy nations from the Global South?
- Will COP26 "mark the beginning of the end of climate change"?
- Are "too many countries doing too little"?
- What questions would you like to ask the leaders at COP26?

Spelling

- prime ministers and enai tsdr gii
- seded ndec on the city of Glasgow
- They are onrieg gtagcn
- one notable person seems to have been oidttme
- the vioatniint list
- too many caldari young people
- A number of climate tistsvaci
- noted the oriyn
- his odmrcetao having 95 cars
- a lack of deesaegtI
- We need more ettpainsreenro
- Boris Johnson is hosting the eenreccof

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. d	3. f	4. j	5. c
6. a	7. e	8. i	9. g	10. b

Role Play

Role A – Heat waves

You think a heat waves are the worst weather events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their events aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): torrential rain, freezing cold or giant hailstones.

Role B – Torrential Rain

You think torrential rain is the worst weather event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their events aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): heat waves, freezing cold or giant hailstones.

Role C – Freezing Cold

You think freezing cold is the worst weather event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their events aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): torrential rain, heat waves or giant hailstones.

Role D – Giant Hailstones

You think giant hailstones is the worst weather event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their events aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): torrential rain, freezing cold or heat waves.

Speaking – Climate

Rank these with your partner. Put the worst climate events at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Heat waves | • Hurricane |
| • Torrential rain | • Giant hailstones |
| • Blizzard | • Heavy snow |
| • Freezing cold | • Tornadoes |

Answers – True False

1 F	2 F	3 F	4 T	5 T	6 F	7 T	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.