TED talks: SDGs worksheet 2 - Teacher's notes

TED TALK 2 (2018) Johan Rockström

Topic: Global Issues

Activity type: Listening, speaking, vídeo, jigsaw

Level: C1 +

Time: 45m – 1h

Language focus: Describing trends & changes; Vocabulary related to global issues.

Related published material: Headway Advanced, Unit 3

Suggested procedures: Two TED talks on the subject of Sustainable Development Goals.

a. Jigsaw listening: If you have space, the two worksheets can be done by two groups in two separate classrooms. Allow one student in each group to control the vídeo, pause and repeat as necessary.

b. Flipped class: Divide the class into 2 groups. Each group watches a different talk and answers the qüestions. In next class, they summarise, compare and discuss.

c. Do worksheet 1 (Michael Green) in class (it comes first chronologically and is more accessible) and then ask ss to watch the second talk (Johan Rockström) at home in preparation for class discussion.

A. **Preparation**

a. Explain that you are going to watch a TED talk about Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), established by the UN in 2015. Show the class the image below (or the ppt) and ask them to guess what the icons represent (answers in key)

b. Play the vídeo to check their answers

B. **Vocabulary – before watching**

Do exercises 1 & 2 (key below) to pre-teach some of the vocabulary and collocations in the talk

C. **Listening**

Students watch the talk, pausing and repeating as necessary, to answer questions 1 – 4. (answers in key below)

D. **Follow-up**

If students have listened to both talks as a jigsaw listening, summarise to each other in groups.

Discuss the follow-up questions

TED Ideas worth spreading

Johan Rockström (2018): *Five transformational policies for a prosperous and sustainable world*

A. Preparation

a. In 2015, the UN defined 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure the future of the planet. The 17 symbols in the image below represent the 17 goals. With your partner, decide what you think they represent. The first one has been done for you as an example

b. Watch this short vídeo to check your answers
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5G0ndS3uRdo

KEY

1. = No poverty
2. = Zero hunger
3. = Good health and well-being
4. = Quality education
5. = Gender equality
6. = Clean water and sanitation
7. = Affordable and clean energy
8. = Decent work & econòmic growth
9. = Industry, innovation & infrastructure

10. = Reduced inequalities
11. = Sustainable cities & communities
12. = Responsible consumption & production
13. = Climate action
14. = Life below water
15. = Life on land
16. = Peace, justice & strong institutions
17. = Partnerships for the goals

B. Vocabulary: Collocations - KEY

1. A number of collocations appear in the talk. Try to match the words in the left-hand column with a word on the right. Discuss or check the meanings. As you watch the talk, listen to how they are used in context, and check your answers.

1. legally	e. binding
2. a few years	g. down the line
3. to step	a. back
4. stable	f. earth / planet
5. underlying	l. problems
6. inherent	k. contradictions
7. fossil	d. fuels
8. planetary	i. boundaries
9. tipping	j. points
10. bull's	h. eye
11. thinking	c. outside of the box
12. a wake-up	b. call

2. The speaker uses some examples of 'buzzwords' in his talk. What do you think these phrases *in italics* mean? How could you express them in another way?

a. Are there *inherent trade-offs* that are not compatible with our *current development paradigm*? – **compromises; the way we (the world) is developing at the moment.**
b. Are there *synergies* where we can *accelerate change*? **– fortunate coincidences or combinations; change more quickly**
c. We need to define a *safe operating space.* – **progress that does not damage the planet**
d. We need to achieve *SDGs* within *PBs.* – **Social Development Goals; Planetary Boundaries**
e. The *window of success is still open.* –**It's still possible to achieve this**

C. Listening - KEY

As you watch, answer these questions:

1. Why do goal 8 (decent work and economic growth) and goal 13 (climate action) possibly contradict each other?

   Economic growth is often achieved by burning fossil fuels, which damage the environment. ....

2. The 'planetary boundary framework' defines .... environmental processes that regulate the stability of the earth system:

a. 9   b. 12   c. 17

3. On the graph below, mark the approximate position of :

a. The world situation in 1980.
b. The optimal position (best possible scenario)
c. The world situation in 2015
d. What will the world situation be if we continue with 'business as usual'?
e. What will the world situation be if we implement the five transformational policies (see below)?

b

a   e

c

d
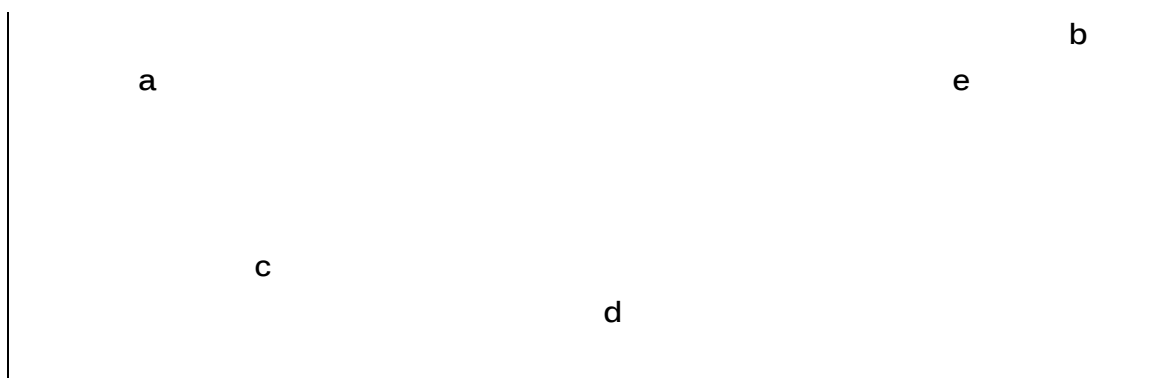
4. Complete these summaries of the 5 transformational policies that the speaker outlines:

a. Cut emissions by half every …..***decade***……, doubling investments in ….***renewable***…. energy.
b. A rapid …….***shift***………. towards sustainable foof systems.
c. Replicating the economic success of countries such as China, within environmental …..***parameters***………..
d. Redistribution of ……***wealth***…….. . Putting límits on the amounts the top 10% could amass.
e. A radical increase in …..***education***…..: health, access to work, contraception, investing largely in ……***women***………….

D. Follow-up

Prepare to summarise this talk to your partner:
What do you think were the most important points?
What did you find in common in your talks?
Your opinion
Are you a pessimist or an optimist about the world's future? Why?