

Greta Thunberg

Greta is a student who wants to stop global warming. She was born in 2003 in Stockholm, Sweden.

What Is Greta's Family Like?

Greta's mother is called Malena Ernman and she is an opera singer who travelled around the world to perform. Her father is called Svante Thunberg and he is an actor and an author, just as his father had been. Greta has a sister called Beata who is younger than her. All of Greta's family support her work to help to stop global warming.

What Is Climate Change?

Global warming can also be called climate change. It is the planet Earth getting hotter. This means that:

- sea levels will rise;
- weather will become more extreme, e.g. more tornadoes;
- animals, such as the polar bear, will lose their homes.

A lot of climate change is caused by things that humans do. Greta does not understand why people do not do more to try to stop global warming. She tries to get people to change their ways.

What Does Greta Do?

Greta began to learn more about climate change. At first, Greta and her family made small changes. They decided to:

- cut out animal products, such as meat, from their diet;
- stop travelling by aeroplane;
- stop buying things unless they really need them;
- share what they have learnt with others.



What Are Fridays For Future?

On 20th August 2018, Greta started to **strike**.

What Is a Strike?

A strike is when a person refuses to go to work as a protest against something they do not agree with. As Greta was not old enough to work, her strike meant that she refused to go to school.

Greta's strike meant that she did not go to school for three weeks. Instead, she sat in front of the Swedish government building. She protested that they were not doing enough to stop global warming. She shared what she was doing online and lots of people saw it.

On 8th September 2018, Greta said that she would strike every Friday until more was done to stop global warming. She calls this Fridays For Future. Now, there are over 5,200 strikes every Friday around the world by children who agree with Greta.

How Does Greta Travel?

Greta's family walk to where they need to go, use public transport (such as a bus) or drive in a car powered by electricity instead of petrol.

In 2019, Greta was invited to do some speeches around the world. She did not want to fly to get there so she went on a boat. The boat was powered using the sun and the waves. It took Greta 15 days to get from England to the USA.



Questions

1. Where was Greta born? Tick one.

- London
- Stockholm
- New York
- Paris

2. Draw four lines to match each person to a description of them.

Greta

Beata

Malena

Svante

They are younger than Greta.

They are an actor and an author.

They want to stop global warming.

They are an opera singer.

3. How long did Greta not go to school for?

- one month
- two years
- three weeks
- four days

4. Which of these things did Greta stop doing? Tick one.

- buying vegetables
- using public transport
- travelling by aeroplane
- teaching others

5. On which date did Greta start to strike?

6. Look at the section called **What Does Greta Do?** Find and copy one word which describes the changes that Greta and her family made.

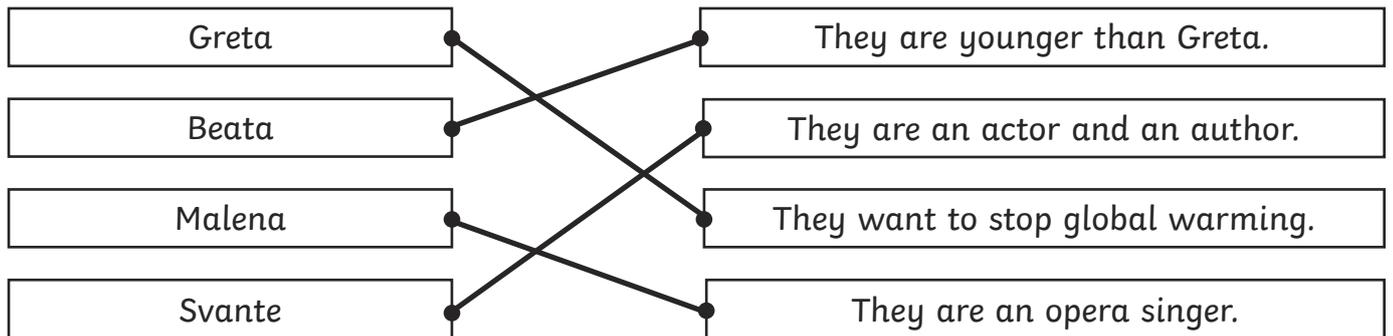
7. **...weather will become more extreme, e.g. more tornadoes.** Why do you think the author included the phrase **e.g. more tornadoes?**

Answers

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Greta started to strike on 20th August 2018.

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Small.

7. **...weather will become more extreme, e.g. more tornadoes.** Why do you think the author included the phrase **e.g. more tornadoes**?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the author included that phrase to give a clear example of what extreme weather is like so that readers know.
