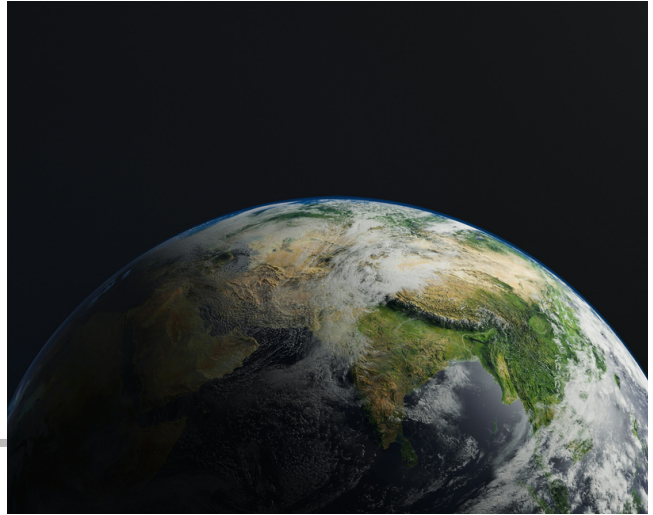


Sir David Attenborough – A Voice for Nature

Upper-intermediate (B2–C1)



WARM-UP DISCUSSION

Part 1. Discuss the questions below.

1. Which famous voice or public figure do you find calming or inspiring?
2. What makes someone's voice powerful — tone, honesty, message, or personality?
3. When you think of David Attenborough, what's the first thing that comes to mind: his voice, his documentaries, or his message?

Part 2. Read the quote below and then discuss the questions.

"The truth is: the natural world is changing. And we are totally dependent on that world. It provides our food, water, and air. It is the most precious thing we have and we need to defend it."

– David Attenborough

1. What do these words mean to you personally?
2. Can one person's words really change how people treat nature?



READING TEXT

Part 1. Read the following text.

A Life of Wonder

David Attenborough, born in 1926, is one of the world's most recognised voices in environmental education. For over seven decades, he has presented documentaries that bring the beauty and fragility of the natural world into people's homes. His work, from *Life on Earth* to *Planet Earth* and *Our Planet*, has reached millions and inspired a global awareness of conservation.

Attenborough's talent lies not only in his soothing narration but in his ability to communicate complex scientific ideas in a simple, human way. In recent years, he has become an outspoken advocate for urgent climate action, warning that human activity is pushing the Earth towards crisis.

What makes him remarkable is his mix of authority and humility. He never places himself at the centre, but instead highlights the wonders of the planet and the urgent need to protect them. His lifelong dedication reminds us that knowledge, communication, and passion can inspire change. Through his voice and vision, Attenborough has shown that education is one of the most powerful tools for saving our planet.

Part 2. Discuss the questions below based on the text.

1. What is David Attenborough best known for?
2. How has he made scientific ideas accessible to the public?
3. What urgent issue has he spoken about in recent years?
4. Why do you think his voice and style have inspired millions?
5. Do you think documentaries can change people's behaviour? Why/why not?



VIDEO ACTIVITY

Part 1. Watch the video “Sir David Attenborough | A message to world leaders.” (Note: this message was recorded a few years ago, but it still feels very relevant today.)

Part 2. Discuss the questions below

1. What emotions do you feel after hearing this message?
2. Which part feels most urgent or relevant today?
3. What do you think he wants world leaders — and ordinary people — to do?

VOCABULARY & SPEAKING

Part 1. Match the words/phrases to their meanings.

Environmental Education	Raise awareness	Urgent action	Fragile ecosystems
Communicate ideas	Lifelong dedication	Inspire change	Global crisis

1. _____ Share knowledge or concepts clearly.
2. _____ Commitment to something over an entire life.
3. _____ Serious worldwide problem affecting many people.
4. _____ Teach people about the natural world and how to protect it.
5. _____ Take steps immediately before it is too late.
6. _____ To make people care or act differently.
7. _____ Increase public understanding or concern.
8. _____ Delicate systems of life that can be easily damaged.



Part 2. Complete the sentences with the correct words/phrases.

Environmental Education	Raise awareness	Urgent action	Fragile ecosystems
Communicate ideas	Lifelong dedication	Inspire change	Global crisis

1. Coral reefs are _____ that are extremely vulnerable to pollution.
2. Schools play a key role in providing _____ to young people.
3. His _____ to protecting wildlife earned him international respect.
4. Leaders like Greta Thunberg have helped to _____ among young people.
5. Climate change is considered the greatest _____ of our time.
6. Documentaries can _____ about endangered species.
7. Scientists warn that governments must take _____ to protect forests.
8. Good teachers know how to _____ in a way that students can easily understand.

Part 3. If you had the chance to interview Sir David Attenborough, what would you ask?

- Write three meaningful questions about nature, communication, or the future.
- Discuss them with a partner and choose one that you both think he'd love to answer.
- Share your question with the class and explain why you chose it.
- Aim to use the new vocabulary in your questions.

Part 4. Think of simple ways people could protect or appreciate nature more.

Examples:

A local clean-up or tree-planting event.

Reducing waste or plastic use.

Sharing information online or with friends.

Discuss:

What would Sir David think of your ideas?

What small step could you start with this week?

Part 5. Read each statement below and share how much you agree.

1. Words are more powerful than laws.
2. Documentaries have done more for nature than politics.
3. It's too late to save the planet.

REFLECTION

Discuss the following questions.

1. What can we learn from Attenborough's life and message?
2. How can communication inspire people to care more about nature?
3. Finish the sentence: "If I could send one message to the world, it would be..."

WRAP-UP TASK (OPTIONAL HOMEWORK)

Write a short essay (180–220 words): "Who is your favourite environmental leader and why?" or record a 2-minute spoken reflection: "One change I would like to see in how humans treat nature."

