

ΑΓΓΛΙΚΑ (ΠΡΟΤΕΙΝΟΜΕΝΑ ΘΕΜΑΤΑ ΠΑΝΕΛΛΗΝΙΩΝ ΕΞΕΤΑΣΕΩΝ)

Επιμέλεια: Αντώνης Ελευθεράκης, (M.Ed.), καθηγητής Αγγλικής Γλώσσας και Φιλολογίας

Greta Thunberg: “Why I began the climate protests that are going global”



THOUSANDS of children across the world left their schools for a strike over climate change last Friday. The

organizers were amazed to find out that the protest dwarfed last month’s demonstrations. The roots of this phenomenon run back to Greta Thunberg, a 16-year-old from Sweden. She has missed school to sit outside the Swedish parliament almost every Friday since last August, demanding that politicians should bring the country into line with the Paris climate agreement.

Between her studies, Greta has berated delegates at last year’s UN climate talks, spent up to two days a week speaking to journalists and generated a viral social media wave under the **#FridaysForFuture** banner. Greta had no expectations that her protest would snowball. “The idea was to sit outside the Swedish parliament for three weeks. I think the timing and the concept must have been right,” she told *New Scientist*.

The success of the strikes is to some extent driven by climate change becoming more candid and increasingly dire, says Greta. “I think we have reached a tipping point where enough scientists are telling it like it is and not being so afraid of being alarmist.” But she is disappointed that a lot of the discussion resulting from the strikes isn’t about ramping up climate action, but about the children themselves. “They talk about our age, our looks and so on. The emissions are still rising and that is all that matters. Nothing has happened, that is crucial to remember.”

More than 10,000 children went on strike across the UK in February, packing London’s Parliament Square and eliciting messages of support from ministers and members of parliament. Campaigners believe that more than 1000 towns and cities in nearly 100 countries will take part in a strike this Friday as the movement jumps from a largely European one to a global level.

“The use of social media is helping it move very fast, that’s really powerful,” says Beth Irving, 17, who is studying near Cardiff, UK, and organising a demonstration there. Facebook and WhatsApp have helped her connect like-minded pupils and students who have never met.

In the UK, events are expected in more than 100 towns and cities. Some schools have organised their own marches and are allowing young children to attend bigger protests with their parents.

Graeme Hayes of Aston University, UK, says that although the country’s children have protested before, such as over the Iraq war, the current wave of climate strikes involves younger children, not just older teenagers. Greta’s strike movement is an enormous achievement, says Hayes. “Children have this capacity to say things adults don’t, we see this in [the tale of] *The Emperor’s New Clothes*. This is what’s happening here,” says Hayes. But he isn’t sure how long the movement can continue at this pace. Greta says she doesn’t know how long she will keep going. “We will have to go for a very, very long time, I think,” she says.

Adaptation of the article written by Adam Vaughan www.newscientist.com

Photo:News Agency/Hanna Franzen via Reuters

A1. Answer the following questions in 12-15 words. (12 points)

1. Where can the success of Greta's strike movements be attributed?
2. Why does Greta feel disappointed?
3. What was Greta's original expectation?

A2. Choose the correct answer A, B or C (18 points)

1. The protest organised last week was...

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| a. not as successful as
the previous ones | b. more successful than
the previous ones | c. exactly as successful
as the previous ones |
|--|--|--|

2. It seems that these movements succeeded because...

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| a. scientists are alarmists. | b. She was supported by UN
delegates. | c. more and more people are
aware of the dangers of
climate change. |
|------------------------------|--|---|

3. The social media....

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| a. assisted Greta to
disseminate her message. | b. provided like-minded
students with assistance. | c. enhanced Greta's
movement only in the UK |
|--|--|--|

4. In the UK...

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| a. the movement was met
with lack of enthusiasm | b. was supported by the
members of the Parliament | c. has found avid supporters
amongst youngsters |
|--|--|--|

5. According to Graeme Hayes....

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| a. the movement is
considered unique as it's
the first time that younger
children are mostly
involved. | b. the movement's uniqueness is
that it is the first time since the
Iraq war that younger children
are mostly involved. | c. the movement should
not be considered
unique as it's not the
first time that younger
children are mostly
involved. |
|--|--|--|

6. Hayes refers to the tale of the Emperor's New Clothes....

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| a. to explain why we must
always use examples to
convince others. | b. to pinpoint that children have a
more direct way of expressing
their thoughts and opinions. | c. to illustrate that Greta's
ideas have the capacity
to go on in the future. |
|---|--|---|

B1. Use the correct form of the words below. There are three words that you will not need to use. (2x5= 10 points)

advocate/conscience/ prompt/ adverse/ illustrate/ out/ order/ criticism

1. People who study Physics are very interested in new discoveries in..... space.
2. Thecondition of his health means that he will be on a leave for a few months.
3. She was a very employee and that’s why she was promoted so fast.
4. Queen Cleopatra had a long and life as one of the most prominent rulers of the ancient world.
5. Thank you for replying to my question.

B2 . Make the necessary changes to form sentences close in meaning to the ones in column A (2x5= 10 points)

COLUMN A	COLUMN B
1. I still don’t understand this, no matter how many times I read it. many times I read this, I still don’t understand it. (1 word)
2. We don’t know why Sheila made such an extraordinary decision.	We don’t know what prompted Sheila to make decision. (3 words)
3. I would have been able to assist you if you had provided me with all the necessary information.	I would have been able to assist you provided me with all the necessary information. (2 words)
4. I strongly believe that the president should not sign this contract.	On should the president sign this contract. (2 words)
5. The instructor advised Jill against taking the driving test any time soon.	The instructor advised that Jill the driving test any time soon. (2 words)

B3. You are going to read a passage about Jeannette Rankin , the first female senator of the US. Put the following paragraphs in the correct order. There are two extra paragraphs that will not need to use. (2x5= 10 points)

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
----	----	----	----	----

A. After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Jeannette Rankin cast the sole vote against World War II, making her the only Congress person to vote against U.S. involvement in both World Wars. “As a woman I can’t go to war, and I refuse to send anyone else,” she said. The immediate backlash against Rankin’s anti-war vote was intense. When angry bystanders threatened to do her harm, Rankin locked herself briefly in a phone booth inside the House Republican Cloakroom while waiting for a police escort back to her office.

B. Earlier in life, Rankin spent much of her time traveling the world. She was particularly drawn to India

C. Jeannette Rankin grew up on her family’s ranch near Missoula in the Montana Territory. The eldest of seven children, Rankin helped care for her younger siblings, perform farm chores and maintain farm equipment. Her early life experiences working side-by-side with men on the western frontier would shape her political views on women’s right to vote. After graduating from Montana State University (now the University of Montana) in 1902, Rankin spent brief stints as a social worker in San Francisco and New York. She then moved to Washington State, where she joined the women’s suffrage movement

D. For the remainder of her two-year term in office, Jeannette Rankin supported measures to protect women workers, mothers and children. She was one of the founding members of the Committee on Woman Suffrage, which led the fight in the House of Representatives for a constitutional amendment that would grant women nationwide the right to vote. Rankin opened the 1918 congressional debate on a constitutional women’s suffrage amendment by recalling President Wilson’s speech to garner support for U.S. entry into World War I.

E. Jeannette Rankin campaigned on social welfare issues, U.S. neutrality in World War I and the right to vote for women in every state. She made history on November 7, 1916, when she won her election by a margin of 7,500 votes to become the first female member of Congress. Shortly after her term began in April 1917, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to “make the world safe for democracy” by declaring war on Germany. Rankin, who held strong pacifist views, voted against the American declaration of war. On April 6, 1917, the resolution passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 373-50

F. After running for a second time unsuccessfully in 1902 for a U.S. Senate seat as an independent, Jeannette Rankin left office, dividing her time over the next two decades between pacifist and social welfare causes.

G. Rankin went on to work as a professional lobbyist for the National American Woman Suffrage Association, traveling back and forth across the country to speak and lobby for women’s right to vote. Her grassroots organizing efforts in her home state helped win the women of Montana voting rights in 1914.

Writing (40points): The social media can be really beneficial if used in the right way. Take Greta for example; her message might not have found so many supporters if it hadn't been for the social media. On the other hand, it is thought that the users of the social media face possible dangers and sometimes they may not be prepared for this.

Write an *article (180-200 words)* for your school blog in which you should mention:

- how we can benefit from the social media
- what some of the possible dangers might be

GOOD LUCK!!!