**Actuele lesbrief Engels – On Speaking Terms**

**Voor de docent**

Veel mensen staan vandaag de dag lijnrecht tegenover elkaar. Klimaatverandering is een van de onderwerpen die veel controverse oproepen. In gesprek blijven is een kunst, maar valt te leren.

**ERK-niveau**

Lezen B1 – *Lezen om informatie op te doen: Kan hoofdthema en belangrijkste argumenten begrijpen in eenvoudige teksten in tijdschriften, kranten of op internet. (LEB1-3d)*

Leesstrategieën - *Kan de betekenis van zo nu en dan voorkomende onbekende woorden afleiden uit de context en de betekenis van zinnen herleiden, op voorwaarde dat het besproken onderwerp bekend is.*

**Intro**

How to stay on speaking terms with climate change believers, deniers, sceptics and all the others.

*In Dubai, people are disagreeing about climate change measures. Can climate change believers, deniers, sceptics and all the others get on the same page?*

Assignment 1

a Match each example with the correct point of view.

Choose from the following narrators: first-person narrator, second-person narrator, third-person narrator.

1 “‘Christmas won’t be Christmas without any presents,’ grumbled Jo, lying on the rug.”

2 “I think I would make a very good astronaut. To be a good astronaut you have to be intelligent and I’m intelligent.”

3 “You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.”

**On Speaking Terms**

People can disagree enormously about lots of things. The trick is to keep talking with each other, even if you’ll never agree. Teegan Walshe has been experimenting with ways to do this.

Read [Teegan's column](https://www.cbc.ca/kidsnews/post/first-person-how-embracing-empathy-helped-me-in-my-fight-for-the-climate).

Assignment 2

a Read the text. Find and mark the following words and expressions:

*empathy – dire – to strike (striking) – issue – to deny (denied) – misinformed – to refute (refuting) – gesture – a turning point – curious*

b Match the above words and expressions with their correct descriptions.

1 a time when an important change happens

2 the feeling that you understand and share another person's experiences and emotions

3 interested and wanting to know more

4 problem, concern

5 to prove that an argument or statement is wrong

6 to say that something is not true

7 something that you do in order to express your feelings or intentions

8 to stop working to make a point

9 told things that are incorrect

10 very serious or terrible

Assignment 3

a “The angry people I talk to are far from unreachable.”  
What does Teegan mean?

1 If you want to reach angry people, you will have to get angry yourself.

2 It is possible to have friendly conversations with people who are angry.

3 No matter what you do, you will never reach people who are angry.

4 You can reach angry people by baking muffins for them.

b Teegan experimented with different ways to open the dialogue. Which ways were effective?   
Choose all correct answers.

1 Making people feel heard.

2 Proving the other person wrong.

3 Saying things like “people are dying”.

4 Staying curious.

5 Trying to understand the frustrations of the other person.

c Can Teegan convince people of her ideas?

1 Everyone she talks to changes their mind.

2 Nobody really listens to what she is saying.

3 Only people who already agree with her.

4 Some people she talks to, but not all.