



### Key Concept/Features

Climate change is the change in the Earth's climate, especially the gradual rise in temperature, as a result of human activity. The Earth has warmed by an average of 1°C in the last century, and although that might not sound like much, it means big things for people and wildlife around the globe. Unfortunately, rising temperatures don't just mean that we'll get nicer weather. The changing climate will actually make our weather more extreme and unpredictable. Just in the last 650,000 years there have been seven cycles of glacial advance and retreat, with the abrupt end of the last ice age about 7,000 years ago marking the beginning of the modern climate era – and of human civilisation. Most of these climate changes are attributed to very small variations in Earth's orbit that change the amount of solar energy our planet receives.

### Key People



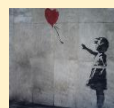
**Greta Thunberg**  
(2003–present)

She is a Swedish environmental activist who has gained international recognition for promoting the view that humanity is facing an existential crisis arising from climate change.



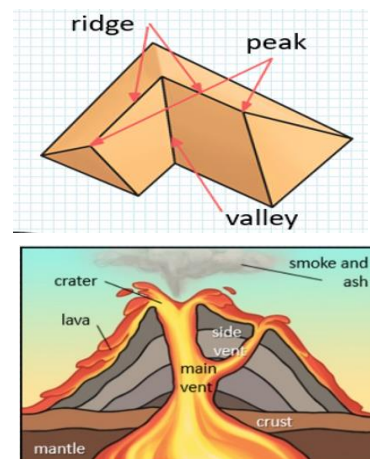
**Sir Edmund Hillary**  
(1919–2008)

He was a New Zealand mountaineer, explorer, and **philanthropist**. On 29 May 1953, Hillary and Nepalese Sherpa mountaineer Tenzing Norgay became the first climbers confirmed to have reached the **summit** of Mount Everest.



**Banksy**  
(anonymous)

He is an anonymous England-based street artist, vandal, political activist, and film director, active since the 1990s. His street art combines dark humour with graffiti executed in a distinctive stencilling technique.



### Key Locations

<b>Everest</b>	Mount Everest is Earth's highest mountain above sea level, located in the Mahalangur Himal sub-range of the Himalayas. The international border between Nepal and China runs across its summit point. Mountains have ridges, peaks and a <b>summit</b> . Mountains are formed by the movement of the Earth's crust.
<b>Hawaii</b>	Hawaii is a state of the United States of America. It is the only state located in the Pacific Ocean and the only state composed entirely of islands.
<b>Arctic</b>	The Arctic is a polar region located at the northernmost part of Earth. The Arctic consists of the Arctic Ocean, adjacent seas, and parts of Alaska (United States), Finland, Greenland (Denmark), Iceland, Northern Canada, Norway, Russia and Sweden.
<b>Antarctica</b>	Antarctica is Earth's southernmost continent. It contains the geographic South Pole and is situated in the Antarctic region of the Southern Hemisphere, almost entirely south of the Antarctic Circle, and is surrounded by the Southern Ocean.

### Key Vocabulary

<b>aquatic biomes</b>	Freshwater, freshwater wetlands, marine, coral reef and estuaries (tidal mouth of a large river).
<b>biome</b>	A natural area of vegetation and animals.
<b>gully</b>	small valley worn away by running water.
<b>philanthropist</b>	A person who seeks to promote the welfare of others, especially by the generous donation of money to good causes.
<b>pollution</b>	The presence in or introduction into the environment of a substance which has harmful or poisonous effects.
<b>meander</b>	The curves of a river formed by erosion.
<b>summit</b>	The summit is the top.
<b>tributary</b>	A river or stream which flows into a larger river or lake.
<b>terrestrial biomes</b>	Tundra (e.g. Alaska), rainforest (e.g. Brazil), savannah (grassy plain with few trees), taiga (swampy forest), temperate forest, temperate grassland, alpine (mountains), chaparral (shrubs and bushes) and desert.
<b>Volcano</b>	Volcanoes are mountains. When Magma (liquid rock) bursts through the Earth's surface we call this lava which cools and becomes hard rock.