



DOCENTE

Soluções

1.
 - a. British Columbia, usually know as BC or B.C., is the westernmost province of Canada.
 - b. The Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipelines Project is a proposal to construct twin pipelines, 1,170 km in length, from Bruderheim, in Alberta, (western Canada) to Kitimat, in British Columbia.

20 AULA DIGITAL

■ Link
What the hell were you thinking?

READING Time

1. Before reading this text, do some research about:
 - a. British Columbia.
 - b. Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipelines Project.
2. Read the first part of Sam Harrison's statement presented to the Enbridge Northern Gateway Project Joint Review Panel in Vancouver.



What the hell were you thinking?

Hi, my name is Sam Harrison. From other people's statements, I take it the norm is to list your credentials and the reasons why the panel should listen to you in the first few sentences. Well, I don't really have any. I'm 16 years old, halfway through high school, and the leader of a small group lobbying for action on climate change. That's really about it.

- 5 There is one really important reason I hope you will take what I have to say under advisement. I'm a kid. I'm part of the generation that will be left to clean up the mess left behind by my parents' generation. We're the ones who will have to inherit this world from you, so I hope you will listen extremely carefully to why building a pipeline to export 82 million tonnes of carbon dioxide out of B.C. (British Columbia)
- 10 is an awfully bad idea – The pipeline would carry crude oil (which when burned produces carbon dioxide).

- It's the 21st century and we've reached a pivotal point in human history. We simply can't keep doing what we're doing. There is no debate. Climate change is the issue of our time. It will define who we are and what our legacy will be for the rest of human
- 15 civilization. We're not living on the planet you were born into anymore. By the time I graduate university five years from now, it's estimated that in the summer, the Arctic ice will be gone.

- We've taken one of the very few features that makes planet Earth what it is and as a species, we've broken it. By the time I have kids, it's predicted crop yields in much of
- 20 Africa will have fallen by as much as 25 per cent, leaving millions to starve. The continent will be struck by a very much worse international conflict, fighting over the few sources of fresh water and food that are left.

- By the time my future kids are graduating high school, almost half the species on Earth will have gone extinct. If the melting Himalayan glaciers continue and they
- 25 disappear, the 2 billion people that depend on them for fresh water will have to move. As of now, there are more refugees caused by climate change than by war. This is the planet you have left for us. Is that what you want your generations' legacy to be?

Sam Harrison, "What the hell were you thinking?", www.theglobeandmail.com (adapted and abridged), accessed in October 2013