Dictation

- 1. There are over 48 hours of video uploaded to YouTube every minute..
- 2. We don't just enjoy now, we participate.
- 3. Unique and unexpected videos stand out more.

Listening Comprehension: Polar Bear Emergency

Polar bears in the Russian town of Belushya Guba are scaring people. At least 52 bears have been seen in this town that is on Novaya Zemlya, an island in the Arctic Ocean. The situation is serious because the bears have chased people into homes and offices. Local officials announced a "polar bear emergency". The chief of police said, "The people are scared. They are frightened to leave their homes....Parents are afraid to let their children go to school." Alexander Minayev, a local man said, "I have lived here since 1983, but I have never seen so many polar bears."

The polar bears are coming into towns looking for food. Experts say climate change is one reason for this. More sea ice is melting and the bears can't find food, so they are moving into new areas. They can smell the food in the trash cans outside people's homes. The town asked for permission to kill the animals to reduce the danger. However, Russia's environmental protection office refused this request. Polar bears are a vulnerable species. The World Wildlife Fund says they are in danger because of the "loss of their sea ice habitat resulting from climate change." This situation is a good example of the very complicated problems that climate change is causing.

Listening Comprehension: Polar Bear Emergency

- 1. More than 50 bears were seen in a Russian town. T
- 2. The town is on an island in the Atlantic Ocean.
- 3. The town has declared a "polar bear emergency". T
- 4. A local man said he hadn't since so many bears since 1963. F
- 5. Food waste is attracting the bears into the town. T
- 6. What are parents doing?
- b. They are not allowing their children to go to school.
- 7. How long has local man, Alexander Minayev, lived in Belushya Guba?

a. 36 years

8. Why are people staying in their houses?

Because there are bears in their town. / Because it is dangerous to go outside. / Because polar bears are chasing people. / Because they are scared to go outside.

9. Why are the polar bears going into the town?

Because they are hungry. / Because they can't find food. / Because the sea ice is melting.

10. What is the cause of the melting sea ice?

Climate change is.