

INTRODUCTION

THE COPENHAGEN SUMMIT WAS A GLOBAL MEETING OF POLITICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLAYERS COLLABORATING TOGETHER WITH THE GOAL OF ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE AND NEW FOREIGN POLICY. IN DECEMBER 2009, COPENHAGEN SET THE STAGE FOR THE WORLD LEADERS TO MEET AND DISCUSS NEW WAYS TO CUT EMISSIONS. HOWEVER, THIS EVENT WAS, ACCORDING TO MOST, APTLY DESCRIBED AS A NON EVENT DUE TO THE SIMPLE INEFFICIENCY TO COME TO A CONSENSUS AND THUS FAILED TO MAKE A DECISION. THE EVENT, IN FACT, STOOD FOR THE POLARIZED OUTCOME OF WHAT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE ACHIEVED. A PROMISE TO ACT. IT BECAME A POLITICAL NON EVENT. WITH THIS IN MIND THIS ESSAY INTENDS TO INVESTIGATE HOW INEFFECTIVE TOP-DOWN SYSTEMS CAN AND WILL ENCOURAGE BOTTOM-UP THINKING, SPURRING ACTIONABLE CHANGE. [PERSON GESTURES APPROVAL OF PARAGRAPH.]

COMPUTER SCREEN

10 MINUTES EARLIER

ONE PERSON

IDEA 86.3% EVOLVED

PERSON SITS IN FRONT OF COMPUTER AND STARES INTO SCREEN, THEIR FACE TURNS A BLUISH TINGE OF ANDROID. THE BAR IS BLINKING AT THEM. PERSON BEGINS, IT'S 11.00AM. PERSON FLIPS THROUGH TATTY NOTE BOOK AND LOOKS AT WHAT WAS TRANSCRIBED FROM BRIEF APPOINTMENT YESTERDAY, ANALYSING THE STRUCTURE THAT THE TWO DISCUSSED. THE NOTATION, PERSON READS OUT LOUD, SUGGESTS THAT THE INTRODUCTION NEEDS TO ARTICULATE THE GENERAL IDEA AND STATE THE PURPOSE OF ESSAY. PERSON STOPS READING, LOGS ONTO SITE AND COMMENCES TO WATCH 80'S MUSIC TUNES. AFTER PERLONGED PERIOD OF TIME, PERSON TURNS VOLUME OFF, SEEMLY AGITATED. PERSON SHAKES HEAD AND RETURNS TO WRITING, THE WORDS "INTRODUCTION" APPEAR ON SCREEN. PERSON'S MOOD SEEMS TO LIFT. PERSON NODS AT TATTY NOTE BOOK. ONE CAN ONLY SURMISE PERSON IS HAPPY WITH SELF FOR MAKING APPOINTMENT AT WRITING CENTRE. MORE WORDS ARE TYPED, SCREEN READS "THE COPENHAGEN SUMMIT..."

OFFICE CUBICLE
TEN HOURS EARLIER
TWO PERSONS
IDEA: 42% EVOLVED

PERSON ARRIVES AT WRITING CENTRE AND ANNOUNCES SELF. PERSON IS REQUESTED TO FILL IN PAPERWORK AND WAIT. PERSON OBEYS. PERSON B ENTERS ROOM AND CALLS NAME. PERSON FOLLOWS AND SITS IN VERY YELLOW CUBICLE. PERSON B IDENTIFIES HIMSELF AS IAN. PERSON SNEEZES AND APOLOGISES. THE APOLOGY, IT SEEMS, IS NOT FOR SNEEZING BUT FOR FEELING UNPREPARED AND SOON-TO-BE VAGUE ABOUT DIRECTION FOR IMPENDING ESSAY. THIS IS VISIBLY CAUSING UNDUE STRESS. PERSON IAN PROCEEDS TO ASK A MULTITUDE OF QUESTIONS BUT GENERALLY LOOKS PERPLEXED. PERSON SHYLY SHARES INITIAL THOUGHTS FOR ESSAY. CONSISTING OF THE NON-EVENT HAPPENINGS OF THE COPENHAGEN SUBMIT, IMMIGRATING TO A FOREIGN LAND AND THE-END-OF-THE-WORLD. PERSON RECANTS THE LATTER, CONFESSING THAT TEACHER IS WELL VERSED ON SUCH A SUBJECT, THEY MOVE ON. PERSON AND PERSON IAN DISCUSS THE OPTIMAL STRUCTURE FOR ESSAY. PERSON TAKES NOTES IN TATTY NOTEBOOK. A DECISION IS MADE FOR NARRATIVE. PERSON SHOWS SIGNS OF RELIEF AT SOLUTION. PERSON REMEMBERS STRUGGLING WITH BRIEF.

CAFETERIA
40 HOURS EARLIER
FOUR PERSONS
IDEA 37% EVOLVED

PERSON ARRIVES AT CAFETERIA. PERSON MEETS WITH FOUR OTHERS TO SHARE IDEAS. PERSON LOOKS UNCOMFORTABLE. PERSON HAS BEEN GRAPPLING WITH LATEST ASSIGNMENT. PERSONS FEELS IT IS TOO OPEN ENDED AND SEEMS EAGER TO HEAR OTHER PERSON'S THOUGHTS. ALL FOUR SIT AROUND BORING, WOODEN TABLE AND DISCUSS BRIEF. PERSON EXPLAINS THE DESIRE TO CHALLENGE BRIEF AND EXPRESSES INTEREST IN A PURSUING A NON-EVENT IN LIEU OF AN EVENT. FELLOW PERSONS SAY THIS IS A GOOD IDEA. PERSON SEEMS HAPPY BUT IS SECRETLY STILL PERTURBED. PERSON HAS MADE APPOINTMENT FOR SATURDAY TO SPEAK TO AN EXPERT ABOUT HOW TO PROGRESS WITH SUCH A BROAD ASSIGNMENT. PERSONS REVIEWS NOTES TAKEN FROM CLASS.

NEW SCHOOL CAMPUS

160 HOURS EARLIER

20 PERSONS

IDEA 4% EVOLVED

PERSON C IS TALKING ABOUT A BRIEF WHICH NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED IN A TWO WEEK PERIOD. PERSON IS RELIEVED. PERSON HAS STUDIO PRESENTATION IN ONE WEEK. PERSON CONTINUES TO LISTEN CAREFULLY TO PERSON C TALK ABOUT BRIEF. FACTS SINK IN. PERSON NOTES THAT NEW BRIEF HAS VERY LITTLE RESTRICTIONS. THE EVENT DESCRIBED CAN RELATE TO ANYTHING OF INTEREST. PERSONS SHUDDERS AT VAST ARRAY OF OPTIONS. PERSON ASKS, STRANGELY OUT LOUD, WHAT INTERESTING EVENTS MIGHT PERSON WANTS TO WRITE ABOUT. PERSON THEN LOOKS AROUND AT OTHER PERSONS IN CLASS. PERSON SUDDENLY TURNS PALE. PERSON DOES NOT KNOW WHAT TO WRITE ABOUT.