

29th January 2023

Antarctica has lost an iceberg the **equivalent** size of Greater London. The iceberg measuring 1,550 square kilometres separated from the main ice shelf. The **split** is part of a natural process known as *calving*. It is the second iceberg to break off in two years because of a major crack in the Brunt Ice Shelf. Pictures captured by satellite show that the vast iceberg has been breaking away since 2012. The floating ice shelf is an extension of Antarctica. As it extends, its link to Antarctica breaks. The new iceberg will eventually float out to sea. Although cracks around the edges of Antarctica are common and blamed on climate change, this one is an exception. Scientists monitoring the breakage say it is a **significant** event because of the massive size of the iceberg. Fortunately, the research scientists recently moved their station and are not currently based on the iceberg. Figures reveal that Antarctica is **melting** at an average rate of 150 billion metric tons per year. The global rise in sea level is partly a result of this **rapid** process of shrinking icebergs. Scientists say they will continue to monitor the entire split, called *Chasm-1*, that runs along the ice shelf mass.

Q1. _____

Compare where you live to Antarctica.

What has changed in your town or city over the past 10 years?

Name something massive. Take turns and see how long you can last naming something massive without repeating anything.

Q2. _____

Which bolded words in the text mean: *ice turning into water* - *equal* - *important* - *cut* - *fast*

Q3. _____

"scientists *monitoring* the breakage"

What does the italicised word above mean: *fixing* - *watching* - *controlling*?

Q4. _____

Comprehension questions:

1. Is the split natural or caused by human activity?
2. How many icebergs have broken off the ice shelf?
3. Why do scientists say this is important news?
4. What happened to the research base?
5. What is 150 billion tons referring to?

Q5. _____

Link the five synonym pairs:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. separate | A. the world's |
| 2. measure | B. break |
| 3. blame | C. the size of |
| 4. global | D. the fault of |
| 5. shrink | E. get smaller |

Q6. _____

Spell the words correctly:

pictures captured by **t a t e s e l i l**

scientists **o n i n o t g m r i** the breakage

the **a v s m s e i** size of the iceberg

Q7. _____

Discussion questions / Writing practice:

Can you list three things you think need to be protected on our planet?

How do you keep up to date with science news?

What was the last good thing you did to help the environment?

What subject do you wish you had time to study?

What is the largest place, manmade or natural, that you've ever been to?

Q8. _____

10 revision B2 keywords: underlined in text.