

# NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

## Giant iceberg to hit Australia

**MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:**

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

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**ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.**

**13th December, 2009**

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

A giant iceberg is floating towards Australia. It is in the ocean south of Sydney. Experts say it is the biggest iceberg in those waters for over a century. It is 140 square kilometres in size. Glaciologist Dr Neal Young said: "It's still 1,700 kilometres away, so it's quite a long way away. It's not really on our doorstep yet but it's heading slowly towards us." Australia's government is worried the iceberg will be a danger to shipping. They believe it will break up into hundreds of smaller blocks, which will cause problems for ships.

Nobody knows if this floating iceberg is because of global warming. A lot of the Antarctic ice is melting. That's a fact. This will be a problem in the future because sea levels will rise. The iceberg near Australia should be a warning to all governments. They cannot let the world get warmer. They must all take action now. Most governments aren't doing enough. Our planet is in serious danger today and this iceberg is just the tip of the iceberg of climate change. I don't want to see Antarctica slowly disappear. That would be bad news for all of us.

# PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

**Match the following phrases from the article.**

## Paragraph 1

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. floating              | a. shipping          |
| 2. in the ocean south    | b. century           |
| 3. over a                | c. smaller blocks    |
| 4. it's quite a long way | d. towards Australia |
| 5. a danger to           | e. of Sydney         |
| 6. hundreds of           | f. away              |

## Paragraph 2

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. because of | a. will rise      |
| 2. That's a   | b. action now     |
| 3. sea levels | c. danger         |
| 4. take       | d. global warming |
| 5. in serious | e. for all of us  |
| 6. bad news   | f. fact           |

# LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

A giant iceberg \_\_\_\_\_ Australia. It is in the ocean south of Sydney. Experts say it is the biggest iceberg \_\_\_\_\_ over a century. It is 140 square kilometres in size. Glaciologist Dr Neal Young said: "It's still 1,700 kilometres away, \_\_\_\_\_ long way away. It's not really on our doorstep yet but \_\_\_\_\_ towards us." Australia's government is worried the iceberg will be a danger to shipping. They believe \_\_\_\_\_ into hundreds of smaller blocks, \_\_\_\_\_ problems for ships.

Nobody knows if this floating iceberg is because \_\_\_\_\_. A lot of the Antarctic ice is melting. That's a fact. This will be a problem \_\_\_\_\_ sea levels will rise. The iceberg near Australia should \_\_\_\_\_ governments. They cannot let the world get warmer. They must \_\_\_\_\_. Most governments aren't doing enough. Our planet is in serious danger today and this iceberg is \_\_\_\_\_ iceberg of climate change. I don't want to see Antarctica slowly disappear. That would be bad \_\_\_\_\_.

# MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

A giant iceberg is floating towards Australia. It is in the ocean south (1) \_\_\_\_ Sydney. Experts say it is the biggest iceberg in those waters for over a century. It is 140 square kilometres in (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Glaciologist Dr Neal Young said: "It's still 1,700 kilometres away, so it's (3) \_\_\_\_ a long way away. It's not really on our doorstep yet but it's heading slowly towards us." Australia's government is worried the iceberg will be a (4) \_\_\_\_ to shipping. They believe it will break up into hundreds of smaller blocks, which will (5) \_\_\_\_ problems for ships.

Nobody knows if this floating iceberg is because of global (6) \_\_\_\_\_. A lot of the Antarctic ice is melting. That's a fact. This will be a problem in the future because sea levels will (7) \_\_\_\_\_. The iceberg near Australia should be a warning to all governments. They cannot let the world get (8) \_\_\_\_\_. They must all take action now. Most governments aren't doing enough. Our planet is in (9) \_\_\_\_ danger today and this iceberg is just the tip of the iceberg of climate change. I don't want to see Antarctica slowly (10) \_\_\_\_\_. That would be bad news for all of us.

## Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |                   |                 |               |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) from          | (b) for         | (c) of        |
| 2.  | (a) sizes         | (b) size        | (c) sized     |
| 3.  | (a) quite         | (b) quote       | (c) quiet     |
| 4.  | (a) danger        | (b) dangers     | (c) dangerous |
| 5.  | (a) because       | (b) cause       | (c) causes    |
| 6.  | (a) warming       | (b) warmth      | (c) warms     |
| 7.  | (a) raise         | (b) up          | (c) rise      |
| 8.  | (a) warming       | (b) warmer      | (c) warmth    |
| 9.  | (a) seriously     | (b) series      | (c) serious   |
| 10. | (a) disappearance | (b) disappeared | (c) disappear |

# SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

**Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.**

## Paragraph 1

1. iceberg is ngaotilf
2. rexEpst say ...
3. for over a ntcyrue
4. it's eiqtu a long way
5. a naegrđ to shipping
6. it will rebak up

## Paragraph 2

7. gllbao warming
8. sea elsvle will rise
9. let the world get rmarwe
10. in uisroes danger
11. alteicm change
12. slowly rpisadpae

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) shipping. They believe it will break up into hundreds of smaller blocks, which will cause problems for ships.
- ( ) warning to all governments. They cannot let the world get warmer. They must all take action now. Most
- ( ) slowly towards us." Australia's government is worried the iceberg will be a danger to
- ( ) "It's still 1,700 kilometres away, so it's quite a long way away. It's not really on our doorstep yet but it's heading
- ( ) governments aren't doing enough. Our planet is in serious danger today and this iceberg is just the tip of the iceberg
- ( **1** ) A giant iceberg is floating towards Australia. It is in the ocean south of Sydney. Experts say it is the biggest
- ( ) of climate change. I don't want to see Antarctica slowly disappear. That would be bad news for all of us.
- ( ) Nobody knows if this floating iceberg is because of global warming. A lot of the Antarctic ice is melting. That's a
- ( ) iceberg in those waters for over a century. It is 140 square kilometres in size. Glaciologist Dr Neal Young said:
- ( ) fact. This will be a problem in the future because sea levels will rise. The iceberg near Australia should be a

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

**With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.**

1. giant A Australia towards floating is iceberg.

---

2. ocean It south is of in Sydney the.

---

3. square 140 is It size in kilometres.

---

4. yet doorstep our on really not It's.

---

5. up of break hundreds blocks will into smaller It.

---

6. melting the Antarctic A ice lot is of.

---

7. This in will the be future a problem.

---

8. They warmer get world the let cannot.

---

9. Our today danger serious in is planet.

---

10. news of That bad all be for us would.

---



## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

### **STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

### **STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

## WRITING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0912/091213-iceberg.html>

**Write about global warming for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.**

[illegible]

# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about global warming. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about global warming and the iceberg. Include imaginary interviews with a penguin and a scientist. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to the leader of your government. Ask him/her three questions about global warming. Give him/her three of your opinions on how to change it. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.