

READING COMPREHENSION : Alaska's glaciers are melting.

Read the document and do the activities.



▲ Village of Shishmaref
in Northwest Alaska. ▶

Alaska's glaciers are melting

1 Winter 6.3 degrees warmer

Over the past five decades, average Alaska temperatures have increased by 3.4 degrees Fahrenheit, with the increases most pronounced in winter at 6.3 degrees.

- That warming can have drastic consequences here: open water rather than solid ice at sea or on rivers traditionally used for travel, or soft and collapsing soil instead of hard-frozen ground, or rain instead of snow.

Weather changes, weather extremes

Alaska in the past few years has posted some of its warmest temperatures on record.

That is part of a global pattern. The world's 10 hottest years on record have occurred since 1998.

10 Melt and thaw glaciers

Alaska's glaciers have become major contributors to sea level rise. Mountain glaciers hold only 1 percent of the world's glacial ice, but they are contributing 30 percent of the water that is increasing sea levels.

Erosion, villages and culture

- Much of the world has seen photographs of homes slumping into the sea in the Inupiat village of Shishmaref in Northwest Alaska. More than 200 feet of the shore has been eaten away since 1969. But Shishmaref is just one of several Alaskan villages disappearing because of erosion and flooding attributed to climate change.

Adapted from www.adn.com, 2015.

- 1 Read the text carefully and circle all the numbers. Highlight all the important words or expressions you understand.

Then answer the questions :

- What problem is evoked in the text ?
- What is the main consequence of this environmental problem ?
- What do the numbers refer to ?

- 2 Use the context to infer the meaning of these words. Match each word to its definition.

decade
to increase
collapsing
to slump
shore
flooding

ten years
when an area is covered in water
to move or fall down suddenly
to become larger or greater in size, amount, number...
which breaks apart and falls down
the land along the edge of the sea

Grammaire :

Dans le texte relève les phrases dont les verbes sont au present perfect et explique le constat / bilan qu'elles expriment

- 1-
- 2-
- 3-
- 4-
- 5-
- 6-

Writing : write a summary of the text.

CORRECTION SHEET



READING

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