

## Journey to the End of the Earth (Vistas Supplementary Reader)

1. My Antarctic experience was full of such epiphanies, says Tishani Doshi. Which experience does she consider the best and why ? (2024)

Ans.

- climbing down the gangplank and walking on the frozen ocean
- walking on stark whiteness that spread out forever
- 180 meters of living, breathing salt water underneath them
- watching Crabeater seals stretching and sunning themselves on ice

### Previous Years' CBSE Board Questions

SA I (2 marks)

1. What are the significant features of 'Students on Ice Programme'? (2022-23)
2. What is the impact of burning of fossil fuels? (2020 C)
3. How is Antarctica different from the place you live in? (2020)

LA II (6 marks)

4. How can a visit to Antarctica be an enlightening experience? Explain. (2023)
5. What are phytoplankton? How are they important to our ecosystem? (2020)

### CBSE Sample Questions

SA III (4 marks)

1. Students on Ice, the programme I was working with on the Shokalskiy, aims to do exactly this by taking high school students to the ends of the world and providing them with inspiring educational opportunities which will help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. It's been in operation for six years now, headed by Canadian Geoff Green, who got tired of carting celebrities and retired, rich, curiosity-seekers who could only 'give' back in a limited way. With Students on Ice, he offers the future generation of policy-makers a lifechanging experience at an age when they're ready to absorb, learn, and most importantly, act. (2022-23)

(i) Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.

The writer refers to the educational opportunities as 'inspiring' because

\_\_\_\_\_.



(ii) Which of the following would NOT be 'a life changing experience'?

(a) Being given the lead role in a play.

(b) Going on an adventure trip.

(c) Playing a video game.

(d) Meeting a great leader, you admire.

(iii) Select the most suitable title for the given extract.

(a) Adventure with a Mission

(b) Adventure – The Spice of Life

(c) The Wanderlust

(d) Students of the Future

(iv) Why does the writer refer to 'act' as more important than 'absorb' or 'learn'?

(Term II, 2021-22)

**LA I (5 marks)**

2. On returning home, Tishani Doshi writes her thoughts reflecting on how her decision to enrol for the Students on Ice programme has been the single most important decision of her life that has completely transformed her.

Imagine yourself to be Tishani and express these thoughts.

You may begin like this:

I can't thank my stars enough for having cashed in on the opportunity of .....

(2022-23)



## ANSWERS

### Previous Years' CBSE Board Questions

1. The 'Students on Ice Programme' aimed to provide the students with exposure and educational opportunities to explore the planet, Antarctica and to develop a new respect and understanding for the planet. It was meant to inspire a new generation of policy makers towards environmental issues. The main aim of the programme was to make the students understand the risks/threat of global warming.

2. When fossil fuels are burnt fully, it creates a blanket of carbon dioxide in the air around the world. This then results in a slow but sure increase in the average global warming. This means that the global temperature increases from the unmitigated burning of fossil fuels.

3. Antarctica is totally different from where I reside. It's a land with layers and layers of ice with very little form of life. It doesn't snow here where I live and the summer temperatures rise to more than 40 degree Celsius. It's more habitable than the harsh climate and simple ecosystem of Antarctica.

4. Antarctica is a vast and immense white landscape which can dazzle anyone who sets their eyes on it. Visiting Antarctica is an enlightening experience because it holds the doorway to understanding our planet's past, present and future. Antarctica gives us an idea about how the earth would have been like millions of years ago and how it got divided into various continents. It helps us understand the formation of mountains like The Himalayas. It holds into the depths of its ice half-a-million-year-old carbon records, which are crucial for understanding the geographical changes that have occurred on our planets.

Antarctica is the ideal place to study the effect of environmental changes that are threatening the world in present times. Antarctica has simple ecosystem and lacks biodiversity. Hence, it provides the perfect circumstances to study how little changes in the environment can have big consequences.

5. Phytoplanktons are single-celled grass that feed the entire southern ocean's marine life. They are the main form of vegetation and source of food in the entire Southern Ocean. Through the process of photosynthesis, they provide food and oxygen to all the marine life at the sea. They convert the carbon dioxide into food and water with the help of sunlight. These tiny plants require a low degree of temperature for their survival. But due to global warming, ozone layers are depleting which filter harmful UV rays of the sun. The rise in temperature adversely affects their activities. If phytoplankton cannot thrive, the whole of marine animals will be at risk too. The chain reaction will not just stop there, this will lead to bigger problems for the ecosystem. Any imbalance in the ecosystem means a threat to all living beings on the planet.



## CBSE Sample Questions

1. (i) these educational opportunities would motivate the students to work towards the good of the planet and help them foster a new understanding and respect for the planet.

(ii) (c) Playing a video game.

(iii) (a) Adventure with a Mission

(iv) Because understanding something is not enough. The right knowledge will not have any impact if it's not applied.

### 2. HINTS:

- An experience completely different than any other to visit a landscape that is not inhabited by humans and so still relatively pristine.
- Provided an insight into the earth's past, present and the future.
- Made her delve deep into the threat faced by the environment and the earth itself due to human activities.
- Realised how little changes can have a major impact on the environment and therefore the need to take care of the small things.
- An eye-opening experience
- realised how everything on this earth is interlinked.
- The trip indeed had a life changing impact.