

N° candidat :

Session 2020

Nom, Prénom :

English oral comprehension

Video 4 – You are going to listen to a news report on BBC news “Antarctica melting: Journey to the 'doomsday glacier'” (3’00’’).

Listen carefully. Take notes if you wish. You will then have to answer **10 multiple choice questions**.

Time available at the end of the speech: **10 min**.

You will then listen to the speech a **second time** and have **5 minutes** at the end to check and, if necessary, correct your answers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0AWsJ0cmLE>

1. What decisions are influenced by the changing Thwaites Glacier?

- a. Flash-flood mitigation mechanisms
- b. Anti-drought policy
- c. Climate migration responses
- d. Future trade routes around the polar ice caps

2. What is so important about the scientific operation?

- a. No-one has ever drilled into the polar ice caps before
- b. The ice samples from this area are essential in understanding climate change
- c. It is the first time a research team has drilled further than 600m
- d. It is located above where the sea and frozen glacier meet

3. The robot submarine is funded by which organisation?

- a. Tesla
- b. NASA
- c. Thwaites Research
- d. IPCC

4. What does ‘doomsday’ mean?

- a. End of daytime
- b. A warning
- c. An omen
- d. Apocalypse

5. What is unique about the point 600m under the surface?

- a. The fresh water from the glacier runs into the salt water from the ocean
- b. The ocean melts the glacier along its exposed edge
- c. Unique wildlife thrives in the fresh-salt water mix
- d. It is the deepest point of the glacier

6. How is this glacier different to other glaciers?

- a. Most others are land based and melt faster due to the warm air
- b. Most other glaciers are located on land and slide towards the ocean
- c. This glacier is being pushed back onto land
- d. It is being melted from all sides at once at an alarming rate

7. What comparison does the journalist make?

- a. He compares size of the glacier to the north pole
- b. He conveys how large the glacier in terms that a British audience can understand
- c. He says it is so windy it is like being in a tornado
- d. He says it is not as isolated as other research facilities in Antarctica

8. How fast does the glacier disappear?

- a. 100 miles every 10 years
- b. 50cm every day
- c. Approximately 3 km each year
- d. Too fast to accurately measure

9. What will happen if the whole West Arctic Ice Sheet melts?

- a. Sea levels will rise a more than 3m
- b. Thwaites Glacier will break off and float north
- c. The Antarctic landmass will be exposed
- d. The research stations will have to migrate further south

10. What is the purpose of triggering an explosion?

- a. To measure the exact location of the ocean under the ice
- b. To break off dangerous pieces of ice shelf that may fall into the ocean
- c. To prove the ice is moving towards the land
- d. To slow down the spread of the melting ice