

CBSE Class 12 English Core
Vistas Chapter-3
Journey to The End of The Earth

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. **What were Geoff Green’s reasons for including high school students in the ‘Students on Ice’ expedition?**

Ans. Children are more receptive and ready to absorb, learn and most importantly act. Unlike the elderly people who are at the end of their productive life, children can giveback to society substantially and practice what they learn and experience. Most importantly, they can take correct decisions and act when the time comes and save the environment.

2. **How does the writer realize that the threat of global warming is very real?**

Ans. The writer visits Antarctica and sees for herself the glaciers retreating and ice shelves collapsing. She sees with naked eyes the effect on the food chain when a singled celled phytoplankton is removed from food chain. That’s when she realizes that threat of global warming is real.

3. **What revelation did the author have on her visit to Antarctica?**

Ans. The writer on her visit to Antarctica noticed the beauty of balance in play on our planet and realizes that everything in the world is inter-connected.

4. **What is phytoplankton? What is their importance?**

Ans. Phytoplanktons, the grasses of the sea are single celled organisms living in the southern ocean. They nourish and sustain the entire ocean’s food chain, being the first link in the food chain of the ocean. Using sun’s energy, they assimilate carbon and synthesize organic compounds. The diminishing number of this organism due to the depletion of ozone layer affects other organisms of the ocean, finally leading to the extinction of life on earth.

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. **“Take care of small things and the big things will take care of themselves”. What is the relevance of this statement in context of the Antarctic Environment?**

Ans. Suggested Value Points:- The Statement- greatly relevant in the context of Antarctic

Environment - only place not strained by man - remains pristine - carbon records preserved in its folds - simple eco system - lack of bio-diversity - perfect place to study how small changes can have big repercussions - example of phytoplankton - how it uses sun's energy to synthesize food - process of photosynthesis - Depletion of ozone layer effects phytoplankton - life of small marine animals - in turn the food of large animals - Global warming effect all animals and plants on earth - evident in Antarctica.