

ANTARCTICA

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1. Where is Antarctica located?

⇒ It lies entirely in the Southern Hemisphere with the South Pole situated almost at its centre.

2. What is an Ice shelf? Name the largest ice shelf in Antarctica.

⇒ A floating ice sheet along the coast is called ice shelf.

The largest ice shelf in Antarctica is Ross ice shelf.

3. What are icebergs?

⇒ A huge block of ice that gets separated from the ice sheet and floats in the sea.

4. Mention the type of natural vegetation found in Antarctica.

⇒ The vegetation found in Antarctica are mosses, fungi and lichens, which grow during the short summer season.

Q-5 Name two migratory birds and animals found in Antarctica.

⇒ Two migratory birds - albatross, gulls
Two migratory animals -

Q-6 List any two minerals that are found in Antarctica.

⇒ coal, iron ore

Q-7 What are two types of people that visit Antarctica.

⇒ Two types of people that visit Antarctica are tourists and scientists.

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Q-1 Write the climatic feature experienced in Antarctica.

⇒ The climatic feature experienced in Antarctica are -

① Antarctica always receives extremely inclined rays of the Sun. Therefore temperature is very low.

2. Summer season from November to February when Sun never sets and winter season from May to August when Sun never rises.

3. There is no rainfall in Antarctica. Only light snowfall occurs during winter.

Q-2 Explain why the Antarctic Treaty is considered to be a landmark treaty.

⇒ The Antarctic Treaty is considered to be a landmark treaty because according to this treaty the nations had to work for peaceful purpose, freely exchange scientific information, conserve Antarctica's living resources and not dispose their radioactive wastes there.

Q-3 Antarctica is referred to as a human void zone. Give reason.

⇒ Antarctica is referred to as a human void zone because

- ① It is isolated from all other continents
- ② 90% of land is covered with thick ice sheets. It is the
- ③ It is a cold desert with no trees or wild animals.

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Q1 Write the landform features of Antarctica.

- ⇒
- ① Mountains, rugged plateaus and a few barren valleys make up the landform of Antarctica.
 - ② The Trans-Antarctic mountains divide the continent into East and West Antarctica. The smaller lower western part is known as the lesser Antarctica and the upper eastern part is known as the Greater Antarctica.
 - ③ The Queen Maud land is a plateau located along the coasts.
 - ④ Mt. Vinson is the highest among the mountain peaks and Mt. Erebus, in the shores of Ross Sea is an active volcano.
 - ⑤ The Beardmore glacier of Antarctica is one of the largest glaciers of the world.

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1. Another name for Antarctica is the 'White Continent'.

⇒ Because it is covered with ice through out the year.

2. Water is the most important natural resource of Antarctica.

⇒ Because ninety percent of the world's glacial ice is contained in the continental ice sheets of Antarctica.

3. The 1991 Antarctic Treaty is of great significance.

⇒ Because according to this treaty all mining activities in this continent is banned for next fifty years.

4. Antarctica is shrinking in size.

⇒ Because at many places the ice are melting. This changes are due to global warming.

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Q- MAP WORK

Practice the map given in Pg no-122
Fig 10.1 (Location of Antarctica)