**Review Notes: Antarctica (Booklet 13)**

**Antarctica as a global common**

**1. Introduction to Antarctica**

Define the following key terms: The Antarctic Convergence, a non-governmental organization, Governance, Moratorium, Antarctic Treaty.

Describe the location and geography of Antarctica including: size, shape, location (latitude), Coastline, Ice and Land, and Ocean.

Physical Geography

* Why doesn’t warm water flow south – refer to the Antarctic Convergence?
* Why does the Antarctic Circumpolar Current move eastwards?
* Draw the locations of the Antarctic Convergence and Antarctic Circumpolar Current on a map.
* Why is upwelling important for Krill.
* How does temperature and precipitation vary across Antarctica. What factors affect this change? Refer to katabatic winds and polar desert in your notes.

**2. Threats to Antarctica**

Climate Change

* What are the issues?
* What impacts is Climate Change having on the following?
* Ice melt and sea level rise
* Negative ecological impacts
* Positive impacts
* Negative ocean acidification

Fishing and Whaling

* What are the issues?
* What are krill and why do they need protecting?
* Name the organisations involved in governing the threats from fishing & whaling and what is their role?
* International Whaling Commission
  + What is the IWC?
  + What does the IWC do?
  + What happened during the 1982 whaling moratorium?
  + What are the issues with the IWC whaling moratorium?

**2. Threats to Antarctica cont…**

Mineral Resources

* Gives examples of known mineral deposits
* Why is mineral extraction difficult?
* Explain how the presence of mineral resources are a threat to Antarctica

Tourism

* What types of tourism is there and what do they go to see?
* What is the Lindblad Plan and who laid it down?
* What evidence suggests the environment has been little affected by tourism?
* What are the recent trends in tourism and what are the concerns?

**3 Governance of Antarctica**

Name countries who have marked territories in Antarctica.

For each of the following explain why it came about, who is involved, what it does and how successful you think it is.

* Antarctic Treaty System
* Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty
* The UN and UNEP
* CCAMLR

Explain the role of NGOs in monitoring threats and enhancing protection of Antarctica and how successful you think they are.

* Friends of the Earth
* WWF
* Greenpeace
* ASOC

**4 The Future of Antarctica**

Analysis and assessment of the geographical consequences of global governance

* What are differing view about the future of Antarctica?
* What do you think should happen to Antarctica in the future? Why?

|  |
| --- |
| * The geography of Antarctica * Threats to Antarctica arising from climate change, fishing and whaling, the search for mineral resources and tourism and scientific research. * Critical appraisal of the governance of Antarctica including the UN, UNEP, International Whaling Commission, Antarctic Treaty, Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty and the IWC Whaling Moratorium. * The role of NGOs in monitoring threats and enhancing protection of Antarctica * Analysis and assessment of the geographical consequences of global governance |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **I can ....** | **Tick when complete** |
| **Describe** the human and physical geography of Antarctica |  |
| **Discuss** the different threats to Antarctica |  |
| **Detail and critically appraise** the governance of Antarctica including the UN, UNEP, International Whaling Commission, Antarctic Treaty, Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty and the IWC Whaling Moratorium. |  |
| **Name** different non-governmental organisations protecting the Antarctic. |  |
| **Assess** the geographical consequences of global governance. |  |

**Additional resources:**

|  |
| --- |
| T**he** [British Antarctic Survey (BAS)](https://www.bas.ac.uk/) (educational website for the BAS) is a useful starting point for resources on Antarctica.  [Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition](http://www.asoc.org/) (ASOC) is the website of ASOC, an NGO working to preserve the Antarctic continent and the surrounding Southern Ocean.  [Cool Antarctica](http://coolantarctica.com/) is also good.  [Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)](http://www.scar.org) develops and coordinates scientific research efforts on Antarctica.  Garrington, S. (2009) ‘The exploitation of the Southern Ocean’, *Geofile,* AQA3.  Nash, S. (2008) ‘Antarctica – politics, resources and tourism: ‘More than ice and penguins’, *Geofile,* AQA1.  NASA has been monitoring ice break ups on Antarctica [NASA: Antarctica’s Larsen B Ice Shelf](http://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-study-shows-antarctica-s-larsen-b-ice-shelf-nearing-its-final-act)  See also [Ecowatch: Nansen ice shelf Antarctica](http://ecowatch.com/2016/03/16/nansen-ice-shelf-antarctica/)  and [Live Science: Antarctica Larsen ice shelf collapsing](http://www.livescience.com/50850-antarctica-larsen-ice-shelf-collapsing.html),  [International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators](http://iaato.org/home).  [News and teaching resources about Antarctica](https://www.theguardian.com/teacher-network/teacher-blog/2013/dec/15/antarctica-teaching-resources) from The Guardian and British Antarctic Survey materials British Antarctic Survey materials from [Greenpeace](http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/news/features/a-decade-of-antaractic-protect/). |

**Practice questions:**

**Try putting together essay plans for the 20 mark questions, remembering to use the PEEL approach as a guide where necessary (Point, Explain, Evidence, Link)**

Analyse the roles of international governmental organisations and NGOs in the governance of Antarctica and assess their effectiveness. (20 marks) Oxford textbook. A similar question is available with a mark scheme in the Zig Zag resource folder on Godalming Online.

‘Maintaining Antarctica as a global common is a luxury tomorrow’s world cannot afford’. Discuss (20 marks) Oxford textbook

How successful has the Antarctic Treaty System been in protecting Antarctica from its many threats? Hodder textbook.

How did the Antarctic Treaty resolve the issue of sovereignty in Antarctica? (3 marks, Hodder workbook).

Outline the main features of the 1959 Antarctic Treaty (6 marks, Hodder workbook).

The Madrid Protocol was agreed in 1991 and added further protection to Antarctica. Explain why further protection was needed and assess the value added by the Protocol. (8 marks, Hodder workbook).

Discuss the contribution of NGOs to the governance and protection of Antarctica (8 marks, Hodder workbook).

Explain how the International Whaling Commission has contributed to the conservation of the environment of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean (4 marks, Hodder workbook).

Additional questions are available in the Zig Zag resources on Godalming Online – in particular on threats posed to Antarctica with supporting figures.