1 DVD Full version Are the sentences about Antarctica true (T) or false (F)? Watch the DVD and check your answers.

**1** About 3,000 tourists visit Antarctica every year.

**2** Much of Antarctica’s sea ice is disappearing fast.

**3** Antarctica has rich oil and mineral resources.

2 Read about Antarctica and correct the sentences below. There is one error in each one.

Antarctica

Antarctica is situated in the [Southern hemisphere](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Hemisphere) and includes the [South Pole](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Pole). Antarctica is almost twice as big as [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia) and it is the coldest, driest and windiest continent. It is a [desert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert), and the coldest temperature recorded is −89°C. About 98% of the region is covered in [ice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ice).

There are no permanent human residents, but about 5,000 scientists live in scientific research stations. Only cold-adapted organisms can survive: [algae](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Algae), [bacteria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bacteria), [fungi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fungus), [penguins](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penguin), [seals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pinniped) and some vegetation, such as lichens.

The Antarctic Treaty, signed by 49 countries, is an agreement to protect the region. It supports scientific research but prohibits military activities, nuclear waste disposal, and mining of minerals.

**1** Antarctica is three times the size of Australia.

**2** The weather in Antarctica is extremely cold, wet and windy.

**3** Only 12% of the region does not consist of ice.

**4** There are 5,000 permanent resident scientists stationed in research stations.

**5** The only animals that are able to survive in Antarctica are polar bears and seals.

**6** The Antarctic Treaty is in favour of scientific research and military exercises in the region.

3 DVD Part 1 Watch Part 1 and complete the script using ONE or TWO words, or a number.

A century ago, only a handful of people had ever set foot on the world's 1           continent. Today, about 2           tourists visit Antarctica every year. Most travel to the north-westernmost tip, known as the Antarctic Peninsula. And it's here that you can see, perhaps more than anywhere else, clear evidence that our world is fast warming up.

About 3           square miles of sea ice around the peninsula have disappeared since 4          . Without the sea ice to act as a barrier, Antarctic glaciers flow into the ocean 5           faster than ever before.

4 Read the script again and match the underlined words and phrases with the definitions a–h.

**a** large masses of ice that move slowly down a mountain valley

**b** a physical object that keeps two areas apart

**c** a very small number of people or things

**d** a piece of land almost completely surrounded by water but joined to a large area of land

**e** arrive in a remote place for the first time

**f** the end of something, especially something pointed

**g** facts or signs that show that something exists or is true

**h** becoming hotter

5 DVD Part 2 Watch Part 2 and number the items in the order they are mentioned.

\_\_ Large numbers of visitors will affect the balance of nature in Antarctica.

\_\_ Tours need to follow the rules of the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators.

\_*1*  Antarctica is not easy to get to.

\_\_ It is generally accepted that small ships of tourists can visit the region.

\_\_ These environmental regulations aim to protect the wildlife in Antarctica.

\_\_ It’s a very expensive trip.

6 DVD Part 2 Can you complete these words? Work out what the words are by matching them with the definitions a–h. Watch Part 2 again and check your answers.

**1** lan \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**2** dis \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**3** ro \_ \_ \_

**4** dis \_ \_ \_ \_

**5** lic \_ \_ \_ \_

**6** con \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**7** sus \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**8** env \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**a** the air, water, and land on Earth

**b** an opinion that everyone accepts

**c** grey, green or yellow plants that grow on the surface of rocks or trees

**d** to change the normal situation of something in a way that causes problems

**e** (of sea) with strong wind or storms

**f** able to continue without causing damage to the environment

**g** the appearance of a large area of land

**h** to make someone feel unhappy because something did not happen, or was not as good as they hoped

7 DVD Part 3 Watch Part 3 and choose the best summary.

**1** Seeing how whales were killed in the last century is a big tourist attraction. Passengers should carry harpoons and camera equipment.

**2** Tourists can visit the stations where more than a million whales were killed. Ideally, we should probably leave Antarctica alone.

**3** Sustainable tourism is destroying Antarctica. In addition, governments are exploiting the region for oil and mineral exploitation.

8 DVD Part 3 Choose the correct definition for the underlined words and phrases from Part 3.

**1** this lonely continent

**a** unhappy because you have no friends

**b** a long way from where people live

**2** reminders of the damage

**a** something that makes you remember something you have forgotten

**b** something that makes you notice or think about something

**3** ships that once might have been

**a** in the past, at a time that is not stated

**b** on one occasion only

**4** man always has some impact

**a** an adult male human

**b** people as a group

**5** oil and mineral exploitation

**a** development and use of natural resources

**b** situation in which you ask someone to do things for you, but give them very little in return

**6** champions of the wild

**a** People who publicly fight for a principle

**b** People who have won a sports competition

9 DVD Full version What do you remember? Tick (🗸) all the items you saw.

**\_\_** seals

**\_\_** polar bears

**\_\_** a dinghy (small open boat)

**\_\_** an iceberg

**\_\_** a research station

**\_\_** a ship

**\_\_** lichens on rocks

**\_\_** penguins

**\_\_** a snow scooter

**\_\_** a whale’s tail

Optional Task

Write a description (about 150 words) of an Antarctica cruise. Include the following details:

• transportation

• accommodation

• things to see and do

• approximate cost

• recommendations for what to take

DVD script

DVD Part 1

A century ago, only a handful of people had ever set foot on the world's fifth largest continent. Today, about 30,000 tourists visit Antarctica every year. Most travel to the north-westernmost tip, known as the Antarctic Peninsula. And it's here that you can see, perhaps more than anywhere else, clear evidence that our world is fast warming up.

About 13,000 square miles of sea ice around the peninsula have disappeared since the ’60s. Without the sea ice to act as a barrier, Antarctic glaciers flow into the ocean six times faster than ever before.

DVD Part 2

Tourists come a long way to see this unique landscape, and it never disappoints. It's not an easy place to visit. They pay a lot of money to get here, and the sea trip can be extremely rough.

But should they be here at all? Too many people will disturb the balance of nature, in a place where lichens take a thousand years to grow. The consensus at the moment is that tourism can be sustainable if it's limited to small ships, signed up to an environmental code through the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators.

This code limits passenger numbers and has guidelines to protect the environment on shore, such as giving the wildlife plenty of space.

DVD Part 3

Even in this lonely continent, there are reminders of the damage man can do in a short time. You can still see the disused whaling stations that slaughtered more than a million whales during the last century.

Today, ships that once might have been fitted with harpoons carry passengers with tripods and cameras instead. In an ideal world, Antarctica should probably be left totally alone. Man always has some impact on nature. But, at a time when governments are sizing up the Antarctic for massive oil and mineral exploitation, it may be that the people who come here as tourists will return home as champions of the wild.

Answer key

Ex 1

**1** F **2** T **3** T

Ex 2

**1** Antarctica is ~~three times~~ **twice the size of/double the size of/twice as big as** Australia.

**2** The weather in Antarctica is extremely cold, ~~wet~~ **dry** and windy.

**3** Only ~~12%~~ **2%** of the region does not consist of ice.

**4** There are 5,000 ~~permanent~~ **temporary** resident scientists stationed in research stations.

**5** The only animals that are able to survive in Antarctica are ~~polar bears~~ **penguins** and seals.

**6** The Antarctic Treaty is in favour of scientific research ~~and military exercises~~ in the region.

Ex 3

**1** fifth/5th largest

**2** thirty thousand/30,000

**3** thirteen thousand/13,000

**4** the sixties/the ’60s

**5** six/6 times

Ex 4

a glaciers b barrier c a handful of d peninsula e set foot on f tip g evidence h warming up

Ex 5

3 Large numbers of visitors will affect the balance of nature in Antarctica.

5 However, tours need to comply with the rules of the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators.

1 Antarctica is not easy to get to.

4 It is generally accepted that small ships of tourists can visit the region.

6 These environmental regulations aim to protect the wildlife in Antarctica.

2 It’s a very expensive trip.

Ex 6

**1** g landscape

**2** h disappoint

**3** e rough

**4** d disturb

**5** c lichens

**6** b consensus

**7** f sustainable

**8** a environment

Ex 7

Summary 2

Ex 8

**1** b **2** b **3** a **4** b **5** a **6** a

Ex 9

√ seals

polar bears

√ a dinghy

√ an iceberg

a research station

√ a ship

√ lichens on rocks

√ penguins

a snow scooter

√ a whale’s tail

optional task

**Model answer**

Antarctica cruise

Have you ever wanted to go to Antarctica? Well, now you can! This unique seven-day cruise of Antarctica takes you to the northwestern part of the region. Transportation is by a small ship that is approved by the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators.

On this tour you will see the beautiful landscape of Antarctica, including its impressive icebergs and glaciers. Enjoy spotting penguins, seals and other wildlife from a dinghy. We will also go on a whale watching trip and take a ride through the snow with Antarctic huskies.

Accommodation included: basic but comfortable ship’s cabins. We also provide tour guides who are wildlife experts.

Cost: from US $5,000 for sharing a two-person cabin. (Flights not included.)

Bring suitable clothes for extreme weather conditions. We also strongly recommend a quality camera and anti-sea-sickness pills for this unforgettable voyage.