

Activity 1

With your partner discuss the meaning of the following words:

ice freeze thaw melt arctic antarctic

Activity 2

With your partner decide if the following statements are true or false.

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|---|------------|
| 1. The area surrounding the North Pole is called the Antarctic. | True/False |
| 2. The North Pole was first reached by an American explorer called Robert Peary. | True/False |
| 3. At the North Pole there are six months of darkness followed by six months of daylight. | True/False |
| 4. The magnetic north pole is in the same place as the geographical North Pole. | True/False |
| 5. Penguins and polar bears live in the Arctic region. | True/False |
| 6. The semi-nomadic people who live in the Arctic area are called Inuits. | True/False |

Activity 3

Use the following words and phrases in the correct form to fill the gaps in the sentences below.

Poles flagpole poles apart pole position poleaxe

1. Which racing driver is in for the next Formula 1 Grand Prix?
2. People who come from Poland are called
3. The news of his financial ruin him. It was such a huge shock to him.
4. I can't believe they are sisters. They are They have nothing in common.
5. When the Queen is in residence a flag is flown on the on top of Buckingham Palace in London.

Activity 4

Use the questions below to start a conversation with your partner.

1. Describe two people you know who are poles apart.
2. Have you ever been poleaxed by a shocking item of news?
3. What difficulties do you think Inuit people face, living in such a hostile environment?
4. What are the advantages of living in the Arctic?
5. How important are the polar ice caps for the world's climate?
6. What can be done to stop the polar ice caps melting?
7. What will happen to the planet's climate if the ice at the North Pole melts?
8. In your opinion, who should the gas and oil under the North Pole belong to?
9. Who should decide who the gas and oil under the North Pole belong to?
10. What are the disadvantages of one country relying on another country for energy supplies?

Activity 5

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. In the TP Homework does it say that the thickness of the ice in the Arctic circle has decreased by a) 20% b) 30% or c) 40% in the last 25 years?
2. Which of these countries is *not* laying claim to the North Pole, according to the TP Homework?
a) Denmark b) Norway c) Sweden
3. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

Activity 6

'Who should the North Pole (and the energy reserves under it) belong to?'

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!

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