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**Level 5** – 17th January, 2022

## Researchers find world's largest fish breeding ground

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2201/220116-antarctic-icefish-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2201/220116-antarctic-icefish-5.html>

Scientists have made a surprising discovery in Antarctica - the world's largest breeding ground for fish. Researchers from a German marine research institute came across the fish while mapping the Antarctic seabed. They discovered schools of around 60 million icefish breeding in an area roughly 240 square kilometers in size. The researchers had been towing cameras to a depth of 530 metres under the sea for months. A deep-sea biologist said: "The idea that such a huge breeding area of icefish in the Weddell Sea was previously undiscovered is totally fascinating."

The researchers are hoping to establish the area as a Marine Protected Area. They say it is a unique habitat that must be preserved. They want to prevent fishing to keep the waters as pristine as possible. A recent study found that fishing trawlers in Antarctica are bringing millions of "hitch-hiking" species from all around the globe. These are threatening the area's fragile eco-systems. A researcher said: "The remoteness and difficult sea-ice conditions of this southernmost area...have protected it, but...we should be much more ambitious with marine conservation."

Sources: <https://scitechdaily.com/spectacular-discovery-in-antarctica-massive-icefish-breeding-colony-with-60-million-nests/>  
<https://www.cnet.com/news/scientists-in-disbelief-over-discovery-of-worlds-largest-fish-breeding-area/>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/01/13/world/icefish-colony-discovery-scn/index.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2201/220116-antarctic-icefish-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. made a surprising | a. cameras            |
| 2. mapping the       | b. area of icefish    |
| 3. schools of around | c. Antarctic seabed   |
| 4. towing            | d. fascinating        |
| 5. to a depth        | e. sea biologist      |
| 6. Deep-             | f. discovery          |
| 7. a huge breeding   | g. of 530 metres      |
| 8. totally           | h. 60 million icefish |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. it is a unique                      | a. ice conditions       |
| 2. keep the waters as                  | b. in Antarctica        |
| 3. fishing trawlers                    | c. conservation         |
| 4. millions of "hitch-hiking"          | d. habitat              |
| 5. threatening the area's fragile eco- | e. species              |
| 6. difficult sea-                      | f. ambitious            |
| 7. we should be much more              | g. systems              |
| 8. marine                              | h. pristine as possible |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2201/220116-antarctic-icefish-5.html>

Scientists have (1) \_\_\_\_\_ discovery in Antarctica - the world's largest breeding ground for fish. Researchers from a German (2) \_\_\_\_\_ came across the fish (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Antarctic seabed. They discovered schools of around 60 million icefish breeding in (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 240 square kilometers in size. The researchers had been towing cameras to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ 530 metres under the sea for months. A deep-sea biologist said: "The idea that such a huge breeding area of icefish in the Weddell Sea was previously undiscovered (6) \_\_\_\_\_."

The researchers are (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the area as a Marine Protected Area. They say it is (8) \_\_\_\_\_ that must be preserved. They want to prevent fishing to keep the waters as (9) \_\_\_\_\_. A recent study found that fishing trawlers in Antarctica are bringing millions of "hitch-hiking" (10) \_\_\_\_\_ around the globe. These are threatening the area's fragile eco-systems. A researcher said: "The remoteness and difficult sea-ice (11) \_\_\_\_\_ southernmost area...have protected it, but...we should be (12) \_\_\_\_\_ with marine conservation."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2201/220116-antarctic-icefish-5.html>

Scientists have made a surprising discovery in Antarctica - the world's largest breeding ground for fish. Researchers from a German marine research institute came across the fish while mapping the Antarctic seabed. They discovered schools of around 60 million icefish breeding in an area roughly 240 square kilometers in size. The researchers had been towing cameras to a depth of 530 metres under the sea for months. A deep-sea biologist said: "The idea that such a huge breeding area of icefish in the Weddell Sea was previously undiscovered is totally fascinating." The researchers are hoping to establish the area as a Marine Protected Area. They say it is a unique habitat that must be preserved. They want to prevent fishing to keep the waters as pristine as possible. A recent study found that fishing trawlers in Antarctica are bringing millions of "hitch-hiking" species from all around the globe. These are threatening the area's fragile eco-systems. A researcher said: "The remoteness and difficult sea-ice conditions of this southernmost area... have protected it, but... we should be much more ambitious with marine conservation."

# ANTARCTICA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2201/220116-antarctic-icefish-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Antarctica in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2201/220116-antarctic-icefish-5.html>

Write about **Antarctica** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

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