**National Geographic Archives: Glacier Melt**

Web site: National Geographic

URL: <http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/player/environment/global-warming-environment/glacier-melt.html>

**Pre-Listening –** Discuss the following questions in your group. Elect a leader to report back to the whole group.

1. Are you worried about the environment?
2. What environmental problems do you know of?
3. What can people do to help the environment?

**Vocabulary –** Match the words with the correct definitions.

Melting Something helpful in forming an opinion

Glaciers Severe or radical

Drastic To be open or subjected to an action

Evidence To be reduced from a solid to a liquid

Exposed To be let go / set free

Release A huge mass of ice over a large area of land

Retreat To withdraw or move back

**Listening 1. Cloze Exercise -** Listen to the first minute of the short film and fill in the missing words.

Some are remnants of the last ice-age, and alpine glaciers are quickly disappearing. There is hard, strong evidence, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Europe’s rising temperatures are melting away \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Goldberg glacier. Records here date back to the 19th \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and document drastic changes in the landscape. And as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as 1979, this valley was filled by the glacier. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ice, 300 feet thick. Now, bare rock and a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ river are evidence of the glacier’s retreat. Scientist Wolfgang Schoener \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the changes here, he pounded this pole eighteen feet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the glacier one month ago. Now, a third of it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ exposed. He’s brought his young son to see what he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as the tangible effects of global warming.

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**Listening 2. Multiple-Choice -** Watch the rest of the film and choose the correct answer.

1. Who is worrying about rising sea levels?
2. Scientists
3. Scuba Divers
4. Environmentalists

2. What do glaciers hold in the winter and release in the summer?

1. Perspiration
2. Penetration
3. Precipitation

3. If the glaciers shrink, seasonal floods and droughts will be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Extended
2. Examined
3. Exaggerated

4. The small lake at the foot of the glacier is a source for which river?

1. The Danube
2. The Thames
3. The Nile

**/4**

**Listening 3. Summary Writing –** Watch the clip one more time. Take notes and try to write a short summary of the clip.

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**Post-Listening -** Discuss the following questions in your group. Elect a different leader to report back to the whole group.

1. What problems do you think will occur if the world’s glaciers continue to shrink?
2. Is it the responsibility of governments, companies / institutions or individuals to take care of the environment?
3. Are you happy with the response of your government to the environmental problem?
4. What have you done recently that is environmentally friendly?
5. What have you done recently that is damaging to the environment?

**Answers**

**Cloze Exercise**

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**Full Transcript of Cloze Section**

Some are remnants of the last ice-age, and alpine glaciers are quickly disappearing. There is hard, strong evidence, that Europe’s rising temperatures are melting away Austria’s Goldberg glacier. Records here date back to the 19th century and document drastic changes in the landscape. And as recently as 1979, this valley was filled by the glacier. Solid ice, 300 feet thick. Now, bare rock and a small river are evidence of the glacier’s retreat. Scientist Wolfgang Schoener studies the changes here, he pounded this pole eighteen feet into the glacier one month ago. Now, a third of it is exposed. He’s brought his young son to see what he describes as the tangible effects of global warming.

**Multiple Choice**

1. a
2. c
3. c
4. a