

Part 4

Use the words below the text to form a word that fits in the same numbered space in the text.

Ice Age

Since the latest film by Roland Emmerich (1) The Day After Tomorrow hit the cinemas with its grim tale of mankind struggling with the approaching freeze, interest in ice ages, also called (2), Has increased.

Ice age is a period featuring a (3) temperature plunge by (4) 10°C, when polar ice sheets, having many kilometres in (5), creep towards the equator and cover the Earth's surface, putting life on the planet at a (6) risk. Such periods are estimated to descend upon the Earth with the (7) of 10,000 years.

Ice ages are connected with the water cycle. Normally, sunlight (8) water from the ocean. This water returns to the ocean or to the sea in the form of rain. During winter, some of the water falls as snow and ice, but in summer it melts and thus the cycle is maintained. However, a (9) decrease in temperature may cause (10) in the whole water cycle. A (11) amount of snow and ice doesn't melt and piles up on land. Ice sheets at the poles accumulate and (12) begin to creep downwards as glaciers.

With so much current concern over the effects of global warming, the prospect of the next ice age may seem (13) Nevertheless, some scientists claim that (14) global warming can plunge

Average temperatures by several degrees in merely a few decades, and hence trigger the (15) of an ice age. This could be due to the thawing of Arctic ice which may disrupt deep water currents responsible for the Gulf Stream. The Gulf Stream transports warm (16) water to northern Europe and if it is shut off, the temperature of the currents will plummet and the northern (17) will freeze.

The forecasts of (18) vary. Some of them predict that an ice age can start in the next few decades, while others state that it will be millennia before it happens.

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| (1) TITLE | (10) DISRUPT |
| (2) GLACIATE | (11) SUBSTANCE |
| (3) CONSIDER | (12) CONSEQUENCE |
| (4) APPROXIMATE | (13) NEGLECT |
| (5) THICK | (14) MAN |
| (6) STAGGER | (15) SET |
| (7) FREQUENT | (16) EQUATOR |
| (8) VAPOUR | (17) SPHERE |
| (9) SIGNIFY | (18) CLIMATE |