

Passage 1

The Serious Dangers of Rising Sea Levels

A. Today, most people are still unaware of the gravity of the problems raised by global warming. Currently, the Earth's temperature is 1 to 2 degrees Fahrenheit higher than before, and sea levels are 20 centimeters higher than they were more than a hundred years ago. Although some individuals may not see the significance of such data, many scientists, environmentalists and concerned citizens are alarmed by the current unnatural warming rate of the Earth. This is because human-provoked global warming brings with it damaging effects that are closely tied to each other.

B. Global warming causes sea levels to rise in two ways. First, as more heat becomes trapped in the Earth, temperatures rise. Rising atmospheric temperatures will cause the melting of locked water from polar ice caps and continental ice sheets. Second, the volume of water increases as water molecules expand in response to heat, which is called thermal expansion. The rise in sea levels endangers low-lying areas, coastal regions and coastal habitats. It will increase flood risk and coastal erosion and cause changes in the quality of groundwater. People in small islands and archipelagos will lose homes, accompanied by the loss of cultural resources and values. Rising sea levels will also be detrimental to tourism, aquaculture and agriculture.

C. The cry for change has never been more insistent than it is today, as the world's temperature has drastically risen over the past few years, endangering life and the environment. Hopefully, people and governments will be able to properly address the issue and offer a rapid response in order to alleviate or turn the problem around.

Questions

Complete the sentences.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND / OR A NUMBER** from the passage for each answer.

1. Sea levels have risen by _____ in just a span of a century.
2. _____ is the rise in the volume of matter as a reaction to increases in temperature.
3. Rising sea levels will also affect the _____ of water beneath the Earth's surface.

Approach

STEP 1 Identify the keywords and question focus in each question.

Q1. _____

Q2. _____

Q3. _____

STEP 2 Find out the relevant information in the paragraphs of the passage.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

STEP 3 Write each answer in no more than two words and/or a number.

Q1. _____

Q2. _____

Q3. _____