Part 3

Questions 11 – 15

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Student expedition to Antarctica

Fifteen-year-old Melanie Brenner writes about her trip to the coldest place on Earth.

Four weeks ago, I was on Antarctica! I went there with twenty other students on a three-week educational programme, and we saw some of the most amazing wildlife on Earth. I decided to try and get a place after seeing a programme about how Antarctica was affected by climate change. I thought it'd be a great way to see directly the effect it's having. It was more amazing than I'd imagined and I'd love to go back, perhaps as a scientist in one of the teams that work there.

I was surprised by how little life there was there. Documentaries show landscapes covered in penguins and seas full of whales, but of course the film-makers stay there for months to film so many. I saw some, but not in the numbers I'd expected. As it's the coldest place on Earth, I also thought it'd be well below freezing even in summer, but that wasn't always the case. There's plenty of sun because it's light all the time, which I hadn't got used to even by the time we left. I'd read how many visitors Antarctica gets these days, so seeing several boatloads of visitors didn't seem that strange.

In our first group session, we all had to say why we'd come on the expedition. There were twenty students and twenty different explanations! Even though we were all a bit shy, we made friends with each other from day one. You often get a few people in a group who start telling the others what to do. Fortunately, this wasn't the case with us. We've set up a social media group which we're all posting messages onto. It's nice, as we've become pretty close.

In some ways it's been a relief to be home and a school student again, as the routine is so familiar and I was away for such a long time. It's been nice to see my mates again too, although for some reason they change the subject whenever I start talking about my trip. Maybe they're jealous, which is a bit sad. Anyway, I've become much more serious about helping the environment. I can understand why we do things that harm it, as I've done them all myself. It's not about blaming anyone but about changing people's habits.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

11 Melanie applied for the expedition to Antarctica because she wanted to

A see lots of the animals there.

B help with scientific research.

C experience something unusual.

D learn about global warming.

12 What did Melanie find most unusual about Antarctica?

A the 24-hour daylight

B how cold summer there was

C how much wildlife there was

D the number of tourists

13 What does Melanie say about the other students on the expedition?

A Some of them were rather bossy.

B They were all there for similar reasons.

C Everyone has kept in touch with each other.

D It took time to get to know them.

14 Since getting home from the expedition, Melanie has felt

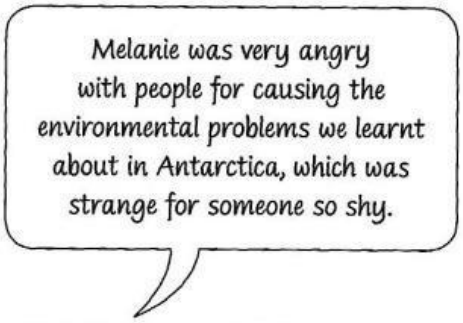
A ashamed of what people are doing to our planet.

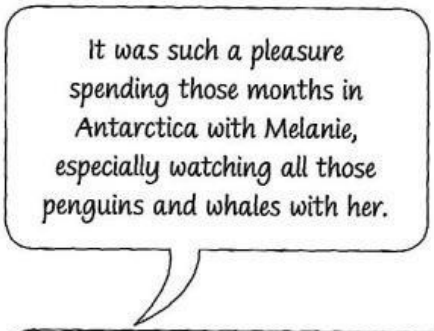
B disappointed with the reactions of her friends.

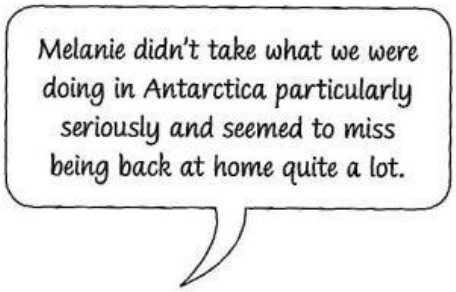
C annoyed that she didn't go on a longer trip.

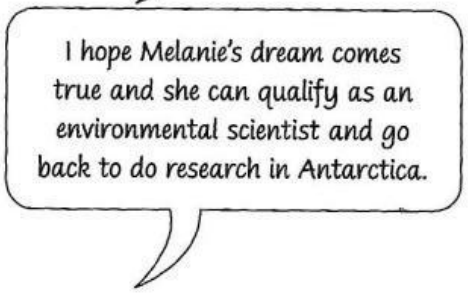
D miserable about being back at school.

15 What would another expedition member say about Melanie?

A


B


C


D


LIVEWORKSHEETS