When the Iceberg Arrives!

“When the iceberg _____________, there will be _____________water for _____________ of _____________ people!” That was the ______________________ by Paul Emile Victor, the famous _____________ polar _____________, and he was _____________. He had _____________ a plan to _____________ the citizens of Saudi Arabia _____________. The idea was to _____________ an iceberg from Antarctica to _____________. Of course _____________ an iceberg _____________ such a long distance _____________ dangerous and expensive, but it _____________ the effort, said the _____________. As _____________ _____________ drilling for water in Saudi Arabia is _____________expensive than _____________ for oil. Furthermore, _____________ icebergs can _____________ a height of _______ meters _____________ the water, the equivalent of a _____________ building, and they are often several kilometers _____________. One single large iceberg could _____________ _____________ water for all the _____________ of a big city over a _____________ year. One _____________ that only _______ to _______ of an iceberg is above the _______ of the sea. All the _______—in other words _____________ _______—of the iceberg’s total _______ is _____________.

_________ all the way to Antarctica _______ drinking water? The _______ is simple. Icebergs _____________ when ice _____________ from glaciers on the edge of the _______ continent. This ice is _____________ compacted snow that _____________ _______ the sky in the _______ of precipitation many, many _____________. It is not _____________ as is the case of the Arctic _______. It is _______ water that can be _____________ for numerous _______. One _____________ also bear in _______ that _______ of the _____________ icebergs are to be _____________ in Antarctica.
If this project ___________________ several ______ to be _____________.
First, scientists must locate ____________ iceberg. This can be __________________ satellite observation. ________________ iceberg ________________________ and must not have ________________ _________. The ice in the cold __________ must be very compact and _______ relatively _________. The temperature of the core must be ____________________ Centigrade. ________________ must connect it __________________________ that will _____ it during its __________________ journey. ______, they will have to find a way to ________ the iceberg __________________________ before it __________ its destination. One idea is to __________________________ of plastic over the iceberg to __________ contact with the __________________ seawater.

The __________ towing process will ____________ months, and a considerable __________ of ice—_________________—may be __________ during this time. Finally, ____________ the iceberg ____________ transported to the __________ of Saudi Arabia, engineers ________________________ it _____ blocks of __________ that can be __________ onto the _____________. The ____________ may be dangerous _______ ________________ and the possibility of the iceberg ____________________ and causing the ____________ to _________. However, if this project is _________________________, drinking water will ____________ be a problem in Saudi Arabia.

**VOCABULARY and STRUCTURES to be learned and used often**

*Some meanings are given; others are obvious.*

**statement**: declaration  
**he was right**: he had the correct idea  
**devise a plan**: make up a plan  
**provide the citizens with fresh water**: give citizens drinking water  
**tow an iceberg**: pull with a tugboat
**over such a long distance**: along such a long distance

**both dangerous and expensive**: Never say: “the both”

**it would be worth the effort**: its value would compensate the effort made

**as everyone knows**: Notice “everybody” is followed by a verb in the singular

**drill for water**: use a drill to reach water

**far more expensive than**: much more expensive than

**furthermore**: in addition to (what has been said)

**reach**: attain

**height**: the adjective is “high”

**above**: over

**forty-story**: with forty floors

**often**: numerous times

**several kilometers long**: many km in length

**enough**: sufficient

**needs**: requirements

**over one whole year**: during one entire year

**one mustn't**: expresses what is not allowed or shouldn’t be done

**one-seventh**: one part out of seven

**above**: the opposite of “below”

**in other words**: said differently

**at least**: expresses a minimum (quantity, time, efforts, etc.)

**underneath**: below

**why go**: Notice the use of the verb without “to”

**all the way to**: as far as

**edge**: extreme outside part

**in fact**: in reality

**fell**: simple past of the verb “fall”

**even**: to a greater degree or extent

**fresh water**: water that can be used for drinking and preparing food

**purpose**: designated, intended use; objective

**one should**: expresses an obligation

**bear in mind that…**: remember that…

**carry out a project**: complete a project

**several steps (have to be taken)**: a series of actions, processes, or measures

**locate**: find

**the right iceberg**: the iceberg we need or are looking for

**through satellite observation**: by means of

**suitable**: adapted to our needs

**must be tabular**: having a flat surface

**must not have any cracks**: a partial break

**faults**: defects

**core**: central part

**thus**: in this way

**heavy**: opposite of “light”

**tugboat**: boat used to tow (pull) a bigger ship or an iceberg

**journey**: a long trip

**12,000-kilometer journey**: (Notice there is no “s” on “kilometer”, which is used as an adjective)

**to keep the iceberg from melting**: to prevent or protect from melting

**strips**: long narrow pieces

**warmer**: of a higher temperature

**seawater**: water with salt content

**actual**: real
towing: action of pulling a boat
process: (here) phase
last: indicates a duration of time
amount: quantity
lost: simple past of the verb “lose”
once…: (here) when…
shore: the land along the edge of an ocean or sea; a coast
engineers: N.B. Be sure to spell this word correctly. Remember “engineer” comes from “engine”.
saw: to cut or divide into pieces with a saw

Vocabulary:
Remember: “trip” is a noun and “travel” is a verb; exception: the book *Gulliver's Travels*. Do not say, “a travel”, but rather...”a trip”. “Have a nice trip!”

Grammar points:
When the iceberg arrives… Remember that in English we never use the future with “will” or “shall” or after “when”, “as soon as” or “while”.

Notice the difference:
• to avoid something (direct object)
• to avoid doing something (verb)
• to keep someone / something from doing something

Spelling:
Be sure you can spell “engineer”!

And learn to say “engineering studies”, “engineering school” or “engineering degree”. Never say “engineer studies”, “engineer school” or “engineer degree”.

QUESTIONS:
Answer in the space provided below using the structures and vocabulary indicated and the right tenses. Be ready to intervene in class.

1. What is the purpose (goal/objective) of the project? Use “involves… “, “consists of…”, “entails…” (Verbs + ING).
2. What are the main steps (series of actions or phases) of the project? Use the verbs “must” and “have to” and the expressions: first, second, third or firstly, secondly, thirdly (e.g. “they will have to…”), “engineers must…”, “when they find “X”, they will have to…” or “when they have found “X”, they will have to …” (same tense = “they will have to ….”)
Also use: “the work will (would) involve…” (+ ING)

Remember: “works” in the plural means “literary or artistic work”. Use “work” (in the singular without the article “a” in this context.) We say, “a lot of work”. Use “jobs” for the plural form.

3. Does this project sound feasible, i.e., possible, plausible, practical? Give several arguments. Use “research has shown”, “it is known that… “, “although”, “nevertheless”, “in spite of”. Speak of the feasibility or plausibility of the project.

4. What problems might occur during the towing, and what precautions would have to be taken? Use “may / might (happen)”, “in case of”, “for fear of”, “to avoid (+ ING)”, “to stop (+ ING)”, “to prevent something from (+ ING)”, “to be careful of (+ ING)”, “to pay attention to…”

5. What other ways of providing drinking water might be better? Use expressions such as “On the one hand, on the other hand”, “all things considered, it still might be better to…”, “not only would it…, but also it would…”

Use the space below to answer these questions.