

LISTENING COMPREHENSION – A SINKING ISLAND (2 min)

You are going to hear a news report about the effects of global warming on a small Brazilian fishermen town.

I) Before listening, read the list of vocabulary and try to guess what the sentence below might mean (1-2 sentences)

Vocabulary:

the force of nature
the ravages of the sea
salvage
near the coast line
the ocean advances
sea erosion

the power winds, water and other natural resources have
dangerous, enormous waves
bring to a safe place
next to the ocean
the sea level rises
waves wash away the land

Atafona's destiny is uncertain and the prospects are bleak [for the residents] as the ocean besieges the island they call home.

II) Now listen to the recording twice; take notes while listening and answer the questions below as detailed as possible:

1. What has happened to the small Brazilian town of Atafona due to global warming?
2. What do local fishermen believe is the reason? What do scientists say?
3. How have residents had to react to the changes? Why are people no longer building good houses in the town?
4. What is said about Atafona's future?
5. Summarize the text, including your answers from the questions above.