

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# INTEGRATING TEXTS

Read “Trapped in Ice” (p. 8) and the passage “Shipping Shortcut” (*below*). Then use the information in the texts to answer the questions in the table that follows. Record evidence collected from each text in the appropriate column.

## SHIPPING SHORTCUT

The next time you visit a supermarket or a department store, look around. Chances are many of the items being sold arrived in the U.S. by sea. In fact, about 90 percent of all goods traded worldwide travel by ship. Shipping is a high-stakes, high-cost business: The massive vessels that ferry products around the globe can cost hundreds of millions of dollars to build. So shippers are always looking for ways to do their jobs more efficiently—like a shortcut through the melting Arctic ice.

For centuries, sailors have searched for the Northwest Passage—a route between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans through the Arctic. But in the past, ice covered the Arctic year-round. That meant only specialized ships like icebreakers could make this journey. As climate change causes the region’s ice to decline, more and more ships are

now able to navigate Arctic waters.

In September 2014, a cargo ship crossed the Arctic Ocean without an icebreaker’s help for the first time in recorded history. The new route allowed it to deliver its cargo of nickel from Canada to China 40 percent faster than usual. The first solo tanker, which carried natural gas, followed in 2017. In 2018, the first container ship, carrying large boxes of goods that can be transferred directly onto trucks, made the crossing.

Scientists point out that these new opportunities come with risks, such as increased pollution, for the fragile Arctic. “Industries are excited about being able to exploit the Arctic,” says climatologist Céline Heuzé. But first, she says, “We’d like to understand the ecosystem better and put protections in place.”

| Question   | “Trapped in Ice” | “Shipping Shortcut” |
|--|------------------|---------------------|
| How has climate change affected the Arctic?  |                  |                     |
| Why is the Arctic Ocean important for humans?  |                  |                     |
| What challenges does the Arctic pose for people who want to explore or investigate the region? |                  |                     |
| How are human activities affecting the Arctic?   |                  |                     |
| How might the effects of climate change in the Arctic affect your life?                        |                  |                     |