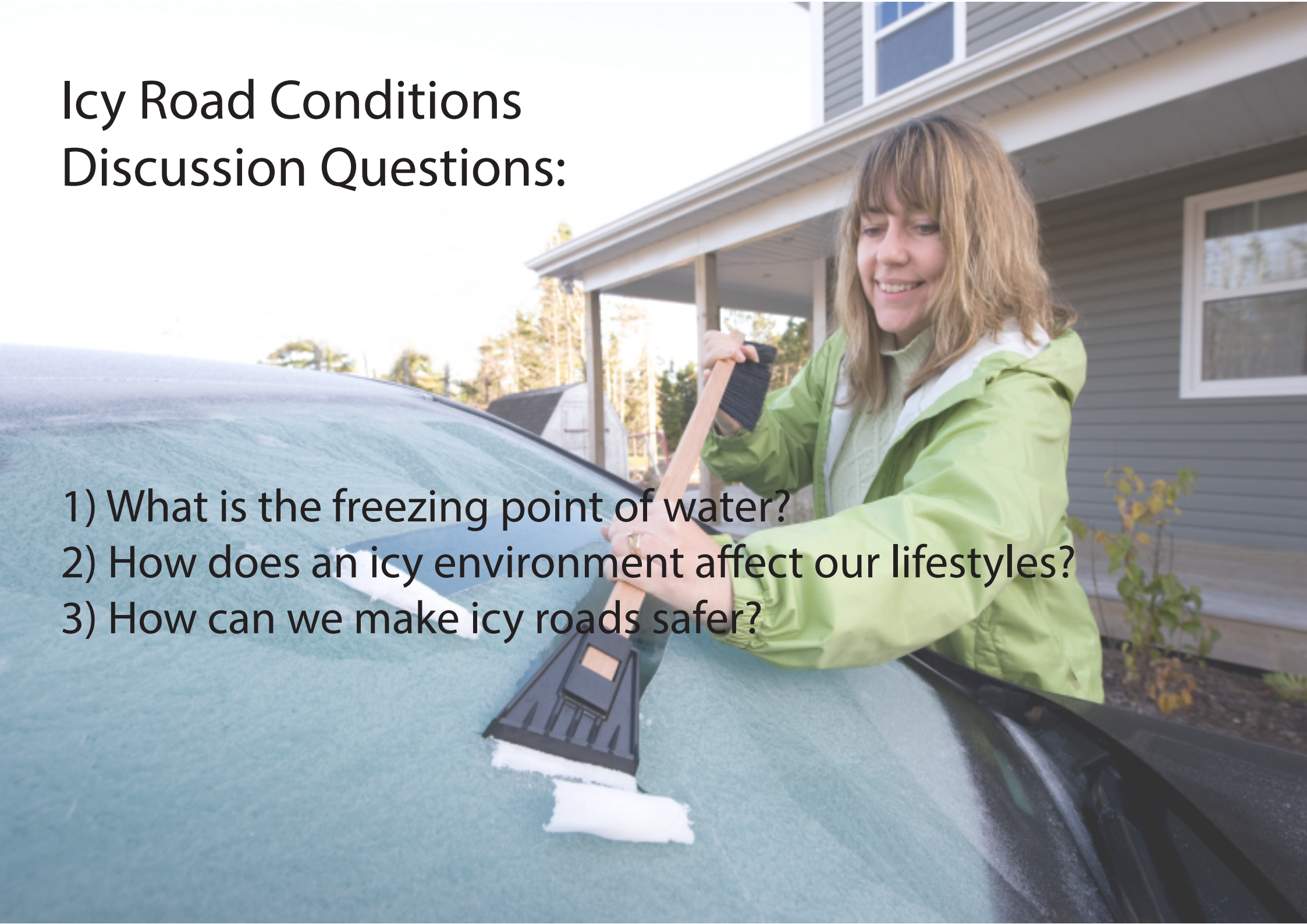


Icy Road Conditions

Discussion Questions:

- 1) What is the freezing point of water?
- 2) How does an icy environment affect our lifestyles?
- 3) How can we make icy roads safer?



What are driving conditions like in cold climates?



Roads can become very slippery when surface water freezes into ice. Accidents can occur when a vehicle's tyres cannot get the right amount of traction.

How can we make the roads safer?

Removing snow and ice is a priority in cold climates.



How is ice removed from the road's surface?



Salt is spread over icy road surfaces. The salt helps the ice to melt.

Water freezes at 0°C .

The addition of salt lowers this freezing point to as low as -30°C . As long as the surrounding air is warmer than this temperature, the ice will begin to melt.

How can tyre traction be improved in snowy conditions?





Tyres have grooves in them to help them stick to the road. Tyre traction alone isn't enough in snowy conditions. Chains are wrapped around tyres to stop them slipping in the snow and ice.