

Cross-curricular extension unit 9

Natural science: Climate

1 Climate is the average weather and precipitation (rain and snow) in a place. Match the climate words 1–6 with the definitions a–f.


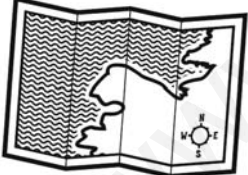


- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1 arid | a quite cold |
| 2 polar | b dry and not rainy |
| 3 tropical | c with nice weather, not usually very hot or very cold |
| 4 monsoon | d very cold and icy |
| 5 cool | e a very rainy and sometimes windy season |
| 6 temperate | f hot, wet and rainy |

2 What are the climates in these places? Complete the sentences with the words 1–6 in exercise 1.

- India has got a _____ climate. It has got two seasons, a wet season and a dry season.
- The Gobi Desert is very _____. There aren't many plants there.
- Antarctica is _____. Temperatures are usually between -15 and -70°C .
- France is a _____ country. It's warm in summer and cool in winter.
- North Canada is a _____ place. It's snowy in winter.
- The Brazilian rainforest is very hot and rainy. It has got a _____ climate.

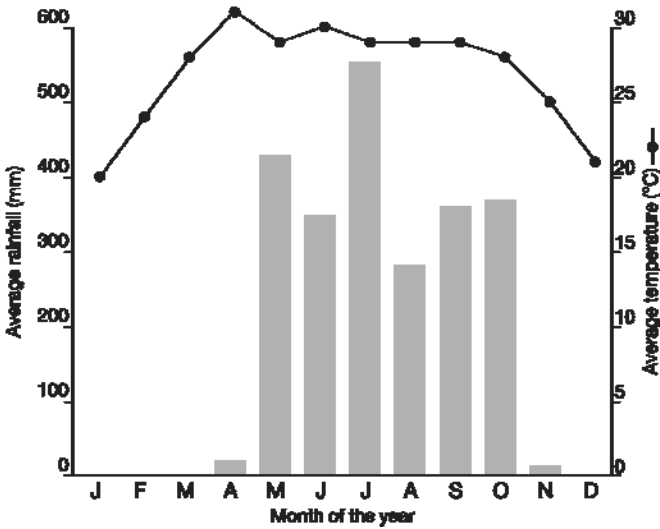
3 Why do different places have different climates? Read the information in the table. Then complete the sentences with the words in the box.

colder drought falls flood freezes ~~hotter~~ melts shines

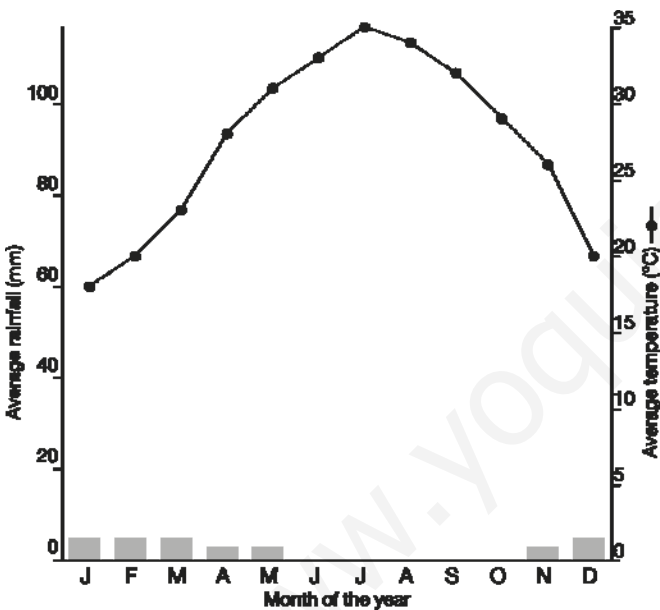
<p>Latitude</p> 	<p>It is usually <i>hotter</i> near the equator, and the sun (1) _____ for longer.</p>
<p>Proximity to oceans</p> 	<p>More rain (2) _____ in countries near the coast. Winds from the sea bring a lot of water vapour. A lot of water can be dangerous. In a (3) _____, towns and villages can be under water.</p>
<p>Altitude</p> 	<p>It is usually (4) _____ in high places. Water on mountains often (5) _____ into ice or snow. In warmer summer months, some of this snow and ice (6) _____ and changes into water.</p>
<p>Pollution</p> 	<p>Pollution is making the climate hotter. When the weather is very hot and dry, there is sometimes a (7) _____. This is very dangerous, because some animals and people can die.</p>

4 Look at the climate charts for New Dhaka in Bangladesh and Cairo in Egypt. Then answer the questions.

New Dhaka, Bangladesh



Cairo, Egypt



- Which place becomes hotter?

- Which place has got more rain?

- What is the climate in New Dhaka?

- What is the climate in Cairo?

5 Read the text next to the charts. In which country are there:

- droughts? _____
- floods? _____

Hot climates

Countries near the equator are usually hot, because there is more sun at the equator. Bangladesh and Egypt are two hot countries with different climates.

Bangladesh is in the northern hemisphere. Its south coast is next to the Indian Ocean, and there are mountains in the north of the country. From May to October, it's monsoon season in Bangladesh, and it's very rainy. The weather can sometimes be dangerous. In July 2004, the monsoon winds were very bad, and it was also quite hot. There was a lot of precipitation, and the snow and ice melted in the high altitude areas in the north. The rivers became full, and there was a big flood. Sixty per cent of the country was under water!

Egypt is south of the equator. Rain doesn't fall very often in Egypt, and the country has got an arid climate. The Sahara Desert is in the south-west of Egypt. This desert is bigger than Australia, and temperatures there can be very hot. In 1922, it was 58°C in the north of the Sahara! In Egypt, 98 per cent of people live near the River Nile, because there are often droughts in the desert. But the desert is becoming bigger, because pollution is making the climate hotter. This is called 'desertification'.

6 Read the text again and write *True* or *False* for sentences 1–5. Correct the false sentences.

- There is a lot of rain in Bangladesh in the summer. _____
- In 2004 it was very dry and cold in Bangladesh. _____
- Australia is smaller than the Sahara desert. _____
- A lot of people in Egypt live in the desert. _____
- 'Desertification' means that deserts are getting bigger. _____

7 Find information about the climate in your area. Use the internet or the library to help you. Then answer the questions.

- What is the climate in your area?
- When is it hot or cold in your area?
- When is it rainy?