Describing the world: weather and climate

VOCABULARY PRACTICE
INTERMEDIATE | B1-B2

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Tick the correct category for each weather word.

Word | Precipitation | Temperature | Wind | Pattern

1 torrential [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
2 sweltering [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
3 gusty [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
4 monsoon [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
5 freezing [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
6 unpredictable [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
7 drizzle [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
8 climate zone [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

2 Correct the mistake in each sentence.

1 It was torrential of rain all night. _____
2 The weather was sweltering hot today. _____
3 We had gusty of wind on the coast. _____
4 The monsoon season bring heavy rain. _____
5 It's freezing outside of today. _____
6 The weather here is very unpredictable of. _____
7 There was a light drizzle for morning. _____
8 We live in a temperate of climate zone. _____

3 Choose the more suitable description.

1 For extremely heavy rain: torrential / light.
2 For uncomfortably hot weather: sweltering / mild.
3 For strong, sudden bursts of wind: gusty / calm.
4 For the seasonal rains common in South Asia: monsoon / drought.
5 For very cold temperatures, at or below zero: freezing / warm.
6 For weather that changes suddenly and often: unpredictable / consistent.

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4 Complete the forecasts with words from the box.

climate zone | drizzle | freezing | gusty | monsoon | sweltering | torrential | unpredictable

Forecast A: Expect 1 _____ rain overnight, with strong 2 _____ winds along the coast making conditions difficult for drivers.
Forecast B: Temperatures will remain 3 _____ well into the evening, part of an unusually hot spell for this 4 _____.
Forecast C: A light 5 _____ is expected in the morning, clearing by midday.
Forecast D: The 6 _____ season has arrived early this year, bringing heavy, sudden downpours.
Forecast E: Conditions remain 7 _____, with sudden shifts between sunshine and rain. Overnight temperatures will be 8 _____, so drivers should take care.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

How climate zones shape daily life

A region's climate zone influences far more than clothing choices; it shapes agriculture, architecture and even cultural traditions. Communities in monsoon regions often build homes designed to withstand torrential seasonal rains, while those in temperate zones plan around more moderate, gradual seasonal change. Increasingly unpredictable weather patterns, linked to broader climate change, are complicating traditional planning, as farmers and planners can no longer rely on historical patterns to anticipate conditions. Meteorologists note that even short-term forecasts have become more valuable precisely because long-term seasonal patterns are shifting in ways that are not yet fully understood.

1 What does a region's climate zone influence, besides clothing? _____

2 How do communities in monsoon regions often build their homes? _____

3 What do communities in temperate zones plan around? _____

4 What is complicating traditional planning? _____

5 Why can farmers no longer rely on historical patterns? _____

6 Why have short-term forecasts become more valuable? _____

6 Rewrite each phrase using the word in capitals.

1 The rain was extremely heavy all night. TORRENTIAL _____

2 It was uncomfortably hot all afternoon. SWELTERING _____

3 The wind was strong and gusting suddenly. GUSTY _____

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4 The weather changes suddenly and often. UNPREDICTABLE _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a 100-120 word account describing how the climate in your region affects daily life, agriculture or architecture. Include specific examples.

[ ] Use at least ten target expressions. [ ] Include polite, precise wording. [ ] Organise the account clearly.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Categories

1 Precipitation 2 Temperature 3 Wind 4 Pattern 5 Temperature 6 Pattern 7 Precipitation 8 Pattern

2 Corrections

1 torrential rain all night 2 sweltering heat today 3 gusty winds on the coast
4 brings heavy rain 5 freezing outside today 6 very unpredictable
7 a light drizzle in the morning 8 a temperate climate zone

3 Suitable descriptions

1 torrential 2 sweltering 3 gusty 4 monsoon 5 freezing 6 unpredictable

4 Forecasts

1 torrential 2 gusty 3 sweltering 4 climate zone 5 drizzle 6 monsoon 7 unpredictable 8 freezing

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Agriculture, architecture and cultural traditions.
2 Designed to withstand torrential seasonal rains.
3 More moderate, gradual seasonal change.
4 Increasingly unpredictable weather patterns linked to broader climate change.
5 Because long-term seasonal patterns are shifting in ways not yet fully understood.
6 Because long-term seasonal patterns are shifting unpredictably.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 The rain was torrential. 2 It was sweltering all afternoon.
3 The wind was gusty. 4 The weather is unpredictable.

Over to you

Answers will vary. Check range, respectful register and clear organisation.