

Key words and definitions

Aspect n. Facing a particular direction

Beaufort Scale A system of measuring wind speed looking at its effect on the surroundings, uses the numbers 0 to 12

Climate n. The average weather conditions of an area usually measured over 30 years

Compass n. An instrument used to show direction, with a needle that points North

Condensation n. When water vapour is cooled to form water droplets. This process produces clouds, mist and fog

Convectional Rainfall Rain caused when the sun heats the ground, the ground heats the air, which then rises to form clouds

Depression n. A weather system that brings wet and windy weather, it is made up of a warm front being chased by a cold front

Evaporation n. When a liquid (rain) or solid (ice or snow) is changed to a gas (water vapour)

Evapotranspiration The amount of moisture removed by evaporation and transpiration from plants

Forecast v. We predict what the weather will be like

Frontal Rainfall Rain is caused when a warm front meets a cold front

Hurricane n. A severe depression, with very strong winds

Meteorologist n. This is a person who studies the weather

Meteorology n. This is the study of weather

Microclimate Where variations in the weather conditions occur over a small area

Relief Rainfall Rain that occurs when air is forced to rise over a hill or mountain

Satellite Image A picture taken by a camera carried on a satellite in space

Weather n. The state of the atmosphere at one place at one time

Year 7 Weather and Climate

Sun



Heavy Rain



Hail Shower



Heavy Snow



Fog



Thundery Shower



Weather term	Means...	Units used...	Measured using...
Air pressure 	How 'heavy' the air is	Millibars (mb)	Barometer
Cloud cover 	How much of the sky is hidden by clouds	Oktas	Your eyes; satellite images
Precipitation 	Water falling from the sky in any form (rain, hail, sleet, snow)	Millibars (mm)	Rain gauge
Temperature 	Exactly how hot or cold it is	Degrees Celsius (°C)	Thermometer
Visibility 	How far ahead we can see, for example on a foggy day	Metres or Kilometres	Visibility meter
Wind direction 	Where the wind is blowing from	Compass point (N, NW, S, SW etc.)	Weather vane
Wind speed 	How fast the wind is blowing	Kilometres or Miles per hour	Anemometer



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