

A Read the text and number the paragraphs in the correct order, from the introduction to the conclusion.

The Polar Vortex

- _____ a. Secondly, and as a result of the stratosphere becoming warmer, the polar vortex broke down and the winds became much weaker.
- _____ b. The idea that extreme cold can be caused by a rise in temperature is confusing, but this is what happened. First, the stratosphere suddenly became warmer. This, for example, happened in December 2018.
- _____ c. That's why in early February 2019, the US Midwest froze and Chicago was nearly as cold as the North Pole.
- _____ d. The phrase "polar vortex" was first seen in US media in 2014, when extreme cold weather affected parts of the country. As weather experts explain, however, cold weather is not produced by the polar vortex itself but by the breaking of the polar vortex. But to understand how it breaks, we need to understand what it is.
- _____ e. Thirdly, a month later, the extremely cold air above the North Pole was no longer contained by the weaker polar vortex, so it traveled south, toward the north of Asia, Europe, and North America.
- _____ f. First of all, there is extremely cold air above the North Pole, but it is normally kept there by very strong winds that blow around it. These winds are called the polar vortex. It is found in the stratosphere, which is between six and 30 miles above the ground. This wind vortex is like a barrier that cannot be crossed by the cold air, so it protects places south of the North Pole. But in the winters of 2014, 2018, and 2019, something went wrong.

C Look at the chart of words that show sequence. Then look at your answers to **E** in Lesson D and the previous exercise in this lesson and complete the chart.

Starting point	Numbering	Other following points	Concluding point
first of all	firstly		