

**Read the following passage carefully**

Lying just 13° North of the Equator, Barbados enjoys a hot tropical climate with two distinct seasons, a wet season and a dry season. The wet season begins in May / June and runs through until November / December. The dry season is from January to June. Little rain falls during this season especially between February and April, the driest months.

When it rains however, during this period the rainfall is refreshing and much needed. Rain is usually followed quickly by sunny skies and within minutes everything will become dry again. Tropical rainstorms sometimes occur in the hurricane season which runs from June to October. In Barbados, it is commonly said in relation to the hurricane season “June too soon, October all over!”

Tropical rain sometimes results in severe flooding, but the island has porous soil so the heaviest rains quickly run into underground lakes or into the sea.

Barbados is generally warm and sunny all year round. The average low temperature is 23°C. The prevailing North-East trade winds blow steadily so that although it is bright and sunny, the temperature is not unbearably hot. Although we live in the tropics, some locals actually put on a sweater in the cool night-time breeze.

The following questions are about the passage you have just read. Write the correct answer for each question in the space provided. Pay attention to your Grammar and Spelling.

1. Write a short description of Barbados' hot tropical climate.
2. What important information about Barbados do we obtain from the phrase “Lying just 13° North of the Equator”?

3. According to the passage, what helps to cool down the hot days in Barbados?
4. What does the phrase “rainfall is refreshing and much needed” in lines 6-7 suggest?
5. In Barbados, what does the saying “June to soon, October all over” (line 9) refer to?
6. What might be considered a strange practice by locals in the cool night time breeze?
7. What helps relieve the severity of flooding in Barbados
8. Write a suitable title for the passage.