

Read the text about the weather on different areas of the UK and do the exercises below.

In terms of sunshine, the favoured spots are on the south coast of England with over 1,850 hours a year on average, about 40% of the maximum number of hours that are possible. In contrast, Shetland manages less than 1,100 hours per year – only about a quarter of the hours possible.

Wettest of all are the highest parts of Snowdonia and the Lake District where over 4,000 mm of rain falls in a typical year, with the western Scottish Highlands almost as wet.

The driest areas are those near the Essex coast and the Thames Estuary, receiving less than 550 mm per year. However, this area, along with the rest of south-east England and East Anglia, is the most prone to thunderstorms.

In terms of mean temperature, the coldest areas are in Scotland's Grampian mountains with averages only a few degrees above freezing, over 100 frosts each year and more than 60 days of lying snow each year. The warmest places are central London and the west coast of Cornwall, but other southern coasts are not far behind. Here, frost and snow are relatively rare.

Upland and coastal areas are the windiest, especially those to the west and north such as the Western and Northern Isles of Scotland. Here we find the highest frequency of gales. The least windy places tend to be low-lying, well inland and towards the south, especially in valleys, forests and built-up areas.

I. Complete the sentences according to the text.

the driest	the warmest	the coldest
the windiest	wettest	sunshine

1. In terms of, the _____ favoured spots are on the south coast of England.
2. _____ of all are the highest parts of Snowdonia and the Lake District.
3. _____ areas are those near the Essex coast and the Thames Estuary.
4. _____ areas are in Scotland's Grampian mountains.
5. _____ places are central London and the west coast of Cornwall.
6. Upland and coastal areas are _____, especially those to the west and north such as the Western and Northern Isles of Scotland.

