Student Name: _____

Class: _____ **Date**: _____

UNLOCK 2 - UNIT 4: WEATHER AND CLIMATE
READING 1

Exercise 1.

The Supertrees of Singapore

Sayeed Khan reports on an unusual idea to protect the environment in South East Asia.

A _____

Singapore is a small island with a hot, tropical climate. The temperature is always around 30 oC, and the average rainfall every year is more than 200cm. The population is over 5 million, and there are more than 7,500 people living in every km2.

B _____

However, there is one green space full of trees in Singapore's city centre, and it is loved by visitors. It is a huge park, and its name is Gardens by the Bay. It is as big as 190 football fields, and includes thousands of trees, plants and fish from all around the world.

C _____

However, 18 of the trees in this park are not real. They are made from plastic and metal. These are the 'Supertrees', and each one is huge. They are all between 25–50 metres tall, and are larger than the real trees in the park. They look strange, and they are covered in more than 160,000 plants and flowers. However, many people think that they are beautiful, especially at night when they are covered in lights.

D _____

The Supertrees are like real trees, because they help protect the environment around them. They collect rainwater, and this slowly gives water to all the other plants. It also helps the temperature fall in the park, and visitors near the Supertrees don't feel so hot. They also have special solar panels, which catch light from the sun, and change it into electricity. This electricity is used across the whole park.

E _____

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Of course, the Supertrees are very expensive to build (the whole park cost 1 billion Singapore dollars (US$784 million) to complete). Many people think that it is better to spend money on nature, on real trees, than on plastic ones.

F _____

However, most people in the world today live in cities. These cities are getting bigger, and there is less and less space for nature. With the Supertrees, Singapore hopes to teach people that it is important to think about our climate, and where we live, and to find new ways to protect the environment.

I. Read the text. Choose a heading for each paragraph.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
An unusual type of tree	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
A popular place to go	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
A problem with the Supertrees	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Some facts about Singapore	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Thinking about the future	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
How the Supertrees help	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

II. Match the questions (1-5) with the answers (a-e).

1. Why is Singapore special?
2. What does 'super' mean in the word 'Supertree'?
3. How does a Supertree help the environment?
4. Why do some people disagree with building the Supertrees?
5. Why is it important to think of new ideas to help our environment?

a. Our cities are becoming more crowded.
b. It does not use energy, it creates energy.
c. It is one of the most crowded countries in the world.
d. It is bigger than usual.
e. The money can be used for something else.

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Exercise 2. Complete the text with the words below.

lowest	desert	high	maximum	minimum	rainfall

The coldest and the hottest places on Earth

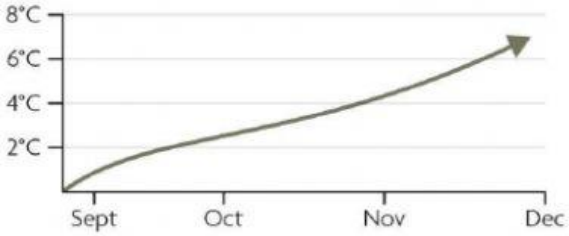
Antarctica is the coldest place on Earth. The (1)_____ temperature is only around 0oC, and the coldest temperatures can be around -55° C. The (2)_____ temperatures are always between May and October. This is the Antarctic winter, and it is always very dark.

Antarctica is also a very dry place. It almost never snows here. This means that Antarctica is actually a (3)_____.

Death Valley, in California, US is the hottest place on Earth. It is the lowest place in North America, at 86 metres below sea level, and it is very dry. There is almost no (4)_____ here.

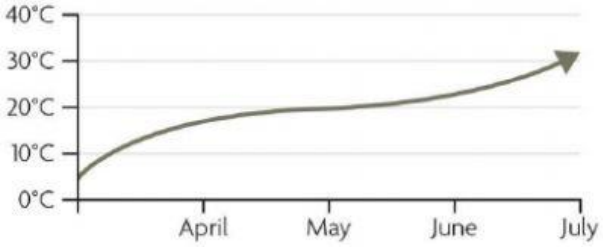
There are very temperatures in Death Valley in the summer, between May and October. In this season, the hottest temperatures can be around 57° C. Between January and December, the (5)_____ temperature is around 4° C.

Exercise 3. Correct the mistakes in the sentences. There is one mistake in each sentence.



1. The graph shows an increase temperature.

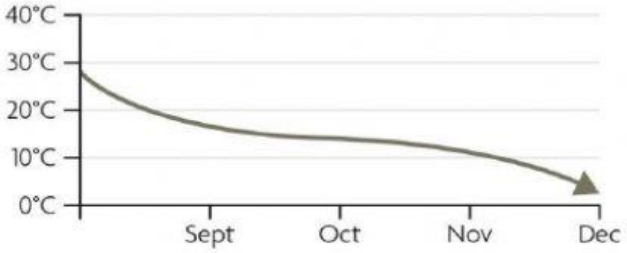
_____



2. The temperature rises 30° C.

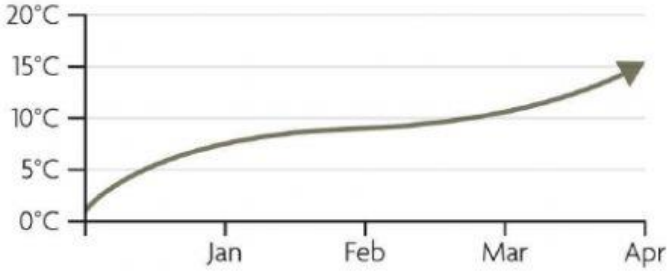
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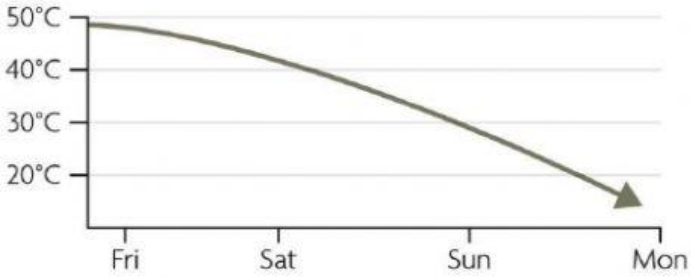
3. In December, the temperature drops nearly 0° C.

_____



4. In April, the temperature reaches to 15° C.

_____



5. The graph shows decrease in temperature.

_____

<u>Exercise 5</u>. Complete each sentence by using the correct comparative or superlative form of the word in blank.

1. You're looking *(good)* _____ now. Has your cold gone?
2. I think the *(good)* _____ holiday I ever had was the one to Brazil.
3. The unemployment figures are *(bad)* _____ than expected.
4. That is definitely the *(bad)* _____ game of football I have ever seen.

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5. We climbed *(far)* _____ up the hill to get a better view.

6. What is the *(far)* _____ planet from the sun?

Exercise 6. Correct the mistakes in the sentences. There is one mistake in each sentence.

1. The temperature in Dubai is higher then in London.
2. The hotest temperatures in the world are usually in deserts.
3. Singapore is not sunny as Australia.
4. It is best to live in a sunny city than a rainy city.
5. Too much sun can be the more dangerous than too much snow.
6. A tornado is more worse than a storm.
7. In Antarctica, May is cold as August.
8. The Atacama Desert in Chile is one of the dryest places in the world.

Exercise 7. Complete the article with the correct form of the word in brackets. Use one word only in each gap.

Extreme weather

Rain

Many people think that it rains a lot in the UK. However, it is not the (1) _____ (wet) place in Europe. Crkvica, in Bosnia-Herzegovina is (2)_____ (wet), with around 464cm of rain every year. But the (3) _____ (rain) place in the world is in Asia. Mawsynram, in India, is high in the mountains and gets around 1,187 cm per year.

Sun

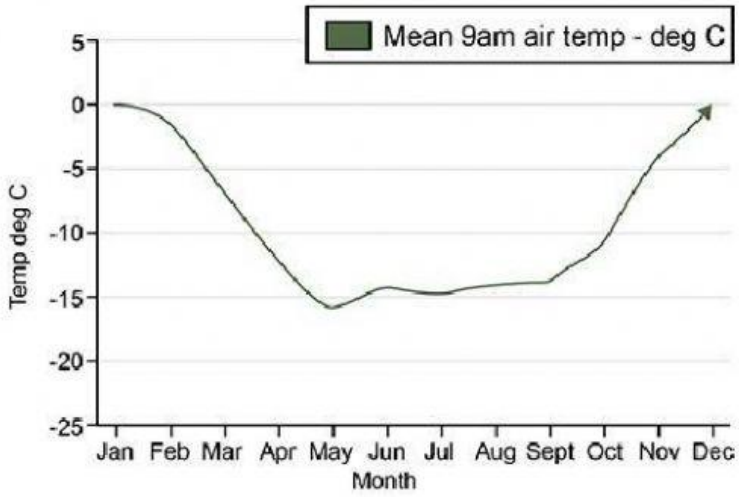
Australia is one of the (4)_____ (sunny) places in the world. This country gets around 3,569 hours of sun every year. The UAE is (5)_____ (sunny) with about 3,609 hours. However, the place with the (6) _____ (bright) weather is Arizona, in the US, with more than 4,000 hours.

Wind

The (7)_____ (high) wind speed recorded was in the US. The wind reached 371 km per hour. However, a place where it is windy every day is also the (8)_____ (cold) and (9)_____ (dark) place on Earth. In Antarctica, wind speeds are often around 320 km per hour. Perhaps this is the (10) _____ (bad) place in the world to live.

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Exercise 8. Complete the summary of the graph below in the sentences.



1. This graph *(shows/ reaches)* the temperature in Antarctica.

2. *(January/ May)* is the warmest month.

3. *(January/ May)* is the coldest.

4. In this month, *(maximum/ minimum)* temperatures are around -15°C.

5. There are very *(high/ low)* temperatures between May and October.

6. Then, the temperature quickly *(increases/ decreases).*

7. Between December and January, the temperature *(degrees/ reaches)* around 0°C.

8. This is the *(maximum/ minimum)* temperature in Antarctica.

9. After February, the temperatures *(drop/ rise)* every month until May.

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