Name _____ Number Right _____ **4**

Directions: *You have 4½ minutes to read the selection and answer the questions. Do not begin reading until your teacher gives the signal.*

Weather in the U.S.

Did you know that the U.S.A. has the wildest weather of any country on earth? That is because the United States has more variety in its weather than any other country.

Some places in the U.S. such as North Dakota, Minnesota, and the New England states get temperatures as low as 50 degrees below zero in winter. It is dangerous to stay outside in such cold weather.

Other places, such as California and Arizona, experience extreme heat, up to 100 degrees during the summer months. Everything becomes very dry because of the sun's hot rays and lack of rain. People need to stay indoors with air conditioning to be comfortable.

States along the southern and eastern coasts, from Texas to North Carolina, are in danger of hurricanes that come from the south. Strong winds and great walls of water crash over the land, destroying everything in their path.

Cold air from the north and warm south winds meet on the plains of our country such as are found in states like Kansas and Nebraska. This mixture of warm and cold air produces thunderstorms, which sometimes result in tornadoes.

Heavy rains cause flooding in many areas of our country. People must leave their homes to go to higher ground. Snowstorms bring transportation and business to a standstill in some places. This has happened even in Washington, D.C., making it necessary to close government offices.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Circle the correct answer.

1. In some parts of the United States, the temperature may drop this low in the winter.
   - **a.** 32 degrees above zero
   - **b.** zero
   - **c.** 50 degrees above zero
   - **d.** 50 degrees below zero

2. **True** or **False:** It is very dry in Arizona during the summer because of the extreme heat and lack of rain.

3. What do people do to keep comfortable during extreme heat?
   - **a.** stay indoors with air conditioning
   - **b.** stay outdoors to catch any breeze that is blowing
   - **c.** stay outdoors and wear protective clothing from the sun
   - **d.** stay indoors and keep all the windows open

4. What do you call a storm that has strong winds and great walls of water?
   - **a.** a tornado
   - **b.** a snowstorm
   - **c.** a hurricane
   - **d.** a flood

5. Storms result when _?_.
   - **a.** air gets too cold
   - **b.** air gets too hot
   - **c.** cold air and hot air collide
   - **d.** the weather is mild

LIVEWORKSHEETS