

Minnesota's Weather

Read the text and answer the questions

Minnesota is a state which is located in the north-central part of the country, and where there are **enormous** weather changes from season to season. It has four distinct seasons: a rainy, cool spring from March to May; a hot, humid summer from June to August; a chilly, colourful autumn from September to November and finally a frigid, snowy winter lasting from December to February.

Minnesota's winters are famous for their harsh conditions, with temperatures reaching as low as -51°C , and up to 432 centimeters of snow annually. Extreme snowstorms, sometimes referred to as blizzards, often lead to schools cancelling classes for multiple days at a time. These storms have wind speeds of up to 56km/h and can last for over three hours, causing a "whiteout", or a condition where you cannot see anything outside. This often causes car accidents, and people can be trapped inside their homes for days. However, summers also come with their own weather issues, as Minnesota often experiences tornados, or spinning columns of wind which can reach speeds of 180km/h and do great damage to buildings and people.

1. Where is Minnesota located?

- a. East coast
- b. West coast
- c. North-central part of the country
- d. South-central part of the country

2. How many distinct seasons does Minnesota have?

- a. 2
- b. 3
- c. 4
- d. 5

3. What is a "whiteout"?

- a. A condition where everything turns white in color.
- b. A condition where you cannot see anything outside.
- c. A condition where strong winds blow snow off the ground.
- d. A condition where freezing rain falls from the sky.

4. What can extreme snowstorms in Minnesota lead to?

- a. School cancellations
- b. Tornados
- c. Heatwaves
- d. Rain showers

5. What kind of weather conditions can cause car accidents in Minnesota?

- a. Extreme heat
- b. Heavy rain
- c. Whiteouts
- d. Tornados