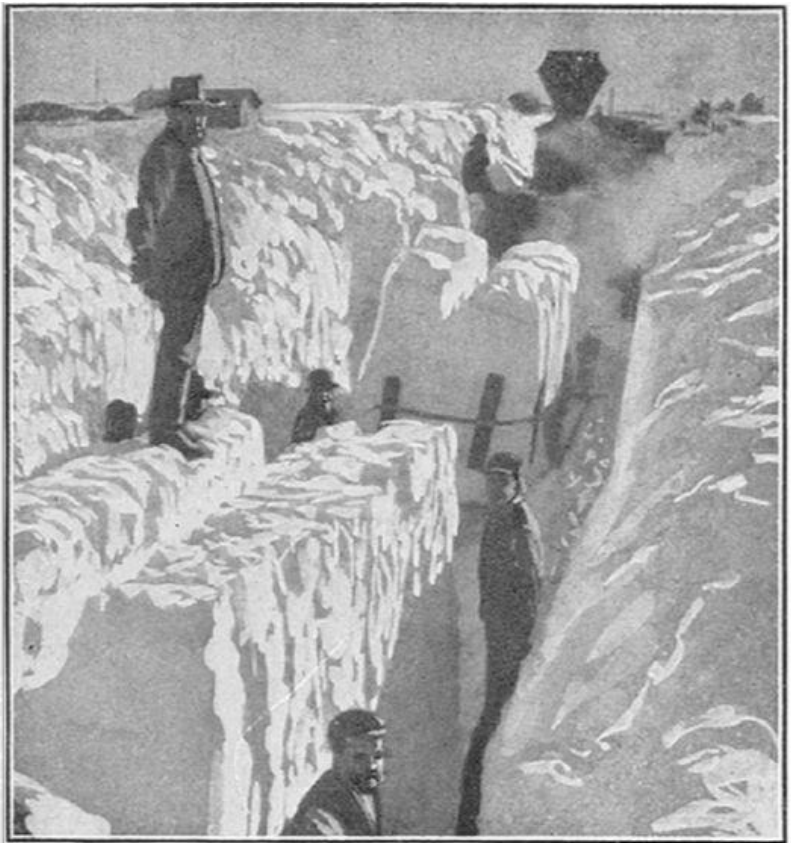# THE SNOW WINTER OF 1880-1881

1 The winter of 1880-1881 was one of the **worst / most bad** winters in American history.

2 The **too famous / most famous** description of this winter is in Laura Ingalls Wilder's book *The Long Winter.*

3 Several towns were snowbound for months and people **didn't have enough / had too much** food to last the winter.

4 The farmers **were too slow / slowest** to harvest their crops before the snow fell.

5 The Chicago and North Western railway closed because there were **were too many / weren't enough** men to clear snow from the tracks.

6 The snow was **not deep enough / too deep** for the cattle to graze and thousands of cows starved to death.

7 The **biggest / too big** snow drifts were more than 3.5 m deep.

OPENING THE ROAD IN 1881.

Posted by u/mason240 2 years ago
37
Think this winter is bad? The "Snow Winter" of 1880-81 had over 11 feet of accumulated snow that didn't melt until May.
facebook.com/story.... ⬈

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mason240 2 years ago
I hear some people are mad at Facebook, so here's the article.

Many would agree that this winter has overstayed its welcome. However, this year's weather is nothing compared to the "Snow Winter" of 1880-1881. Immortalized in Laura Ingalls Wilder's novel 'The Long Winter,' that season kicked off with a record-setting blizzard in October 1880, followed by several more months of consistent snowfall, and major snowstorms in January, March, and April of 1881. By spring, the snow averaged 11 feet deep across much of Minnesota. Many railroad lines were shut down for months, and some communities remained entirely isolated until the snows finally started to melt in May of 1881. Nicknamed the "Snow Winter," the 1880-1881 season remains the snowiest and longest-lasting Midwestern winter ever recorded.

The 1880s, as a decade, are the snowiest on record across the Upper Midwest. Though no other year topped the total accumulation of 1880-81, the years 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, and 1889 were also marked by a string of catastrophic blizzards. Modern meteorologists believe that the continued fallout from the 1883 eruption of Mount Krakatoa in Indonesia is partially responsible for this period of severe winters.

Incidentally, these were the same years that the bulk of James J. Hill's Great Northern Railway was being built. Despite frequent delays due to the snowfall, Hill's crews nonetheless managed to set track-laying records and meet deadlines. For the workers, this meant a great deal of labor spent clearing snow, and sometimes even laying tracks in near-whiteout conditions.

Use the superlative form and google it!

Weather quiz

Do our weather quiz and find out your perfect holiday activity!

1 What is your favourite type of weather?
   a hot and sunny
   b dark storms, thunder and lightning
   c cold and snowy

2 It's snowing outside. What do you do?
   a Get on an aeroplane to a warm country.
   b Stay inside, but take some great photos of the snow.
   c Run outside and make a snowman.

3 It's 36°C. What do you want to do?
   a I want to meet my friends and go for a walk.
   b I want to lie in the sun and think about life.
   c I want to have a cold drink and an ice cream.

4 What's your favourite season?
   a summer   b autumn   c winter

1 What is / large / desert / in the world?

   _____

   a Antarctica   **b** the Sahara   **c** the Gobi

2 What is / deep / cave / in the world?

   _____

   a Mulu   **b** Krubera   **c** Lascaux

3 What was / high / temperature / ever recorded?

   _____

   a 45°C   **b** 57°C   **c** 64°C

4 Where was / deadly / tornado?

   _____

   a Bangladesh   **b** Argentina   **c** USA

5 How long was / long / lightning bolt?

   _____

   a 19 km   **b** 90 km   **c** 190 km

6 What is / dangerous / creature / in the world?

   _____

   a mosquito   **b** human   **c** shark

7 What is / wide / river / in the world?

   _____

   a the Amazon   **b** the Mekong   **c** the Nile

8 What is / high / waterfall / in the world?

   _____

   a Niagara Falls   **b** Victoria Falls   **c** Angel Falls

I have mostly _____

clouds	foggy	lightning	raindrops	rainy	snowflakes	sunshine	wind

1 The sky is blue today

a   _____ running down the window.

2 I saw _____ five seconds ago

b with a few white _____ .

3 It's very _____ today –

c don't forget your umbrella.

4 Most _____ have got

d it's very stormy today.

5 It's dangerous to drive

e when it's very _____ .

6 I love to see the _____

f and now I can hear thunder.

7 I was getting ready for the beach when I suddenly noticed

g when I wake up in the morning.

8 I can hear the _____ in the trees –

h six sides.

AND NOW THE WEATHER

IT WILL BE SUNNY UNLESS IT RAINS

Get your answer!

Mostly a: You like being with your friends and you love hot weather. Your perfect holiday activity is: *Swimming in the sea*

Mostly b: You love culture and art. Your perfect holiday activity is: *Sightseeing in a large city*

Mostly c: You enjoy sport, but you don't like hot weather. Your perfect holiday activity is: *Skiing in the mountains*

LIVEWORKSHEETS