Lesson 5

Our weather and climate

Climate describes the kinds of weather a place has in general. For example, if a place has more dry weather than wet, we say it has a dry climate. If it has more hot weather than cold, we say it has a hot climate.

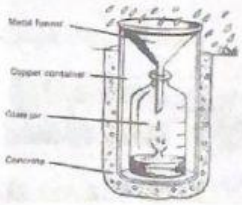
In the Bahamas, we have long periods of sunshine. The temperature, usually, rises to 32 degrees Celsius and falls to about 26 degrees Celsius at nights. Our winter temperature seldom falls much below 16 degree Celsius. Our climate is **warm and sunny**.

snowy

There are several weather tools we can use to measure the weather. First is the **thermometer**. A thermometer is a weather tool used to measure the temperature.

rainy

Another instrument used in measuring weather is a **rain gauge.** This is a can with a funnel which measures the amount of rain that falls in a particular place. In The Bahamas, rain showers may occur at any time of the year, but most rain falls between May and October. Rainfall, usually, comes in the form of heavy showers or thundershowers, which clears up very quickly.



Next, is the **barometer.** The barometer is an instrument that measures atmospheric pressure.

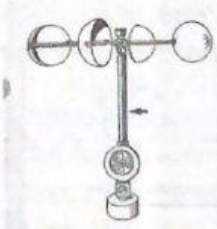
Wind direction can be measured by a **wind vane**. In The Bahamas, the wind blows most often in the winter from the north-east and in the summer from the south-east. By observing the wind vane, we can know the direction of the wind.

Wind speed is an important part of the weather. An **anemometer** is a weather tool that measures wind speed.

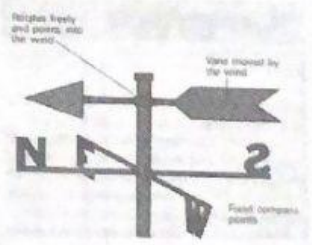
The Bahamas is affected by hurricanes between June and November. We are at greatest risk for a hurricane in August, September, and October.

barometer

thermometer



anemometer



wind vane

Date: _____

1. Describe the climate of The Bahamas. (1)

2. Explain what is climate. (2)

3. Name the weather instrument that is used to measure temperature. (1)

4. Explain what a rain gauge is. (2)

5. What is used to measure wind speed? (2)

6. List TWO months when The Bahamas is at risk for hurricane. (2)

7. Use the letter next to each phrase and write it in the box next to the correct weather instrument. [5]

a. wind speed b. amount of rain c. air temperature
d. air pressure e. wind direction