The weather

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

ADVANCED | C1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each meteorological term with its definition.

1 atmospheric pressure	____	a a sudden flood that develops very quickly
2 precipitation	____	b rain, snow, sleet or hail falling from the atmosphere
3 relative humidity	____	c a brief period of unusually cold weather
4 wind chill	____	d a storm driven by rapidly rising warm, moist air
5 heat index	____	e conditions in a small area that differ from the surroundings
6 cold snap	____	f the force exerted by the air above a surface
7 heat dome	____	g how hot it feels when temperature and humidity are combined
8 convective storm	____	h the percentage of moisture in air relative to its capacity
9 flash flood	____	i how cold it feels when temperature and wind are combined
10 microclimate	____	j a persistent high-pressure system trapping hot air

2 Choose the most precise term for each context.

1 A sudden intense fall in temperature is a *cold snap* / *heat index*.

2 Rainfall measured over a period is a form of *precipitation* / *air pressure*.

3 A storm formed by strong upward movement of warm air is *convective* / *seasonal*.

4 When saturated ground cannot absorb more water, *runoff* / *humidity* increases.

5 A long-lived shortage of water is *drought* / *drizzle*.

6 The boundary between two air masses is a weather *front* / *index*.

7 The average of weather conditions over decades is *climate* / *visibility*.

8 A forecast that gives a percentage likelihood is *probabilistic* / *absolute*.

3 Match the beginnings and endings to form academic weather expressions.

1 issue	____	a critical infrastructure
2 monitor	____	b a warning
3 exceed	____	c observed trends to several drivers
4 intensify	____	d resilience to extreme weather
5 disrupt	____	e a temperature threshold
6 mitigate	____	f flood risk
7 attribute	____	g atmospheric conditions
8 build	____	h rapidly as warm water supplies energy

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4 Complete the risk assessment with terms from the box.

compound event | early-warning system | exposure | flash flooding | heat index | precipitation | return period | storm surge | vulnerability | wind field

The coastal city of Norhaven faces growing risk when intense **1** _____ coincides with a **2** _____. This **3** _____ can overwhelm drains and cause **4** _____ within minutes. Risk depends not only on the hazard but also on **5** _____, such as the number of homes in low-lying districts, and the **6** _____ of residents and infrastructure. Emergency planners use the estimated **7** _____ of rare events, map the cyclone's **8** _____ and operate an **9** _____. During hot conditions, they also publish the **10** _____ to communicate the combined effect of heat and humidity.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Attributing extreme weather

Attribution science investigates how human influence and natural variability affect the likelihood or intensity of particular weather events. Researchers compare the observed climate with modelled worlds in which human-produced greenhouse gases are absent or reduced. The result is usually probabilistic: a study may conclude that an event became several times more likely, rather than claiming that climate change was its sole cause. Confidence depends on the quality of observations, the ability of models to reproduce the relevant process and the physical understanding of the event. Heatwaves often show a clearer human signal than highly localised storms. Attribution findings can inform adaptation and legal debate, but they do not by themselves determine who is responsible for particular losses; that requires ethical, political and legal judgement.

1 What two aspects of extreme events does attribution science study? _____

2 What kinds of modelled worlds do researchers compare? _____

3 Why are attribution conclusions usually probabilistic? _____

4 Which three factors affect confidence in a finding? _____

5 Which events often show a clearer human signal? _____

6 Why can attribution not determine responsibility on its own? _____

6 Replace the words in bold with a precise term or collocation.

1 Officials **sent out an official notice of danger**. _____

2 The temperature **went above the level set for action**. _____

3 The town is working to **become better able to withstand extreme weather**. _____

4 The study **connected the observed pattern to several influences**. _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **160-190 word** briefing on one extreme-weather threat. Evaluate hazard, exposure and vulnerability, then recommend proportionate preparedness and adaptation measures.

[ ] Use at least twelve target expressions. [ ] Include four academic collocations. [ ] Distinguish evidence from judgement.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Meteorological terms

1 **f** 2 **b** 3 **h** 4 **i** 5 **g** 6 **c** 7 **j** 8 **d** 9 **a** 10 **e**

2 Precise terms

1 **cold snap** 2 **precipitation** 3 **convective** 4 **runoff** 5 **drought** 6 **front** 7 **climate** 8 **probabilistic**

3 Academic collocations

1 **b** issue a warning 2 **g** monitor atmospheric conditions 3 **e** exceed a temperature threshold 4 **h** intensify rapidly 5 **a** disrupt critical infrastructure 6 **f** mitigate flood risk 7 **c** attribute trends to drivers 8 **d** build resilience

4 Risk assessment

1 **precipitation** 2 **storm surge** 3 **compound event** 4 **flash flooding** 5 **exposure** 6 **vulnerability** 7 **return period** 8 **wind field** 9 **early-warning system** 10 **heat index**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Their likelihood and intensity.
2 The observed climate and worlds with absent or reduced human greenhouse gases.
3 Events have several interacting causes; studies estimate changed likelihood or intensity.
4 Observations, model performance and physical understanding.
5 Heatwaves.
6 Responsibility also requires ethical, political and legal judgement.

6 Precise terms and collocations

1 **issued a warning** 2 **exceeded the temperature threshold** 3 **build resilience to extreme weather** 4 **attributed the observed pattern to several drivers**

Over to you: Answers will vary. Look for technical precision, risk-based reasoning and proportionate recommendations.