

Climate Clue Hunt

Use climate details to compare regions of Earth.

3-ESS2-2 "Obtain and combine information to describe climates in different regions of the world."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words or numbers that tell about temperature. Circle words or numbers that tell about rain or snow, then number the three regions so you can compare their climates.

Climate Around Earth

- ① Climate is the usual pattern of weather in a place over many years. It is not the weather on one day. To describe a climate, scientists look at temperature, rain or snow, and seasons. They also notice where the place is on Earth. Near the equator, sunlight is strong most of the year. Near the poles, sunlight is weaker and winters are much colder.
- ② In the Amazon rainforest region of South America, the climate is hot and wet. Daytime temperatures are warm through the year, often close to 80°F (27°C). Rain falls in every month, and many places get more than 80 inches (200 centimeters) in a year. The steady warmth and frequent rain help thick forests grow. This region lies close to the equator.
- ③ The Sahara Desert in northern Africa has a very dry climate. Some parts receive less than 1 inch (2.5 centimeters) of rain in a year. Days can be very hot, but nights may become cool because dry air holds little heat. Far north, the Arctic has long, cold winters and short, cool summers. It gets little precipitation too, but much of it falls as snow. Both places are dry, yet their temperatures are very different.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What three kinds of climate information do scientists use to describe a place?

2 Use two details to describe the Amazon rainforest climate.

3 How are the Sahara and the Arctic alike in precipitation? How are their temperatures different?

4 Which region is close to the equator? What climate details in the passage support your answer?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Choose a world region that is not named in the passage. Use two classroom sources, such as a climate map and a book, to write exactly three sentences describing its temperature, precipitation, and seasons. Name both sources in your third sentence.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words or numbers that tell about temperature. Circle words or numbers that tell about rain or snow, then number the three regions so you can compare their climates. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What three kinds of climate information do scientists use to describe a place?	Temperature, rain or snow, and seasons.
2	Use two details to describe the Amazon rainforest climate.	It is warm through the year, often close to 80°F (27°C) in daytime, and rain falls every month.
3	How are the Sahara and the Arctic alike in precipitation? How are their temperatures different?	Both get little precipitation. The Sahara can have very hot days, while the Arctic has long, cold winters and short, cool summers.
4	Which region is close to the equator? What climate details in the passage support your answer?	The Amazon rainforest region. It has warm temperatures through the year and rain in every month.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Mediterranean coast of southern Spain has hot, dry summers and mild, wetter winters. Most rain falls from fall through spring, while summer is often dry. I used a climate map and a weather chart to combine information about this region.

Accept climate descriptions that accurately combine temperature, precipitation, and seasonal information from two sources. For Part 3, accept different regions and valid source names when the three required sentences are included.