

Guided Reading Activity 3-1

For use with textbook pages 50–53.

Earth-Sun Relationships

Underline the Correct Word

DIRECTIONS: Use the information in your textbook to choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence. Underline the correct word.

1. Weather refers to the _____ atmospheric conditions in one place
(long-term/short-term/global)
2. Climate refers to the _____ weather patterns of an area
(long-term/short-term/oceanic)
3. The Earth's _____ is an imaginary line running from the North Pole to the South Pole (Equator/axis/tilt)
4. One reason for the variations in sunlight in different places is the Earth's _____
(revolution/tilt/climate)
5. Earth _____ on its axis once every 24 hours (rotates/revolves/wobbles)
6. It takes one year for the Earth to make a complete _____ around the sun.
(rotation/revolution/axis)
7. On the _____ the length of the day and the night are equal.
(equinox/Equator/spring)
8. The northernmost point that can receive direct sunlight is called the _____
(tropics/Northern Hemisphere/Tropic of Cancer)
9. On the summer _____, the Northern Hemisphere has its longest day of sunlight
(Equator/solstice/equinox)
10. A polar region tilted away from the sun has six months of winter _____
(darkness/snow/blizzards)
11. Earth's atmosphere _____ some of the sun's radiation back into space.
(reflects/absorbs/transforms)
12. The amount of _____ put into the atmosphere by human activity has increased rapidly (nitrogen/carbon dioxide/carbon monoxide)

Guided Reading Activity 3-2

For use with textbook pages 54-59.

Factors Affecting Climate

Fill In the Blanks

DIRECTIONS: Use the information in your textbook to fill in the blanks for the following sentences.

1. Climate follows general patterns between each _____ zone.
2. The zone between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn is called the _____.
3. Midlatitudes get the most _____ weather on the planet.
4. At any latitude, the higher the _____, the colder the temperature.
5. Winds occur because the sun heats the Earth _____.
6. The _____ effect causes prevailing winds to blow diagonally rather than along strict north-south or east-west lines.
7. The prevailing winds of the midlatitudes are called the _____.
8. Relatively windless areas along the Equator are called the _____, or the horse latitudes.
9. Streams of warm or cold water moving through the oceans are called _____.
10. The water cycle affects weather when _____ falls as rain or snow.
11. El Niño occurs when patterns of _____ currents and water temperatures reverse.
12. El Niño conditions have a profound effect on _____ around the world.
13. Places with the same latitude may have different climates because they have different _____.
14. Large bodies of _____ tend to moderate the climate of surrounding areas.
15. _____ block the flow of moisture-laden air.
16. The _____ effect causes dry areas or deserts to develop.

Guided Reading Activity 3-3

For use with textbook pages 60–64

World Climate Patterns

Short Answer

DIRECTIONS: Use the information in your textbook to write a short answer to each of the following questions.

1. What are the regions into which climates can be organized?

2. What is a region's natural vegetation?

3. What is a climate region?

4. What is the characteristic climate and vegetation of a tropical dry climate?

5. What is the difference between a desert climate and a steppe climate?

6. List the characteristics of midlatitude climates

7. How would you recognize a Mediterranean climate?

8. Which climate region lies just south of the Arctic Circle, and what are its characteristics?

9. What is one hypothesis for the ice ages?

10. How is smog formed?
