

What Factors Affect Climate?

Main Idea Climate is the normal pattern of weather in an area over many years. Earth's shape, the tilt of its axis, and its geographic features affect the climate of an area.

Fill in the chart. Write one fact about each climate zone.

Polar	Temperate	Tropical
1. _____ _____ _____	2. _____ _____ _____	3. _____ _____ _____

Fill in the blanks.

- The Sun provides the energy for liquid water to become _____, an invisible gas.
- Mountains near oceans affect the _____, the movement of water between Earth's atmosphere and land.
- Rain and snow fall mostly on the _____ side of mountains.
- Dry areas on the leeward slopes are called _____.
- Regions near the _____ absorb more energy than those near the poles.
- _____ events occur every five to seven years and can cause temporary changes in climate around the globe.

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Fill in the blanks with words from the box below.

climate

ocean currents

land breeze

El Niño

precipitation

sea breeze

1. The normal pattern of weather in an area over many years is _____. (page D7)
2. Any type of water that falls from clouds is _____. (page D7)
3. A wind that blows from the water toward the land during the day is a(n) _____. (page D8)
4. A wind that blows from the land toward the water at night is a(n) _____. (page D8)
5. Moving streams of water in the ocean are called _____. (page D10)
6. A periodic change in direction of warm ocean currents across the Pacific Ocean is _____. (page D10)

Write *true* if the statement is true and *false* if the statement is false.

- _____ 7. Uneven heating of Earth's surface creates three major climate zones. (page D7)
- _____ 8. When water evaporates from oceans, it becomes water vapor in the air. (page D9)
- _____ 9. Air that meets mountains is forced higher, where temperatures are colder. (page D9)

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- _____ 10. Some of the wettest places on Earth are on the leeward side of mountains. (page D9)
- _____ 11. Winds blowing across the ocean create ocean currents. (page D10)

Label the drawing below. Write *tropical*, *polar*, and *temperate*. You may use some of the terms more than once. (page D6)

