

HOLYGHOST SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
HOLYGHOST FATHERS
GEOGRAPHY FORMONE (WEEK 4.)
TOPIC 4
WEATHER.

The Meaning of Weather

- Weather is the condition of the atmosphere in one area at a particular time, for example if it is raining, hot, or windy.
- Weather, state of the atmosphere at a particular place during a short period of time. It involves such atmospheric phenomena as temperature, humidity, precipitation (type and amount), air pressure, wind, and cloud cover. Weather differs from climate in that the latter includes the synthesis of weather conditions that have prevailed over a given area during a long time period generally 30 years.
- Weather is defined as conditions of the atmosphere which occur at a place at specific time periods, that is, from hour to hour or day to day. It changes from time to time and from place to place. For example, it may be raining in the morning and sunny in the afternoon.

The scientific study of weather is called meteorology and a person who studies weather is called meteorologist.

Importance of Weather:

1. Carrying out the economic activities.

The knowledge of weather (and hence climate) enables people to carry out their economic activities depending on the weather and climatic conditions of their localities. For example, people living in cold areas which receive high rainfall can engage in dairy farming and the growing crops such as tea, coffee, banana, etc.

2. Shaping the earth.

Weather is one of the fundamental processes that shape the Earth. The process of weathering breaks down the rocks and soils into smaller fragments and then into their constituent substances. In this way, weather plays a major role in erosion of the surface soil, hence shaping the earth.

3. Supporting the lives of plants and animals.

The weather of any given region is important because it has a considerable impact on the water, sunlight and temperature of an ecosystem. Variation in long-term weather patterns and tendencies can result in certain regions getting more or less water or sunlight than other areas. These factors play an important role by influencing the type of plants and animals that can survive in the area.

4. Establishing the climate of a place.

Studying weather characteristics of a given place over along period of time (usually 30 to 40 years) enables the climatic conditions of that place to be established. Therefore, weather can be used as a basis for determining the climate of a given place.

5. Weather determines the kind of clothing to be worn by people in an area.

6. Certain weather patterns can also cause dangerous storms and natural disasters. We tend to be acutely aware of the weather when we are faced with exceptional or dangerous phenomena that could endanger our property, safety or even lives. Such phenomena are, for example, strong winds, hail, heavy rainfall, sleet, ice and frost.

Weather and Human activities

Most human activities affected by weather that is experienced at a place. For example, When the rains are heavy, flooding occurs and causes damage to crops, animals and infrastructure like roads. This means that few economic activities can take place. When there is no rain, plants and animals die, rivers and streams dry up, and irrigation and other economic activities like fishing cannot be carried out. Therefore weather affects the social economic activities of a place.

Elements of Weather

Are the basic atmospheric condition of a place at a given time.

There are 7 element of weather

1. Sunshine
2. Temperature
3. Humidity
4. Cloud cover
5. Precipitation
6. Wind
7. Atmospheric pressure.

Exercise

- 1.(a)what is wheather?
- b)Mention seven elements of wheather.
- 2.outline the importance of weather.
- 3.draw and label the ocean floor