

Quiz – climate and weather extremes

The correct answers are on the last page.

1. What makes a climate event “extreme”?
 - It is unusual
 - It doesn’t happen often
 - It causes impacts on our daily lives
 - All of the above

2. When did measurements of weather and climate begin at Albert Park (Auckland)?
 - 1583
 - 1835
 - 1853
 - 1903

3. How can we most accurately determine if a weather or climate event is unusual for our area?
 - Compare it with yesterday’s weather and climate data
 - Compare it with ten years of weather and climate data from our area
 - Compare it with all historic weather and climate data from our area
 - Compare it with weather and climate data from Dubai

4. What is the highest temperature ever recorded in New Zealand?
 - 40.4 °C
 - 42.4 °C
 - 44.2 °C
 - 56.7 °C

5. Where was New Zealand’s lowest temperature on record observed?
 - Ranfurly
 - Rangiora
 - Reefton
 - Dunedin

6. What important feature was shared by New Zealand's highest and lowest temperature?
- Snow on the ground
 - Clear skies
 - Wind direction
 - Clouds
7. Why was the north-west wind direction an important feature of New Zealand's highest temperature?
- It stopped clouds from forming over the South Island
 - It transported hot air from the North Island
 - It transported hot air from the interior of Australia
 - It warmed the sea surface temperatures in the Tasman Sea

Correct answers

1. All of the above
2. 1853
3. Compare it with all historic weather and climate data from our area
4. 42.4°C
5. Ranfurly
6. Clear skies*
7. It transported hot air from the interior of Australia

* **Teacher note** – whilst they shared this important feature, it was important for different reasons; clear skies allowed prolonged night-time cooling for NZ's lowest temperature, but enhanced daytime heating for NZ's highest temperature.