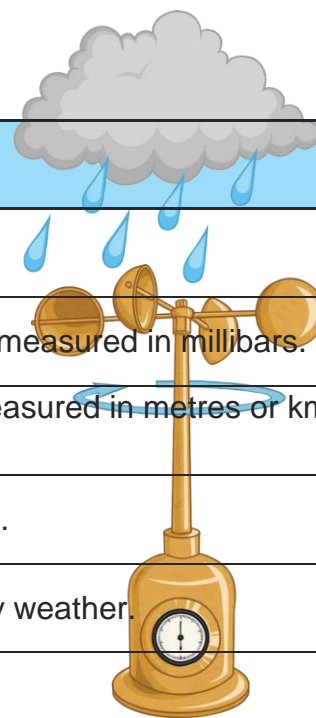


# Year 7 Key Words List - Geography

## Weather and Climate Key Words

Keyword	Definition
<b>air mass</b>	A mass of air with the same temperature and humidity.
<b>air pressure</b>	The force or weight of the air above us. Air pressure is measured in millibars.
<b>altitude</b>	How high land is above sea level. Altitude is usually measured in metres or km above sea level.
<b>anemometer</b>	A weather instrument used to measure the wind speed.
<b>anticyclone</b>	An area of high pressure causing clear skies and sunny weather.
<b>arid climate zone</b>	An area with a hot and dry climate.
<b>atmosphere</b>	A layer of gases surrounding a planet.
<b>barometer</b>	A weather instrument used to measure air pressure.
<b>Beaufort scale</b>	A scale which uses observations of the effects of the wind to determine wind speed.
<b>Campbell Stokes Sunshine Recorder</b>	A weather instrument used to measure the number of hours of sunshine.
<b>cirrus clouds</b>	The highest clouds in the atmosphere.
<b>climate</b>	The average weather conditions for a place usually measured over a long period of time (30 years).
<b>climate graph</b>	A graph which shows the typical monthly rainfall and temperatures for a place.
<b>climate zone</b>	An area that has its own climate. Climate zones also have their own type of vegetation and wildlife.
<b>clouds</b>	A large collection of very tiny droplets of water or ice crystals which float in the air.
<b>cloud cover</b>	The amount of cloud covering the sky. Cloud cover is measured in oktas (eighths).
<b>cold front</b>	The leading edge of a cold air mass.
<b>condensation</b>	The process when water vapour turns into a liquid.



<b>condensation nuclei</b>	Microscopic particles of dust, smoke or salt in the atmosphere on which water vapour condenses to form cloud droplets.
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## Mapping and Making Connections

**Contour line** – line on a map joining places that are the same height above sea level

**Grid Reference** – A group of figures to help find a square (4figure) or a point (6 figure) on an Ordnance Survey map.

**Grid Square** – a square on a map representing an area on the ground.

**Height** – How high or low a place is.

**International** – to do with more than one country.

**Key** – A list of signs and symbols on a map with a list of what they mean.

**National** – to do with the whole country (for example the national anthem).

**Ordnance Survey** – The official government organisation responsible for producing maps in the UK.

**Scale** – the ratio of the distance on a map to the real distance

**Sketch map** – a simple map to show what a place is like, or how to get there; it is not drawn to scale

**Spot height** – a dot and number on a map, showing the height of that place above sea level, in metres.

**Symbols** – A simple drawing or sign used to give information and save space on a map.

## Ecosystem and Rainforest words

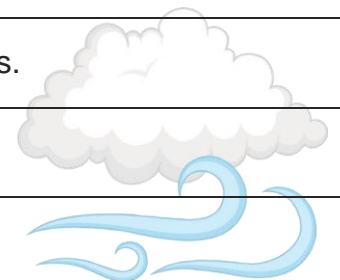
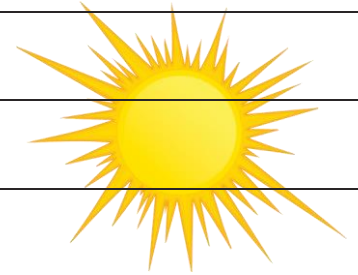
Here are some “technical terms” that you need to know for this topic.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Abiotic factor	A non-living factor which affects the environment (eg. Weather)
Adaptation	A feature of an organism which helps it to live in its environment. (eg. Snakes and camouflage).
Carnivore	An animal which kills and eats other animals (eg. Lion)
Community	All the organisms living in a particular habitat (eg. All the plants and animals in a wood)
Conservation	Keeping an environment in a good state so that the natural wildlife can flourish.
Consumer	An organism which eats other organisms.
Dichotomous	A set of paired questions used to identify and

key	organism.
Ecosystem	The living organisms and their environment in a certain area (eg. All plants and animals + water in a pond)
Habitat	the place where an organism lives. (eg. The log under which a woodlouse lives).
Herbivore	An animal which only eats plants. (eg. Cow)
Population	All the organisms of a particular type living in a certain area. (eg. All the blackbirds in a wood)
Predator	An animal which hunts and kills other animals.
Prey	An animal which is hunted and killed by other animals.
Primary consumer	The first consumer in a food chain.
Producer	An organism which makes its food by photosynthesis. (eg. All plants)
Species	A group of organisms which can breed together.
Trophic level	The position in a food chain.



<b>convictional rainfall</b>	Rain formed when the ground heats up during warm, sunny weather.
<b>dehydration</b>	When our bodies don't have enough water.
<b>depression</b>	A low pressure weather system which brings clouds and rain.
<b>drought</b>	A prolonged period of little or no rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.
<b>evaporation</b>	The process when water turns from a liquid to a gas (water vapour).
<b>flood</b>	When land that is usually dry is covered by water.
<b>front</b>	The boundary between two air masses.
<b>frontal rainfall</b>	Type of rainfall formed when two air masses meet.
<b>heat stroke</b>	When our bodies become overheated on very hot days, it can cause headaches, dizziness or even death.
<b>heatwave</b>	A long period of extremely high temperatures.
<b>high pressure</b>	When air pressure is higher than average. High air pressure is caused by sinking air.
<b>latitude</b>	How far north or south a place is from the equator.
<b>low pressure</b>	When air pressure is lower than average. Low air pressure is caused by rising air.
<b>Mediterranean climate zone</b>	An area with mild winters and very warm, dry summers.
<b>meteorology</b>	The study of weather.
<b>meteorologist</b>	A person who studies and predicts the weather.
<b>mountain climate</b>	An area with a cool and often wet climate found at higher altitudes.
<b>North Atlantic Drift</b>	A warm ocean current that affects the UK.
<b>ocean currents</b>	Movements of warm or cold water around the worlds' oceans.
<b>polar climate zone</b>	An area with a cold and dry climate.
<b>precipitation</b>	Any type of moisture reaching the Earth's surface, e.g. rain, snow, fog.



<b>prevailing wind</b>	Most common wind direction.
<b>rain gauge</b>	A weather instrument used to measure the amount of precipitation that has fallen in a 24-hour period. This is usually measured in millimetres.
<b>relief rainfall</b>	Rain formed when air is forced to rise over a hill or mountain.
<b>Stevenson screen</b>	A shelter for weather instruments to protect them from rain, snow and high winds.
<b>storm</b>	Type of weather bringing strong winds and heavy rain.
<b>storm surge</b>	A rise in sea level caused by low pressure and strong winds.
<b>stratus clouds</b>	A featureless cloud like a layer of fog. They bring rain, drizzle and damp weather.
<b>temperature</b>	How warm or cold the air is. Temperature is measured in degrees celsius (°C) or fahrenheit (°F).
<b>temperate climate zone</b>	An area with cool winters, warm summers and rain all year.
<b>thermometer</b>	A weather instrument used to measure the temperature.
<b>tropical climate</b>	An area with a hot and wet climate all year.
<b>warm front</b>	The leading edge of a warm air mass.
<b>warm sector</b>	An area of warmer area within a depression.
<b>water vapour</b>	Water held in the air as a gas.
<b>weather</b>	The daily changes in the condition of the atmosphere.
<b>weather forecast</b>	A prediction of what the weather will be like in the next few hours, days, weeks or even months.
<b>weather instrument</b>	An instrument used to measure and record the weather.
<b>weather station</b>	A place where information is collected about local weather conditions.
<b>wind direction</b>	The direction that the wind is blowing from. Wind direction is measured using compass bearings.
<b>wind speed</b>	How fast the wind is blowing. Wind speed is measured in miles or km per hour.
<b>wind vane</b>	A weather instrument used to measure the wind direction.

