

Exploring Global Climates with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To describe and explain the differences between various climate zones and how they influence the environments we live in.

Use the following writing frame to structure your report on climate zones. Refer to your geography maps to support your descriptions. Use the word bank to help you link your ideas together.

As Finn the Dolphin travels across the world's vast oceans, he notices that the weather and temperature change significantly depending on his location.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · in contrast · temperate · precipitation · tropical · arctic · equator · humidity · significantly · on the other hand · due to

1. Introduction: Define climate and explain why it is different from daily weather. Start by saying: 'Climate refers to the average weather patterns in a specific area over a long period, whereas weather is...' (2 marks)

2. Tropical Zones: Describe the characteristics of a tropical climate near the equator. Start by saying: 'Regions located near the equator often experience high temperatures and heavy rainfall because...' (3 marks)

3. Temperate Zones: Compare and contrast the temperate climate with the tropical zone. Start by saying: 'In contrast to tropical regions, temperate zones like the United Kingdom have distinct seasons because...' (3 marks)

4. Polar Zones: Explain the environmental conditions found in polar regions. Start by saying: 'Polar climates are characterised by extreme cold and ice. You might find...' (3 marks)

5. Human Impact: Justify why climate affects where humans choose to build settlements. Start by saying: 'Humans often choose to settle in specific climates because...' (4 marks)

6. Conclusion: Summarise the importance of global climates. Start by saying: 'In conclusion, the variety of climates across the Earth is vital because...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an explorer travelling from the equator to the North Pole. Write a detailed journal entry describing how the landscape, clothing, and wildlife change as your climate zone shifts. What might happen if global temperatures began to rise significantly in the polar regions? Provide a reasoned explanation for your thoughts.