

*Australia's*  
**WILD, WEIRD, WONDERFUL**  
**WEATHER**  
**QUIZ**



*How many of these QUESTIONS can you answer without doing any research?*

*You'll find all the ANSWERS in  
**Australia's Wild, Weird, Wonderful Weather** (NLA Publishing)  
by Stephanie Owen Reeder and Tania McCartney.*

## *Seasonal Weather*



### **WHATEVER IS WEATHER?**

1. Which part of Australia has TWO SEASONS—wet and dry?
2. In which part of the atmosphere is the very important OZONE LAYER?
3. How many kilograms of AIR PRESSURE can you hold in your hand?

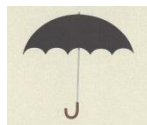
### **BUSH FORECASTING**

4. For about how long have INDIGENOUS PEOPLE lived on this continent?
5. What is an Indigenous name for the RAINBOW SERPENT?
6. The arrival of which BIRD heralds the wet season in the Grampians area of Victoria?

### **FEELING HOT, HOT, HOT!**

7. What instrument do we use to measure TEMPERATURE?
8. What is the highest FIRE DANGER rating?
9. What is the name of the largest DESERT in Australia?

## *Precipitation*



### **UNDER A CLOUD**

10. Name three of the main CLOUD types.
11. What is the Latin name for THUNDERCLOUDS?
12. What do you get when FOG and POLLUTION get together?

### **SINGING IN THE RAIN**

13. What shape are DROPS of RAIN as they fall through the sky?
14. What is the technical name for a SUNSHOWER?
15. What term do scientists use for the SMELL of RAIN on hot earth?

### **SHIVER ME TIMBERS!**

16. What is FROZEN DEW called?
17. What basic shape is a SNOWFLAKE?
18. Can you get SUNBURNT at the snow?

## *Sound, Light, Movement*



### **LIGHTING UP THE SKY**

19. What shape is a RAINBOW?
20. Which two colours have the shortest WAVELENGTHS?
21. What are the SEVEN COLOURS of the spectrum seen in a rainbow?

### **NATURE'S FIREWORKS**

22. Name three types of LIGHTNING.
23. How far away is a thunderstorm if there are THREE SECONDS between the lightning strike and the thunderclap?
24. Why is it dangerous to seek shelter under a TREE during a thunderstorm?

### **BLOW, WIND, BLOW!**

25. What MEASUREMENT do sailors use to indicate how fast the WIND is blowing?
26. Name three types of WHIRLWINDS.
27. What is the name of the scale used for measuring the FORCE of the WIND?

## *Disastrous Weather*



### **ROGUE WEATHER**

28. Which city had the WORST AIR QUALITY in the world in January 2020?
29. Which MARINE ANIMALS were thrown on top of cliffs during CYCLONE MAHINA?
30. What was Australia's most EXPENSIVE DISASTER?

### **EXTREME AUSTRALIA**

31. Which year was the HOTTEST and DRIEST on record in Australia?
32. Which two places in Australia have recorded the HIGHEST MAXIMUM and the LOWEST MINIMUM temperatures?
33. Which capital city in Australia is the CLOUDIEST on a yearly basis?

### **WEATHERPROOFING**

34. What object protects buildings from LIGHTNING STRIKES?
35. Name three things a family could do to make their home BUSHFIRE READY?
36. Why shouldn't you swim in a STORMWATER DRAIN during a flood?

## *Weather Forecasting*



### **ANIMAL ANTICS**

37. What do farmers believe might happen when COWS lie down in the fields?
38. What sort of weather is coming when PINE CONES close up?
39. What weather event is on the way when SHARKS dive down deep?

## MEASURING UP

40. Which instrument measures AIR PRESSURE?
41. Which LIQUID METAL is used in a thermometer?
42. What happens to CURLY HAIR in wet weather?

## READING THE WEATHER

43. What do you need to do to protect your skin from sunburn when the UV INDEX is HIGH?
44. What do METEOROLOGISTS do?
45. What sort of weather do these three ICONS represent on a WEATHER MAP?



## Climate Change



### A WARMING WORLD

46. Does EL NIÑO make Australia's weather WARMER or COOLER?
47. Which ANIMALS need SPRINKLERS on Queensland beaches to protect their eggs?
48. Which FARM ANIMAL produces TOXIC burps and farts?

### LEARNING FROM NATURE

49. What do we call a scientist who studies TREE RINGS?
50. Why are TREES called the LUNGS of the EARTH?
51. What can CORES drilled in ANTARCTIC ICE tell us about climate change?

### WEATHERING THE FUTURE

52. By how much do scientists predict the AVERAGE GLOBAL TEMPERATURE will RISE in the next 100 years?
53. What percentage of Australian ENERGY comes from RENEWABLE SOURCES?
54. What is the name of Australia's biggest HYDRO-ELECTRICITY scheme?

## Researching Weather



### EXPLORING THE WEATHER

55. In which year was the first WEATHER MAP published in an Australian NEWSPAPER?
56. What is an ALMANAC?
57. In which decade did scientists start warning about GREENHOUSE GASES and GLOBAL WARMING?

© Stephanie Owen Reeder and Tania McCartney