



**Introduction to Virtual Learning**

**HS Earth Science**

**Criteria to Classify Climate**

**May 6, 2020**



# High School Earth Science

## Lesson: May 6, 2020

### **Objective/Learning Target:**

Students will be able to describe the factors used to classify climate.



## Warm-Up Activity

1. Describe the one key difference between weather and climate.
2. List 5 factors that define a climate.



## Warm Up Activity Answer Key

- 1) Weather is the moment-by-moment events in a given location, while climate is the long-term average of those same events.
- 2) Latitude, altitude, topography, winds and bodies of water



## Lesson Activity- Video Note Taking

To begin this lesson, get out a blank sheet of paper and something to write with.

**You will be watching a video over classification of climates, taking notes, and answering a few questions to practice this new skill.**

Before you begin, consider jotting down the questions found on the next page.

When you are ready to begin, click here to watch the video: [The Koppen System](#)



## Practice Questions

1. What is the purpose of the Koeppen System?
2. List the 4 main climate types in the Koeppen System.
3. Describe the types of conditions that exist in a tropical climate
4. Describe the types of conditions that exist in a dry climate
5. Compare and contrast the conditions found in temperate & continental climates.
6. Describe the types of conditions that exist in a polar climate



## Practice Questions Answer Key

1. This system classifies climates into groups
2. Tropical, dry, temperate/continental and polar
3. Tropical climates warm year round, frequent rainfall, thick vegetation.
4. Dry climates are commonly hot, dry with little moisture or vegetation.
5. They both have dramatic seasons, but continental climates have colder winters.
6. Polar climates are cold year round with snowfall common.



**More Practice Questions:** True/False Vocabulary Practice: On your paper, answer T or F to each statement. Correct the false statements.

1. Polar climates are found generally near the 0 degrees latitude.
2. Temperate/continental climates have the greatest seasonal variations.
3. The equator is home to the warmest, wettest climates
4. Much of the western US is technically dry climate.
5. Canada is nearly all continental climate.





## More Practice Questions Answer Key:

1. Polar climates are found generally near the 0 degrees latitude. **F, the equator is at this latitude**
2. Temperate/continental climates have the greatest seasonal variations. **True**
3. The equator is home to the warmest, wettest climates **True**
4. Much of the western US is technically dry climate. **True**
5. Canada is nearly all polar climate. **False- most of Canada is continental**



## Additional Resources

Want to learn more about the climate system? Try this video from the British Meteorology Office: [How does the climate system work?](#)

Enjoy reading, you will like this article from National Geographic over the [Koppen Climate Classification System](#)

Check out this [interactive map](#) of the climates in the USA