

Australia suffers from record-breaking high temperatures

Elementary

1 Warmer

Put these cities in order from the hottest (1) to the coldest (5) (average yearly temperature).

- | | |
|----------|-------------------|
| 1. _____ | a. Moscow |
| 2. _____ | b. New York |
| 3. _____ | c. Paris |
| 4. _____ | d. Sydney |
| 5. _____ | e. Rio de Janeiro |

2 Key words

Fill the gaps in the sentences with these key words from the text. The paragraph numbers will help you.

extreme

capital

advise

pleasant

state

suffer

1. A _____ is the city where a country or region has its government. (para 1)
2. A _____ is a region of a country that has its own government. (para 1)
3. If you _____ someone, you tell them the best thing to do in a particular situation. (para 3)
4. If people _____, they experience something very bad. (para 3)
5. _____ temperature is much hotter or colder than usual. (para 3)
6. _____ weather is dry and not too hot or too cold. (para 4)

3 Find the information

Find the following information in the text as quickly as possible.

1. How many people live in Adelaide?
2. How hot was it in Adelaide on 24 January?
3. Where is Port Augusta?
4. How hot was it in Port Augusta?
5. Where was the highest temperature ever?
6. Where was the lowest temperature ever?

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7 March, 2019

- 1 The weather broke 17 records in Australia in January, 2019. Adelaide, the capital of the state of South Australia, a city of 1.3 million people, had its hottest day ever. On 24 January, the temperature in Adelaide was 46.6 degrees Celsius. The previous highest temperature in the city was 46.1 degrees Celsius 80 years ago in 1939.
- 2 It wasn't much cooler at night. Even in the middle of the night, the temperature was still 33.9 degrees Celsius, which is much too hot for comfortable sleeping. In the town of Port Augusta, 300 kilometres north-west of Adelaide, it was even hotter. The temperature there reached 49 degrees Celsius.
- 3 Across most of Australia, the weather was very hot. Thousands of animals died in central and western Australia, including camels and wild horses. The television news advised people to take special care of their pets and make sure they had lots of water. Players at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne in south-east Australia also suffered from the extreme heat. The temperature there was around 40 degrees Celsius.
- 4 Fortunately, temperatures have fallen across Australia and, one week after the record-breaking temperatures in Adelaide, the temperature was a very pleasant 25 degrees Celsius.
- 5 But Australia is not the only country to have very hot temperatures. Countries in the Middle East such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia often have very high temperatures. The highest temperature ever recorded in the world was 56.7 degrees Celsius. This happened in July, 1913, in Death Valley, California, one of the hottest and driest places on Earth. The coldest temperature ever was -89.2 degrees Celsius at the Russian Vostok research station in Antarctica in July, 1983.

4 Comprehension check

Match the beginnings to the endings to make statements about the text.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. A temperature of 33.9 degrees Celsius at night ... | a. ... it was more than 20 degrees cooler in Adelaide. |
| 2. The television news advised people ... | b. ... broke a record that was set 80 years ago. |
| 3. One week after the record-breaking temperatures, ... | c. ... makes it very difficult for people to sleep. |
| 4. A number of other countries ... | d. ... one of the hottest and driest places in the world. |
| 5. Death Valley, California is ... | e. ... often have very high temperatures. |
| 6. The temperature in Adelaide ... | f. ... to make sure their pets had lots of water. |

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5 Chunks

Rearrange the words to make phrases from the text.

1. million city a 1.3 people of
2. the of the middle night in even
3. ever the recorded temperature highest
4. comfortable much hot sleeping for too

6 Two-word phrases

Match the words in the left-hand column with the words in the right-hand column to make expressions from the text.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. extreme | a. temperature |
| 2. high | b. news |
| 3. television | c. care |
| 4. special | d. heat |

7 Superlatives

Complete the table using words from the text.

	adjective	superlative
1.	cold	
2.	high	
3.	dry	
4.	hot	

8 Discussion

- What is the weather like where you live?
- Would you like to live in a very hot or very cold place? Why? Why not?

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KEY

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1. Rio de Janeiro (23.8)
2. Sydney (17.7)
3. New York (12.9)
4. Paris (12.3)
5. Moscow (5.8)

2 Key words

1. capital
2. state
3. advise
4. suffer
5. extreme
6. pleasant

3 Find the information

1. 1.3 million
2. 46.6 degrees Celsius
3. 300 kilometres north-west of Adelaide
4. 49 degrees Celsius
5. Death Valley, California
6. Vostok research station, Antarctica

4 Comprehension check

1. c
2. f
3. a
4. e
5. d
6. b

5 Chunks

1. a city of 1.3 million people
2. even in the middle of the night
3. the highest temperature ever recorded
4. much too hot for comfortable sleeping

6 Two-word phrases

1. d
2. a
3. b
4. c

7 Superlatives

1. the coldest
2. the highest
3. the driest
4. the hottest