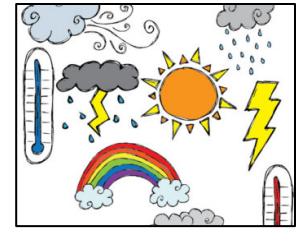


Word Parts



What's It Like Outside?

Since ancient times, the complicated patterns and unpredictable turns of the weather have confused forecasters. Today, meteorologists can explain much of what has already happened with the weather, but little of what will happen in the future.

The Chinese have found a way to predict the weather that may be superior to all modern techniques – listening to the croak of a frog! This method has been proven accurate 80 percent of the time. The formula for forecasting is quite simple: if frogs croak on a fine day, it will rain in two days; if frogs croak after rain, there will be fine weather; it will continue to rain if frogs do not croak after successive days.

Crickets have been proven to be good thermometers in warm weather. By counting the number of cricket chirps in fifteen seconds, and adding thirty-seven to the number, you will arrive at the temperature within a few degrees Fahrenheit.

Surprising as it may seem, scientists have determined that we are in the middle of an ice age. Since 1945, the earth has once more begun to cool down. The warm period right now is just a phase of the ice age. It is known as the “interglacial period.”

**MAIN
IDEA**

Mark the *main idea* → M

Mark the statement that is *too broad* → B

Mark the statement that is *too narrow* → N

All weather forecasters grow frustrated trying to predict the weather.

Predicting the weather has always been a difficult task.

The Chinese have found a way to predict the weather by using frogs.

Directions: Circle the best response to the questions below.

**SUBJECT
MATTER**

A. This passage is about:

1. Glaciers
2. Weather
3. Frogs
4. Meteorologists



**SUPPORTING
DETAILS**

B. When frogs croak on a nice day, it means:

1. the weather will be fair for a week
2. rain will fall within the day
3. the weather is getting worse
4. rain is two days away



CONCLUSION

C. According to the passage, in cold weather, crickets probably don't:

1. chirp
2. count
3. predict the weather
4. eat



**CLARIFYING
DEVICES**

D. An interglacial period is a period:

1. of perfect weather conditions
2. after two glacial periods
3. between two glacial periods
4. before two glacial periods



**VOCABULARY
In
CONTEXT**

E. Meteorologists have skill in:

1. tracking meteors
2. weather forecasting
3. repairing weather stations
4. counting cricket chirps

