



The words **weather** and **climate** are used sometimes interchangeably, but they shouldn't be! Weather and climate are not the same, and you are about to become an expert at understanding the difference.

**Weather** is basically the way the atmosphere is behaving, mainly with respect to its effects upon life and human activities. The difference between weather and climate is that weather consists of the short-term (minutes to months) changes in the atmosphere. Most people think of weather in terms of temperature, humidity, precipitation, cloudiness, brightness, visibility, wind, and atmospheric pressure, as in high and low pressure.

**Climate** is the description of the long-term pattern of weather in a particular area. Some scientists define climate as the average weather for a particular region and time period, usually taken over [about] 30 years. It's really an average pattern of weather for a particular region.

Excerpted from: NASA - What's the Difference Between Weather and Climate?  
[www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/noaa-n/climate/climate\\_weather.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/noaa-n/climate/climate_weather.html)

## DIRECTIONS

Please examine each of the numbered figures. Determine whether each figure better represents the concept of weather or climate, and circle the best answer below. Thank you.

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|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>FIGURE 1.</b> | <b>WEATHER</b> | <b>CLIMATE</b> |
| <b>FIGURE 2.</b> | <b>WEATHER</b> | <b>CLIMATE</b> |
| <b>FIGURE 3.</b> | <b>WEATHER</b> | <b>CLIMATE</b> |
| <b>FIGURE 4.</b> | <b>WEATHER</b> | <b>CLIMATE</b> |
| <b>FIGURE 5.</b> | <b>WEATHER</b> | <b>CLIMATE</b> |
| <b>FIGURE 6.</b> | <b>WEATHER</b> | <b>CLIMATE</b> |
| <b>FIGURE 7.</b> | <b>WEATHER</b> | <b>CLIMATE</b> |