

Read the text :

Monsoons.



Monsoons are moist, seasonal winds which blow in over the land from the ocean. Soon after they begin blowing, the skies darken with rainclouds and torrents of rain begin to fall. This 'rainy' or 'wet' season can continue for six months of the year in some parts of the world.

The monsoon is especially strong in India, but other tropical and sub-

tropical parts of the world have seasons of extremely heavy rain. These areas include other parts of Asia (where it is sometimes called 'The Dragon's Breath'), East Africa, north-east Australia and the Caribbean.

Monsoons which bring rain are important to the success of farming in these areas. Sometimes the monsoon winds blow but rain does not follow. When this happens, the crops fail and there can be famines. On the other hand, sometimes too much rain falls and there are floods. This occurs frequently in India and Bangladesh.

During monsoon seasons, ships and planes have to be careful. Ships at sea can be caught up in tropical cyclones which often accompany the monsoon. They have to listen attentively to broadcast warnings and try to alter their course out of the cyclone's path. Aeroplanes also may have to change their flight paths to ensure a smoother ride.



1. IDENTIFYING THE TEXT

This text is a / an

- ☐ discussion
- ☐ information report
- ☐ narrative

2. VOCABULARY BUILDING

Find a word in the text to match each meaning.

- a. slightly wet: m _ _ _ _
- b. rushing streams: t _ _ _ _ _
- c. very hot climate: t _ _ _ _ _
- d. shortage of food: f _ _ _ _
- e. often: f _ _ _ _ _
- f. very strong wind storm: c _ _ _ _ _
- g. go with: a _ _ _ _ _
- h. change: a _ _ _ _
- i. path: c _ _ _ _

Unscramble these words from the text.

- j. snooomns _____
- k. rtstnroe _____
- l. oacprtil _____
- m. amngirf _____
- n. meifnas _____

3. UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

Tick either T or F.

- | | T | F |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a. A monsoon is a wind, often followed by rain. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b. Monsoons only occur in India and Bangladesh. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| c. Monsoons only last for six weeks. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| d. Monsoons can last half of the year. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| e. Monsoons occur only in tropical and sub-tropical areas. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| f. Floods due to monsoon rains occur often in East Africa. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| g. Another name for monsoon is 'The Dragon's Death'. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| h. Cyclones often occur in monsoon season. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| i. There is a monsoon season in some parts of Australia. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Write the answers.

- j. Which word in the text that tells you monsoons only occur at certain times of the year?

- k. Why do ships have to be careful in monsoon season?

4. DECODING THE TEXT

Match beginnings and ends of sentences.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| a. Too much rain | - can cause trouble for ships and planes. |
| b. Crops need | - means a hot, wet climate. |
| c. The monsoon season | - is as bad as too little rain. |
| d. Tropical | - try to avoid bad storms. |
| e. Planes | - enough rain to grow well. |

5. EVALUATING THE TEXT

- a. What are the benefits of monsoons?

- b. What are the bad effects of monsoons? Try to write one paragraph about all the bad things that can effect people's daily lives (jobs, houses, power lines, roads, travel ... etc.

- c. If you were a young boy or girl on a farm in India, how would you feel when the monsoon rains begin to blow? 2 or 3 Sentences.
