

Monday – Paragraphs in Non-Fiction

Wild and Windy Weather

Location, Location, Location

The only difference between hurricanes, cyclones and typhoons, is where they occur. Massive storms are called hurricanes in the Atlantic and Northeast Pacific, typhoons in the Northwest Pacific, and cyclones in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean.

Tornado Versus Hurricane

Tornadoes and hurricanes appear to be very similar. Both materialise as a violent, rotating column of air that can leave chaos and devastation in its wake (see the table to compare statistics).

	Tornado	Hurricane
Formed	over land	over oceans
Size	< 1 mile wide	> 100 miles wide
Life span	< 1 hour	> 1 week
Wind speeds	300 mph max	200 mph max

Tornado Alley

Tornado Alley is in the southern plains of the United States. This includes Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska and South Dakota. In these areas, during the spring, a cold air mass collides with a warm air mass, which is responsible for creating up to 500 tornadoes per year.

Safety Tips

Areas prone to adverse weather conditions often have a storm warning system in place. Upon hearing the siren, follow the advice below:

- Stay away from low-lying, flood prone areas.
- Stay indoors and board up windows.
- Ensure you have adequate tinned food, bottled water and medical supplies.
- Keep a battery-operated torch and radio to hand.

1. Mark the sub-heading that could be used as an alternative for paragraph two with an 'x'.

The Difference Between Tornadoes and Whirlpools

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What is the Difference Between a Tornado and a Hurricane?

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2. Mark an 'x' in the box to indicate the correct function of the bullet points.

Summarises what the paragraph is about

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Breaks paragraph into easy to read sections

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States what the text is about

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3. True or false? The following sentence could be added to the paragraph under the sub-heading 'Safety Tips'.

If you reside in a mobile home, get out fast and seek shelter elsewhere.

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What Makes the UK Great?

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the UK) is comprised of the following countries: England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. Each country is proudly patriotic of its own history, politics, capital city, language, landscape and football teams, yet each has the capacity to pull together and stand shoulder to shoulder, as one formidable team, in times of need.

Diversity

The UK is home to a rich diversity of people, who originate from many different countries. For example, over 250 different languages are spoken by families in London alone and many of these families have been residents of the UK for several generations.

The Royal Family

The royal family continue a tradition that dates back over a thousand years. They support hundreds of charities each year and are deemed to strengthen national unity and stability. Thousands of tourists flock to the UK each year, enticed by their fascination with royalty.

Food and Drink

Although the country is awash with food originating from other countries, it's fair to say that the UK is famous for its love of fish and chips; a full English breakfast; bangers and mash; and a Sunday roast – all washed down with a nice cup of tea or a pint of beer.

4. Add one more sub-heading to extend the text above. Write the opening sentence of your new paragraph.

5. Rewrite paragraph three to include bullet points. Add or remove words if necessary and use a colon to introduce the bullet pointed list.

6. The author has written the sentence below.

British tastes in food have changed over the years, particularly since the last war.

Under which sub-heading should it be placed? Explain your answer.