



Core units: Exemplars – Year 7

Illustration 1: Droughts and flooding rains

Droughts and flooding rains task sheet

In this task you will draw a map showing climate contrasts in different places in Australia. You will need to explain the information that you present on a map.

1. Choose three places in Australia that have contrasting climates (for example, you could choose Townsville, Kalgoorlie and Warrnambool).

On a map of Australia, show these places accurately with clear labels. You could find a picture of each of these places and add the pictures in appropriate places on the map.

2. Find the average annual rainfall for each place.

You can access this information on the Bureau of Meteorology <<http://www.bom.gov.au/>> website.

On the Bureau of Meteorology <<http://www.bom.gov.au/>> website:

- select 'Climate and past weather' from the choices on the left
- then select 'Weather and climate data' from the choices on the left
- next, select 'Monthly statistic's from the list on the left
- enter your chosen 'location' in Section 2
- in Section 3, select 'Get data'.

There is a lot of information in the table that is now available to you. You may be interested to read all the data, but you need only the 'Annual mean rainfall' (in the 3rd last column).

3. For each place, note the 'Annual pan evaporation' and the 'Rainfall variability index'. You can read this information from the maps of 'Rainfall variability' and 'Average pan evaporation'.

You can access these maps from the Bureau of Meteorology <<http://www.bom.gov.au/>> website if you do not already have access to them.

Add this information in an appropriate place on your map.

4. Answer the questions below about the three places that you have marked on your map and collected climate information on.

- Which location has the highest rainfall?
- Which location has the lowest rainfall?
- Which location has the most variable rainfall?
- Which location has the most reliable rainfall? (this is the LEAST variable)
- Where is drought most likely to occur?
- What might the people in the least reliable rainfall or lowest rainfall places have to do to ensure a water supply for their own use?
- Where would farming be more successful?
- Is water evenly available throughout Australia? Explain your answer using the information that you have used on your map.