

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Unit 5: Climate in the Western Hemisphere



### H. Mediterranean Climate

Along the west coast of most continents, a very mild climate called the **Mediterranean climate** is found. This climate is found between 30 degrees and 40 degrees of latitude.

The Mediterranean climate found near the coastal areas in California and Chile has very hot, dry summers, with the rainfall coming in the winter. In summer, skies are usually very clear with few clouds, if any. The daytime temperatures can become very high. However, nights can be rather cool, as the clear skies allow the earth to lose its temperature rapidly. The winter temperatures are very mild and sunny. However, most of the rainfall does come in the winter months. The vegetation in the Mediterranean climate consists of shrubs, bushes, and small trees. Grasses grow in clumps and small patches.

The Mediterranean climate is a very important agricultural region in both California and Chile. Many fruits, vegetables, and nuts are grown in both locations. In California, the Great Central Valley has a Mediterranean climate. The Mediterranean climate region of Chile is in the Vale of Chile.

The following monthly temperature and rainfall totals are for a Mediterranean climate in the **Northern Hemisphere**.

Month	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Year
Temperature (°F)	49	51	53	54	56	57	57	58	60	59	56	51	55
Rainfall (inches)	4.8	3.6	3.1	1.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.0	2.4	4.6	22.2

The following monthly temperature and rainfall totals are for a Mediterranean climate in the **Southern Hemisphere**.

Month	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Year
Temperature (°F)	57	58	60	59	56	51	49	51	53	54	56	57	55
Rainfall (inches)	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.0	2.4	4.6	4.8	3.6	3.1	1.0	0.7	0.1	21.6

Using **Maps 12b, 12c**, and an **atlas**, complete the following activity.

The letter “e” locates the Vale of Chile and the Great Central Valley.

- Write the letters “VC” on the Vale of Chile.
- The Vale of Chile is located in \_\_\_\_\_ on the continent of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Write the letters “GVC” on the Great Central Valley.
- The Great Central Valley is located in \_\_\_\_\_ on the continent of \_\_\_\_\_.

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**Unit 5: Climate in the Western Hemisphere****H. Mediterranean Climate (cont.)**

5. In the Mediterranean climate, the rainfall comes in the a) winter b) summer.
6. In the Mediterranean climate, the a) summers b) winters are dry.
7. In the Vale of Chile, the rainfall comes in a) summer b) fall c) winter d) spring.
8. In the Great Central Valley, the rainfall comes in a) summer b) fall c) winter d) spring.
9. Winter in the Great Central Valley is a) December, January, February b) June, July, August because the Great Central Valley is located in the a) Southern b) Northern Hemisphere.
10. Winter in the Vale of Chile is in a) December, January, February b) June, July, August because the Vale of Chile is located in the a) Southern b) Northern Hemisphere.

Using **Maps 12b, 12c**, and **an atlas**, complete the following activity. You will need a green colored pen or pencil for this activity. The regions with the number 8s have a Mediterranean climate.

1. Color the regions with the number 8s inside the dotted lines green.
2. The Mediterranean climate is found on the ( east, west ) coast of both North America and South America.
3. The Mediterranean climate in South America is found between \_\_\_\_\_ degrees south and \_\_\_\_\_ degrees south latitude.
4. The Mediterranean climate in North America is found between \_\_\_\_\_ degrees north and \_\_\_\_\_ degrees north latitude.
5. The Mediterranean climate in North America is found in a) Texas b) California c) Illinois d) Washington.
6. The Mediterranean climate in South America is found in a) Brazil b) Argentina c) Chile d) Colombia.
7. The ocean current flowing along the coast of Chile is the a) Brazil b) Peru c) California d) Gulf Stream Current.
8. The ocean current flowing along the coast of California is the a) Brazil b) Peru c) California d) Gulf Stream Current.
9. The ocean currents are coming from the direction of the Poles, so both are a) warm currents b) cold currents.
10. The offshore winds blow a) toward the land b) toward the ocean.
11. The winds are the a) northeast trades b) southeast trades c) polar easterlies d) westerlies.