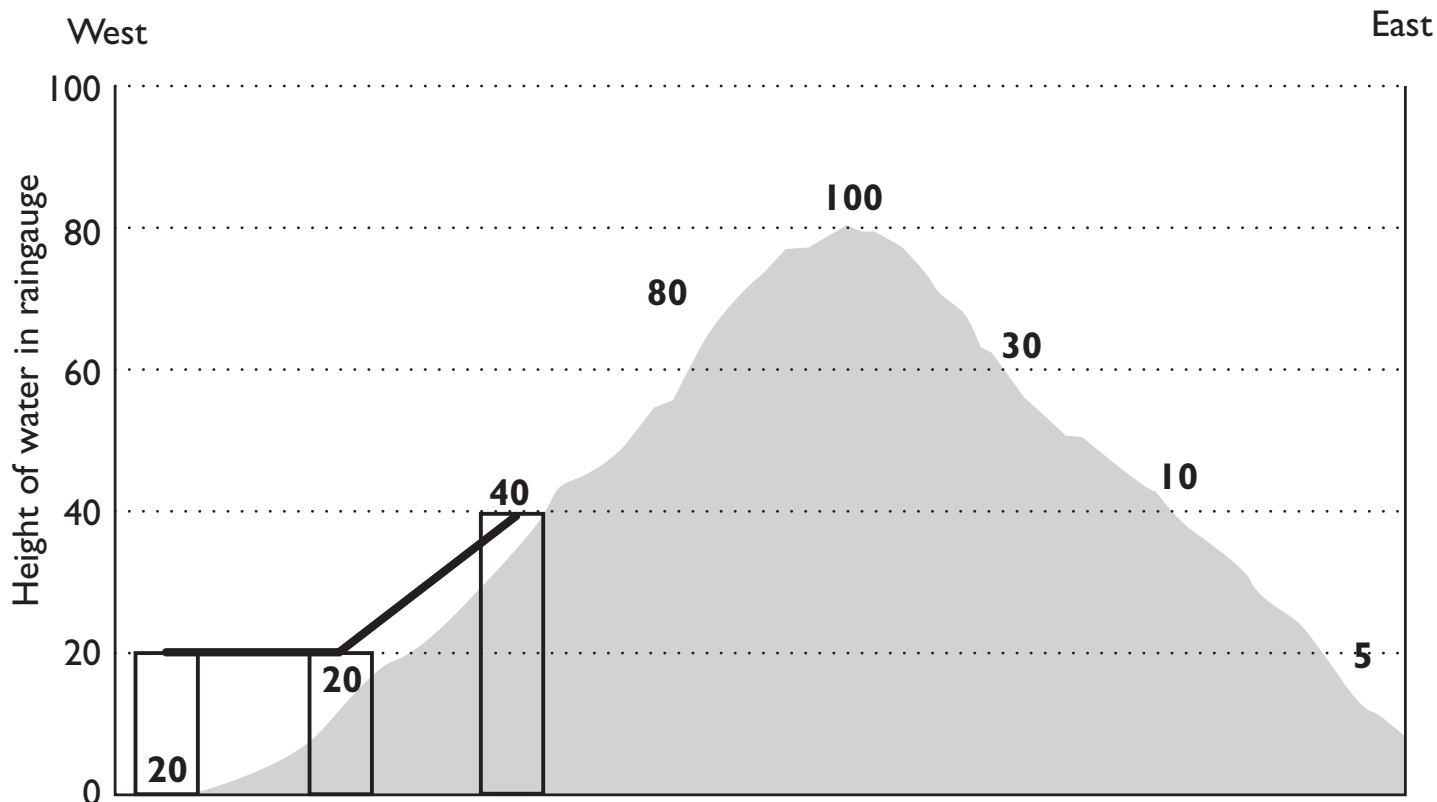


# Rain and drought

Most mountains block the flow of moist air, leaving the lee side of the mountain with much less rain than the windward side.

**Q1.** The numbers on the diagram below show the height of water (in mm) recorded in raingauges placed on a mountain. Draw the remaining bars to show the amount of rain that fell on the mountain. Then join the centres of the tops of the bars with straight lines.



**Q2.** What is meant by the term 'rainshadow'?



.....

**Q3.** Which is the rainshadow side of the mountain in the diagram above?



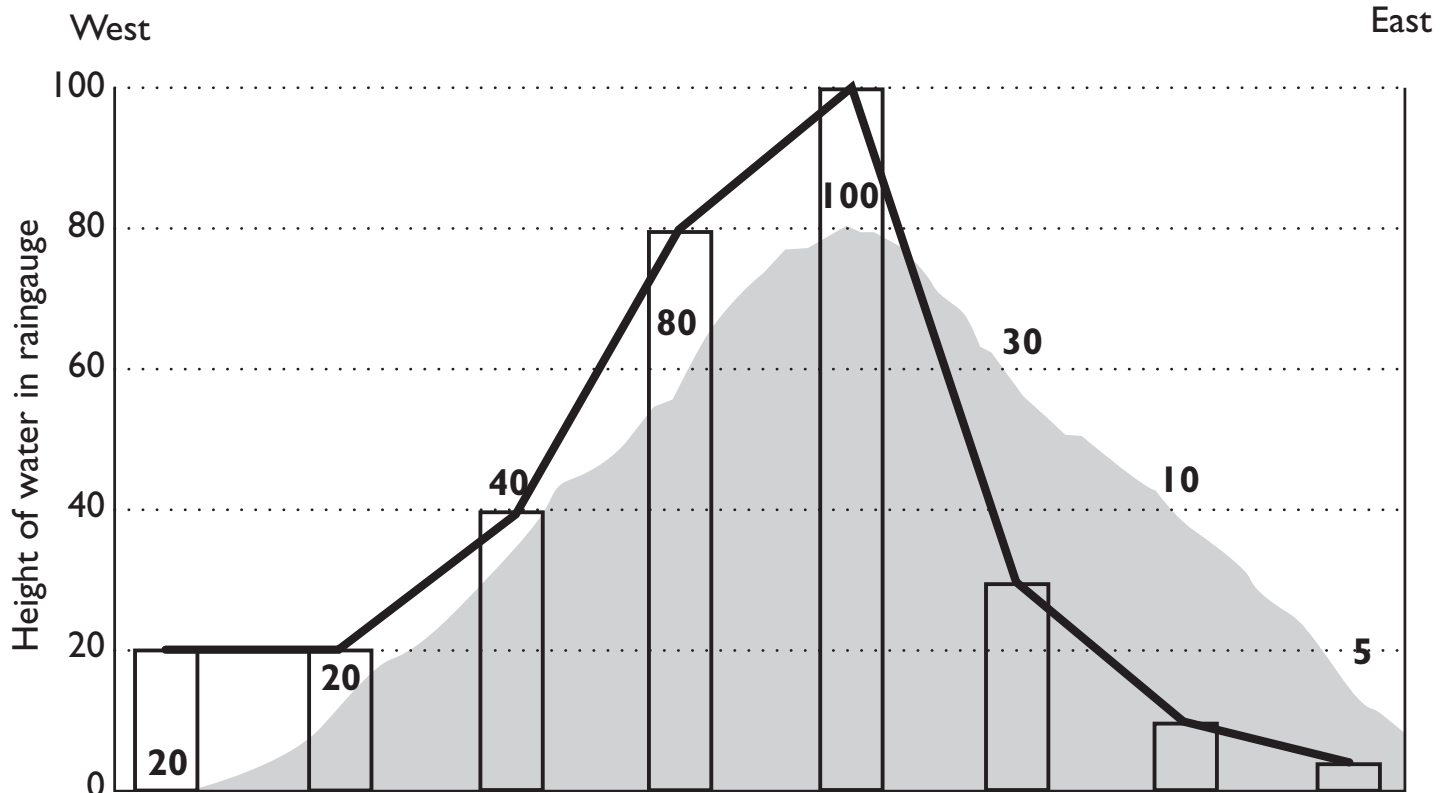
.....

## Answers

1. As diagram below.

## Notes

*Notice that the rainfall falls away sharply on the rainshadow side. This is because the air is sinking and warming and can hold nearly all the remaining moisture. The rain that falls is from the drift of clouds formed on the mountains and carried across the lee side by the prevailing wind.*



2. The sheltered side of a mountain that receives much less rain than the windward side.

3. The side with the least rainfall, i.e. the lee side (the right).