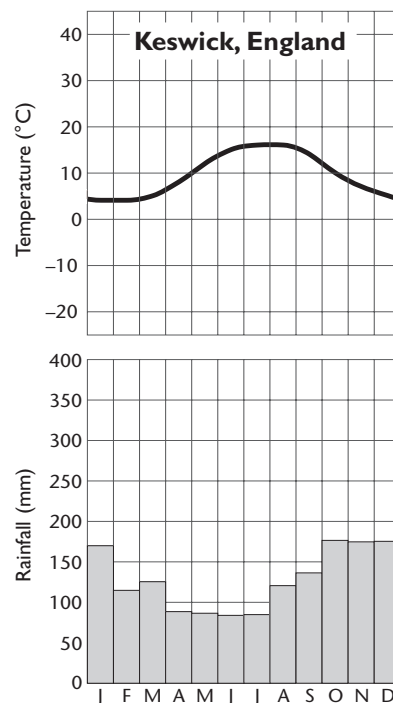
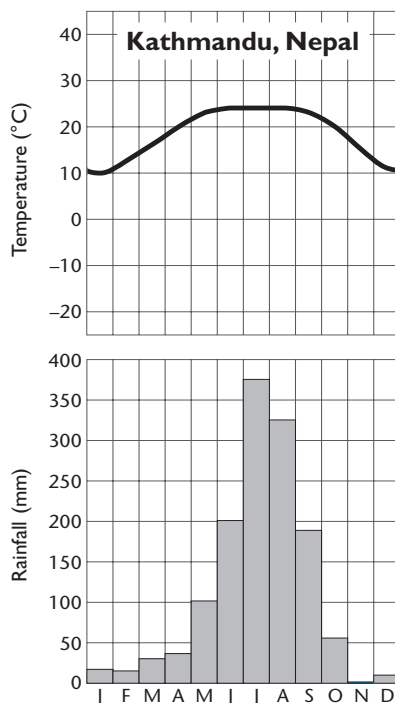


# Mountain weather in the Himalayas

The Himalayas are quite close to the equator. The city of Kathmandu is in a valley among these high mountains. How does it compare to Keswick, a town in the English Lake District?



**Q1.** What is the temperature of the coldest month in Kathmandu (altitude 1337 m)?

.....

**Q2.** What is the temperature of the warmest month in Kathmandu?

.....

**Q3.** The warmest month for Keswick, a valley town in the English Lake District (altitude 105 m), is 16°C and the coldest month is 4°C. Write a sentence to compare the coldest and warmest months in Kathmandu with Keswick.

.....

.....

**Q4.** The rainfall of Keswick varies between 84 mm and 175 mm of rain in a month. Look at the rainfall of Kathmandu and describe the highest and lowest rainfalls in that city.

.....

.....

## Answers

1. The coldest month is 10 °C.
2. The warmest month is 24°C.
3. The Lake District weather station is about a tenth of the altitude of Kathmandu, and yet the temperatures are much lower. This is the effect of *latitude* being greater than *altitude*.
4. In general, the rainfall pattern is very different, with the Kathmandu example showing a great extreme with lowest of 2 mm and highest of 375mm. This is the effect of the monsoon. The weather in the UK, by contrast, is affected by westerlies throughout the year, and so does not show such great contrasts of wet and dry seasons.

## Notes

*Kathmandu is in the mountainous region of Nepal in the Himalayas. It experiences a subtropical climate. It is not particularly high (just higher than the top of Ben Nevis) and so, although temperatures are slightly cooler than more lowland places in northern India, they are still very high compared to Britain.*

*This data shows that mountains in other parts of the world can have very different kinds of weather.*

*The other point to note is that, although Kathmandu remains warm all year, the nearby Great Himalayas are so high (over 8000 m) that they are permanently below freezing.*

**ICT: Kathmandu and Mt Everest are both featured on The Mountain and Volcano Project CD. On the home screen click Himalayas, then click on map, then click on Kathmandu or Everest.**

*It may be helpful for students to do worksheet 9c in association with this worksheet. It provides the detailed weather data for Keswick.*