



Name:

Form:

See **pages 20 and 21** of The Mountain Book

Weather in the English Lake District

How does the weather change through the year? Find out from these figures for Keswick. Keswick is in a valley at an altitude of about 105 metres.

	Rainfall (mm)	Average temperature (°C)	Hours of sunshine	Days with frost	Days with snow
Jan	170	4	35	13	3
Feb	115	4	60	11	3
Mar	126	5	95	9	2
Apr	89	8	139	4	1
May	87	12	195	0	0
Jun	84	15	170	0	0
July	85	16	147	0	0
Aug	120	16	145	0	0
Sep	137	14	97	0	0
Oct	176	10	72	2	0
Nov	174	7	41	6	1
Dec	175	5	32	10	2

Q1. Look down the rainfall column. Which is the wettest month? Which is the driest month.

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Q2. Look down the temperature column. Which are the two warmest months? Which are the two coldest months?

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Q3. Look down the sunshine column. Which is the sunniest month? Which is the month with the least sunshine?

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Q4. Look down the snowfall column. Write down the months when snow falls most often.

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Answers

1. **October (wettest) and June (driest).**

2. **July and August (warmest) January and February (coldest).**

3. **May (sunniest) and December (least sunny).**

4. **January and February.**

Notes

The data can be used in far more ways than those suggested by the three questions. However, some students will find it challenging enough to locate greatest and smallest from a column of figures, and so these four questions may be all that they can manage.

The more able can plot graphs of the data to show how temperature rises and falls through the year, and to show how the rainfall varies (with late spring being the driest and Autumn being the wettest).

There is a high rainfall and there are many frost days in Keswick. You may like to discuss this in relation to the difficulty of growing crops.

ICT: The data are more fully interpreted on the web site under 'In-depth... for projects' or on The Mountain and Volcano Project CD. Go to Lake District, click on Weather.

The data was kindly supplied by Mr K. Bond of Keswick.