

16th July 2023 – Higher B2+/C1

Planet Earth's global average temperature has **topped** records this month, note researchers. July's heatwave **establishes** a new record reaching into the decimal points of 17.18 degrees Celsius. Countries around the world have been gripped by the sudden **warmth**. Scientists identify a number of causes for this, one being the return of a weather pattern called El Niño. In Spanish *El Niño* means *The Boy*, and is the term for when the surface water temperature of the Pacific Ocean rises. Because of this **marine** change, experts hint at even higher temperature **fluctuations**. Climate researcher Leon Simons acknowledges the record is not **encouraging**. He warns it is "a significant symbolic milestone in our warming world", and that because of El Niño we are on the threshold of "a lot more daily, monthly and annual records breaking in the next 1.5 years". This July **shattered** the previous record temperature of 16.92C from August 2016. Data reveal that this was during the previous El Niño cycle. Other calculations by scientists **propose** that this July was the hottest in about 125,000 years. What has also been instrumental to the new record is the increase in carbon dioxide. Societies illustrate this underlying problem with their dependence on vehicles and the **exhaust fumes** they make. To **combat** the problem and raise awareness, the phrase *net zero* is often used. This phrase puts forward the aim of no harmful emissions being made by society's actions.

Q1. _____

On a really hot day, what activities can we do that are – *fun*, *sensible*, or *unsafe*.

Describe some words or phrases that can be associated with the word *wave*?

Q2. _____

Which bolded words in the text mean:

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 1. cheerful | ..... |
| 2. sea | ..... |
| 3. suggest | ..... |
| 4. fight | ..... |
| 5. sets | ..... |

- | | |
|--------------|-------|
| 6. changes | ..... |
| 7. broke | ..... |
| 8. pollution | ..... |
| 9. beaten | ..... |
| 10. heat | ..... |

Q3. _____

What does the italicised phrase below mean – *end*, *earth*, or *edge*?

we are on the *threshold* of

Q4. _____

Link the five synonym pairs:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. grip | A. event |
| 2. acknowledge | B. final |
| 3. net | C. demonstrate |
| 4. milestone | D. accept |
| 5. illustrate | E. hold |

Link the three antonym pairs:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. shatter | A. insignificant |
| 2. calculate | B. construct |
| 3. instrumental | C. estimate |

Q5. _____

Spell the words correctly:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 1. l e d h r t s h o | ..... |
| 2. h t s e r e d a t | ..... |
| 3. l e r n y g u i d n | ..... |
| 4. m s e o s i n s i | ..... |
| 5. n i d f i e y t | ..... |

Q6. _____

Discussion questions / Writing practice:

How can we use nature-friendly modes of transport more?

What items can you use to keep yourself cool on a hot day?

What types of energy sources can you name?

Q7. _____

How many words can you make from the letters in *heatwave*?

Q8. _____

10 C1 lesson keywords: underlined in text.