

词汇: *climate* 气候

As winter takes its **icy grip**, and we head outside into a cold and **crisp** morning, we might be dreaming of warmer and sunnier days that lie ahead. Although, for many, summer might give us the most **clement** weather, our changing climate might mean that our **chilly** winter season becomes a thing of the past. So maybe we should enjoy it while we can.

Last year, the World Meteorological Organization found that the Earth continued to endure a period of significant **heating**, making it one of the three hottest years on record. The most notable **warmth** was in the Siberian Arctic, where **temperatures** were 5°C above average. The evidence shows that much of this **climate warming** is driven by human activity.

With a shift in **meteorological conditions**, we're likely to see more **record-breaking temperatures**, where, in certain places, summers will be **scorching** hot and winters **mild**. This means for some, **snowy** winters could become a thing of the past. In the UK, a series of projections, based on accelerating **global emissions**, found that the average coldest day would not drop below **freezing point**. Dr Lizzie Kendon, a senior Met Office scientist, told the BBC: "It could mean the end of **sledging, snowmen** and **snowball fights**... the overarching picture is warmer, wetter winters; hotter, drier summers." She's described this as 'a wake-up call'.

Reducing **greenhouse gas emissions** is the obvious way to slow the rate of change in our climate. Some nations are promising to do this, but already we're experiencing less **snowfall** and fewer **frosty** mornings. And on a bigger scale, **glaciers** are **melting**. According to modelling by Aberystwyth University in the UK, up to 92% of glaciers in the Alps could be lost by the end of the century due to climate change. So, if you're lucky enough to be looking out on a **winter wonderland**, get outside and make the most of it before it melts.

词汇表

icy grip	冰冷刺骨
crisp	干冷的
clement	温和的
chilly	冷飕飕的
heating	升温
warmth	温暖
temperature	温度
climate warming	气候变暖
meteorological conditions	气象条件
record-breaking temperatures	破记录的气温
scorching	灼热的，炎热的
mild	温和的
snowy	下雪的，多雪的
global emissions	全球排放
freezing point	冰点
sledging	滑雪橇
snowman	雪人
snowball fight	打雪仗
greenhouse gas emissions	温室气体排放
snowfall	降雪
frosty	霜冻的
glacier	冰川
melt	融化
winter wonderland	冬日仙境

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What was significant about last year's weather?
2. When might the average temperature drop below freezing in the future?
3. What could reducing greenhouse gas emissions do to the rate of change in our weather?
4. True or false? *Warmer winters mean less chance of having snowball fights.*
5. Where might 92% of glaciers melt by the end of the century?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. Using a payphone to make a call has become _____.

a past thing	things of the past	a thing of the past	a passing thing
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2. Turn the heating down. It's _____ in here!

warmth	scorching	chilly	cold
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3. His terrible test results were a _____ to study harder before his next exams.

wake-up call	waking call	woke-up call	wake-up calling
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4. Eat up quickly. Your ice cream is _____.

freezing	melting	glaciers	heating
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5. The weather is getting better. Winter must be losing its _____.

ice gripping	icy grip	icy grips	ice grip
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What was significant about last year's weather?

Last year was one of the three hottest years on record.

2. When might the average temperature drop below freezing in the future?

Never. Based on projections, the average coldest day would not drop below freezing point.

3. What could reducing greenhouse gas emissions do to the rate of change in our weather?

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is the obvious way to slow the rate of change in our weather.

4. True or false? *Warmer winters mean less chance of having snowball fights.*

True. Dr Lizzie Kendon, a senior Met Office scientist, told the BBC changes in climate could mean the end of sledging, snowmen and snowball fights.

5. Where might 92% of glaciers melt by the end of the century?

According to modelling by Aberystwyth University in the UK, up to 92% of glaciers in the Alps could be lost by the end of the century due to climate change.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. Using a payphone to make a call has become **a thing of the past**.

2. Turn the heating down. It's **scorching** in here!

3. His terrible test results were a **wake-up call** to study harder before his next exams.

4. Eat up quickly. Your ice cream is **melting**.

5. The weather is getting better. Winter must be losing its **icy grip**.