



The Study of Weather
Geography – Junior Cert
Quick Notes

The Study of Weather

A weather station contains instruments that can measure elements such as temperature, precipitation, wind, atmospheric pressure, humidity and sunshine. The highest and lowest temperatures of the day can be measured by maximum and minimum thermometers . Temperature is measured in degree celsius and isotherms are lines on a map joining places of equal pressure. Precipitation or rainfall is measured by a rain gauge in millimeters. Isohyets are lines on a map joining places of equal rainfall. Wind direction is recorded by a wind vane whilst wind speed is measured by an anemometer. Wind speed is expressed in knots or kilometers per hour, or it is also measured by the Beaufort scale. Atmospheric pressure is measured by a aneroid barometer in millibars or hectopascals. Isobars are lines on a map joining places of equal pressure. Humidity measures the amount of water vapour in the atmosphere. A hygrometer consists of wet and dry thermometers and these are used to express the relative humidity of the air (expressed as a percentage). Sunshine is measured with a Campbell Stokes recorder. Isohels are lines on a map joining places of equal sunshine. A Stevenson Screen is a white box with louvered sides which contains thermometers and barometers.