

CHASING EL NINO

1. How often does El Nino occur each decade?	
2. Which ocean controls most of the planet's climate during normal periods as well as during El Nino?	
3. What happens to the pattern of the trade winds every 3 to 7 years?	
4. Do scientists know what causes El Nino?	
5. Specifically, what were the research buoys supposed to measure?	
6. Who was likely responsible for the missing buoy?	
7. Satellites give us a global picture, but how are they limited?	
8. What do high water temperatures and the change of wind direction indicate?	
9. During an El Nino, warm water travels toward South America. This heated water contains as much energy as _____ twenty-megaton hydrogen bombs.	
10. When El Nino occurs, what kind of weather event is often seen in Africa, Indonesia, and Australia?	
11. Jet streams cause fierce storms in California, which cause increased _____ on the California coastline.	
12. Tropical heat & moisture cause enormous amounts of _____.	
13. A _____ is a wall of air which forces precipitation out of the clouds before it hits the coast.	
14. El Nino can be considered positive because it reduces the number of Atlantic _____. It also causes Northern U.S. winters to be _____ than usual.	
15. In 1997-98, the El Nino that hit _____ caused hundreds to die, thousands to be homeless, and destroyed this country's _____ industry.	
16. There is archaeological evidence that El Nino dates back to the _____ century.	
17. How can trees be used to record the history of El Nino?	
18. Species on the Galapagos Islands show adaptation, proving that El Nino is a strong influence in their _____.	
19. On the Galapagos Islands, what physical feature of the birds changed due to El Nino?	
20. El Nino appears to be a natural part of the earth's climate cycle. What problem do humans contribute to that may accelerate the El Nino frequency?	