Equatorial regions

Equatorial The equatorial, hot, wet, climate is found between 5 degrees north and 10 degrees south of the equator. The temperature of the equatorial regions is hot throughout the year, with a very low temperature range usually of less than 3 degrees Celsius. Due to the heat in the equatorial belt mornings are bright and sunny. This causes evaporation and conventional air currents are set up, followed by heavy down pours of convectional rain. The amount of rainfall recorded in one afternoon may be as much as the deserts receive for the entire year. Humid Subtropical

The Humid Subtropical climate is found on the east coast of continents between 20o and 40o north and south of the equator. Humid Subtropical climate is known for hot humid summers and mild. The rain falls throughout the year. The regularly high temperatures evaporate water, which causes humidity and precipitation. The high humidity in this region makes summer temperatures feel even hotter. Humid Subtropical areas usually experience strong storms such as tornadoes and hurricanes. Tropical Wet/Dry Tropical Wet/Dry is found near the equator, usually on the outer edges of Tropical Wet climate areas.

During the wet season, temperatures average about 77 degrees. The temperatures stay high throughout the year because of the latitude where this climate occurs. Areas near the equator receive constant direct sunlight and therefore, heat. The change in precipitation is what gives this climate type its name. Precipitation only falls during the summer months, usually from May-August with June and July having the heaviest rain. Mediterranean: Mediterranean climate is found between the 30o and 45o degree latitudes. This climate is often found on the western sides of continents.

The climate is known for warm to hot, dry summers and mild to cool, wet winters. Mediterranean climate is a fairly dry climate. Almost no rain falls during the summer, so most of the rain falls during the cooler winter. The summer experiences cold ocean currents that bring dry air and no precipitation. Desert Dry/Hot The hot desert climate is found around the tropics of Capricorn and Cancer. The vegetation of hot deserts is very sparse due to lack of rain. Some plants have adapted to the conditions by having long roots to search for moisture, and some plants like cacti store water. Desert Dry/ Cold

Most cold deserts are found in higher latitudes and higher elevations. They are usually found between the subtropics and Polar Regions. Cold Deserts usually have lots of snow. They also have rain around spring. These deserts also include scattered plant species such as, scrubs, and spiny leaves. Cold deserts are home to animals like the antelope and ground Squirrels. Humid continental: Humid continental covers the northern regions of North America and Asia. There is a very large temperature range with extremely cold winters and relatively warm but short summers which is caused by a lack of ocean influence.

Precipitation in the form of convection rainfall occurs during the warmer months. Cumulonimbus clouds are common in the summer and thunder storms are frequent because there is no cooling influence of oceans. You cannot find humid continental in the southern hemisphere because there are no large land masses. West coast marine: The offshore winds immensely affect this climate. The ocean air makes this climate cooler in the summer and more neutral in the winter, which results in very little annual

temperature change. Winter has more precipitation than the summer, even though precipitation occurs throughout the year.

Sub-arctic: This climate is a really cold climate which is found north of the Humid Continental. Temperatures above freezing only occur four months of the year. The cold winters create a large annual temperature range. Precipitation is very low, because the air is too cold to contain the water vapour. Frozen rain or snow fall during the summer months. Tundra: The flat, cold, treeless land of the north. It has low bushes and plants that are very slow growing because of the harsh conditions. In addition, it’s a frozen piece of land where it is difficult to grow an lot of plants, so mostly there is moss and lichens.

It is cold throughout the year and summer is brief where it is a milder climate when the Sun shines almost 24 hours a day. The tundra is unusually a cold and dry climate. Ice cap: An ice cap is a polar climate where the temperature never or almost never exceeds 0 °C. The climate covers the areas around the poles, such as Antarctica and Greenland, as well as the highest mountaintops. Such areas are covered by a permanent layer of ice and have no vegetation, but they may have animal life, that usually feeds from the oceans. Due to their high latitudes, icecap climates experience 24 hours of sun in the summer and no sunshine in winter.