

World Geography	
Chapter 3	Vocabulary- modified
word	definition
solstace	Marks the beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere
equinox	
weather	the condition of the atmosphere in one place during a limited period of time
climate	
precipitation	
rain shadow	An effect where there is little precipitation
hurricane	
typhoon	
tornado	
blizzard	a heavy snowstorm with winds of more than 35 mph and reduced visibility of less than 1/4 mile
drought	a long period without rain or with very minimal rainfall
convection	
El Nino	
greenhouse effect	the layer of gases released by the burning of coal and petroleum that traps solar energy, causing global temperature to increase
tundra	

permafrost	permanently frozen subsoil
ecosystem	an interdependent community of plants and animals
biome	
deciduous	a named characteristic of broadleaf trees, such as maple, oak, birch, and cottonwood
rain forest	
coniferous	another word for needleleaf trees
savanna	
steppe	a term used for the temperate grassland region in the Northern Hemisphere