

1. Read the article. Where is Xinjiang?

The Year of Extreme Weather



In 2012, China had the coldest winter for thirty years, it was the hottest summer in the U.S., there was a heatwave (extremely hot weather) in Brazil, and unexpected and severe flooding in Pakistan with more than 400 people dead. Forecasters predict that severe weather will get worse and we will see an increase in floods, droughts, and hurricanes over the next few years.

In Harbin, in north east China, 2012 was the worst winter people can remember and the lowest temperatures were -45°C . In western China, in the region of Xinjiang, a severe blizzard destroyed more than 1,000 houses, and at the same time in Inner Mongolia more than 180,000 farm animals died because of the extreme cold.



In 2012, Brazil had a very hot summer and there was no rain. On December 26, the temperature was 43°C , the city's highest temperature since 1915. There wasn't a drought but there was little or no water in reservoirs in some parts of the country. In Australia, heat was also a problem at the start of 2013: Sydney had temperatures of 42°C and the first eight days of 2013 were the hottest on record.

2. **Classify information** Match the statements to the places.

a. Pakistan b. China c. Brazil

1. There was extremely hot weather. c
2. There was severe and unexpected flooding. _____
3. The coldest winter for thirty years. _____
4. The worst winter people can remember. _____
5. There was no rain but there wasn't a drought. _____
6. More than 400 people died. _____

3. **Scan for information** Answer the questions.

1. What were the lowest temperatures in Harbin?
They were -45°C .
2. What destroyed more than 1,000 houses in the west of China?

3. How many farm animals died in Inner Mongolia?

4. When was the temperature in Brazil 43°C ?

5. When were there very high temperatures in Sydney?

6. When were the hottest days on record in Australia?
