Extreme Weather Challenge Answer Key

1. “Tornado Alley,” where tornadoes are most frequent in the United States, runs roughly ________.
   b. from Texas and Louisiana through North Dakota and Minnesota

2. In order to qualify as a hurricane, a tropical storm must have maximum sustained winds exceeding ________.
   b. 74 mph

3. Storms are given names when they achieve ________ status.
   b. tropical storm

4. When the eye of a hurricane is passing over, an area experiences ________.
   c. a temporary calm

5. During El Niño, unusually warm water in the ________ has a significant effect on the weather.
   a. eastern Pacific Ocean

6. Exposure to extreme cold can cause ________.
   c. hypothermia

7. The “Lake Effect” takes place when a snowstorm passes over a large lake and ________.
   b. gathers moisture and deposits large amounts of snow on the area beyond it

8. Thunderstorms grow from ________ clouds.
   c. cumulonimbus

9. The record for the hottest weather in the United States in the twentieth century was ________.
   c. 134 degrees in Death Valley, California, in 1913

10. The record for the coldest weather in the United States in the twentieth century was ________.
    c. -80 degrees in Prospect Creek, Alaska, in 1971