CLASSROOM WORKSHEET

Weipa Registers 39.8 Degrees as Unbroken Heat Grips Cape York

Environment · Nov 9, 2026 · 3 min read

NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____



AI illustration

1 Read

The number beside each paragraph helps you talk about it.

1 Weipa, a remote settlement on the Cape York Peninsula, recorded 39.8 degrees Celsius on Saturday, marking its hottest November day ever measured, reportedly amid conditions that have persisted for more than a month. The town endured 33 consecutive days in which temperatures exceeded 36 degrees Celsius, a streak that prompted an extreme heatwave warning across the Cape York Peninsula. A severe heatwave warning was also issued for regions stretching from the Gulf Country to the Whitsundays. The Bureau of Meteorology is understood to have forecast that western Cape York Peninsula would see highs in the high 30s to low 40s and overnight lows in the mid to high 20s for another week. Meanwhile, south-east Queensland received a short break from storms, though severe thunderstorms were expected to return on Wednesday and Thursday. Moderate flood warnings remained active along the Barcoo, Bulloo and Upper Balonne rivers, underscoring the complex weather patterns affecting the state simultaneously.

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2 Key words

persisted /pəˈsɪstɪd/ *verb*
continued to exist or happen over a long period, especially despite attempts to change it
The drought persisted for three seasons, forcing farmers to abandon their crops.

endured /ɪnˈdjʊəd/ *verb*
suffered through something difficult or unpleasant for a period of time
The prisoners endured months of isolation without breaking.

consecutive /kənˈsɛkjətɪv/ *adjective*
following one after another in a continuous series with no gaps
She won three consecutive championships, cementing her legacy in the sport.

prompted /ˈprɒmptɪd/ *verb*
caused something to happen; served as the reason or trigger for an action
The whistleblower's evidence prompted a full investigation by the committee.

underscoring /ˌʌndəˈskɔːrɪŋ/ *verb*
emphasising or making clear the importance or significance of something
The report concluded with a call for reform, underscoring the urgency of the situation.

simultaneously /ˌsɪməlˈteɪniəsli/ *adverb*
at the same time; in a way that two or more events occur together
The two earthquakes struck simultaneously, overwhelming the emergency services.

3 Grammar focus

Hedging and distancing

reportedly / is thought to / appears to / is expected to + verb

Hedging language (reportedly, is thought to, appears to) lets a writer report information without vouching for it. It marks the difference between established fact and claim or expectation.

1. Weipa, a remote settlement on the Cape York Peninsula, recorded 39.8 degrees Celsius on Saturday, marking its hottest November day ever measured, reportedly amid conditions that have persisted for more than a month.

What does the writer avoid stating as a certain fact?