

# Kansas Severe Weather Quiz

Questions provided by the Topeka Capital-Journal and the National Weather Service

- 1. The most active month for severe thunderstorms in Kansas is:**  
A. August    B. May    C. October    D. March
- 2. The National Weather Service considers a thunderstorm severe if it produces hail at least \_\_\_\_\_ in diameter, winds of \_\_\_\_\_ mph or stronger, or a tornado.**  
A. 2 inches, 80    B. 1 inch, 70    C.  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch, 58    D. 4 inches, 100
- 3. The average number of tornadoes per year in Kansas is:**  
A. 25    B. 50    C. 75    D. 101
- 4. Tornadoes can occur at any time of the day, but the most likely time is between:**  
A. 1 and 6 p.m.    B. 5 and 10 p.m.    C. 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.    D. 3 and 9 p.m.
- 5. The best shelter from a tornado or severe thunderstorm is:**  
A. Vehicle    B. Mobile Home    C. Basement or strong, sturdy shelter    D. Under a highway overpass
- 6. The low pressure with a tornado causes building to "explode" as the tornado passes overhead.**  
A. True    B. False
- 7. Windows should be opened before a tornado approaches to equalize pressure and minimize damage.**  
A. True    B. False
- 8. The rubber soles of shoes or rubber tires on a car will protect you from being struck by lightning.**  
A. True    B. False
- 9. During a soccer game, you notice distant lightning flashes and hear low rumbles of thunder. You should:**  
A. Head to the concession stand before it gets busy.  
B. Get your umbrella ready.  
C. Bring it to the referee's attention, and get in your car or a nearby building.  
D. Stand under a tree to keep dry if it rains.
- 10. People struck by lightning carry an electrical charge and shouldn't be touched.**  
A. True    B. False
- 11. If you see a flash of lightning and the next clap of thunder is five seconds later, how far away is the thunderstorm?**  
A. 15 miles    B. 10 miles    C. 5 miles    D. 1 mile
- 12. The leading cause of death associated with thunderstorms in Kansas since 1950 is:**  
A. Tornadoes    B. Lightning    C. Flash floods and floods    D. Hail
- 13. Six inches of fast-moving water can knock you off your feet.**  
A. True    B. False
- 14. A depth of 2 feet of water will cause most vehicles to float.**  
A. True    B. False

15. A downburst wind from a thunderstorm can exceed 100 mph and cause damage equivalent to a strong tornado.

A. True B. False

16. Large hail stones can fall at speeds faster than:

A. 30 mph B. 50 mph C. 75 mph D. 100 mph

17. The largest hailstone officially recorded fell in Coffeyville on September 3, 1970. The circumference was measured as:

A. 8 inches B. 12 inches C. 17.5 inches D. 100 inches

18. The Kansas tornado producing the most fatalities since 1900 occurred at:

A. Andover B. Topeka C. Salina D. Udall

19. The phrase "tornado watch" means:

A. Tornadoes are possible B. Large hail is possible C. Strong and damaging winds are possible D. All of the above are possible.

20. If a flood warning is issued for your area, you should:

A. Keep alert to rising waters and evacuate if necessary.  
B. Bring in outdoor furniture or other items that may get lost in high water.  
C. Avoid using your vehicle, unless it is to evacuate.  
D. Keep tuned to the weather radio and local media for information.  
E. All of the above.

#### Severe Weather Quiz Answers

- 1) B. May
- 2) C.  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch, 58 mph
- 3) B. 50
- 4) D. 3 and 9 p.m.
- 5) C. Basement or strong sturdy shelter
- 6) B. False
- 7) B. False
- 8) B. False
- 9) C. Bring it to the referee's attention, and get in your car or a nearby building.
- 10) B. False
- 11) D. 1 mile
- 12) A. Tornadoes
- 13) A. True
- 14) A. True
- 15) A. True
- 16) D. 100 mph
- 17) C. 17.5 inches
- 18) D. Udall
- 19) D. All of the above are possible
- 20) E. All of the above



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