

Worksheet 2 - Mayday, Mayday Measuring the Elements

*The shriek of the wind in the rigging had been with them now for the twenty hours.
Their wind instrument had gone completely off the scale.*

There are a variety of instruments to help measure elements of the weather.

Task 1: Complete the table below by researching each different type of weather measuring instrument.

Name of Instrument	What does it measure?	How does it work?
<i>Anemometer</i>		
<i>Barometer</i>		
<i>Hygrometer</i>		
<i>Oktas</i>		
<i>Rain Gauge</i>		
<i>Thermometer</i>		
<i>Weather Vane</i>		
<i>Sling Psychrometer</i>		
<i>Weather Balloon</i>		

Extension Activities:

- Research the history of one of the weather measuring instruments from the table above. Present your research as a slide show presentation or as a poster.
- Create an explanation text about how one of the measuring instruments works. Use visual media tools to present your explanation.
- Study the empirical measure of wind speed – the Beaufort scale. Explain how it relates to natural disaster scales such as the Saffir-Simpson scale and the Fujita tornado scale.
- Research instruments used to measure natural disasters (e.g. seismograph).
- Locate a procedural text in a non-fiction book or via the Internet about how to make a model of an anemometer. Create the model and present an oral presentation about how it works to an appropriate audience.