

Unit 23

Temperature



Vocabulary

human being – człowiek, istota ludzka
human beings – ludzie
to maintain – utrzymywać
constant – stały
body temperature – temperatura ciała
the temperature is as low as... – najniższa temperatura wynosi...
the temperature is as high as... – najwyższa temperatura wynosi...
daily variation – wahania dobowe
degree – stopień
body heat – temperatura ciała
is produced by... – jest wytwarzany przez...
metabolic – metaboliczny
muscular – mięśniowy
activity – działanie
to lose (lost, lost) – *tu*: tracić
evaporation – parowanie
expiration – wydychanie
excretion – wydalanie
balance – równowaga

Human beings maintain an almost constant body temperature. The normal temperature of some adults is as low as 97°F and in others, it is as high as 99°F. There is also a normal daily variation of about one degree. The temperature is lowest in the early hours of the morning and highest in the evening.

Body heat is produced by metabolic and muscular activity. It is lost by evaporation of sweat from the skin, expiration of air from the lungs and excretion of urine and faeces.

The balance between heat production and heat loss is maintained by the heat-regulating centre in the hypothalamus, which is sensitive to minute variations in the temperature of the blood passing through it.

A rise in blood temperature produces an increase in the flow of blood to the surface of the body. Sweat gland activity is increased, muscle tone is diminished and there is unwillingness to move about.

A fall in blood temperature produces a decreased flow of blood to the superficial vessels. There is decreased activity of the sweat glands, increased muscle tone and a desire to move about. Shivering, which is a reflex contraction of the muscles, may occur to increase heat production.

Fahrenheit and Centigrade



The Fahrenheit thermometric scale extends from 0° to 212°. 0°F = -18°C, 32°F = 0°C (freezing point) and 212°F = 100°C (boiling point). Normal body temperature is 98.4°F.

To convert degrees Fahrenheit into degrees Centigrade, we subtract 32, multiply by 5, and divide by 9.

Example 100°F

$$\begin{aligned} 100 - 32 &= 68 \\ 68 \times 5 &= 340 \\ 340 \div 9 &= 37.7 \\ \therefore 100^\circ\text{F} &= 37.7^\circ\text{C} \end{aligned}$$

To convert from Centigrade into Fahrenheit, we multiply by 9, divide by 5, and add 32.

Example 25°C

$$\begin{aligned} 25 \times 9 &= 225 \\ 225 \div 5 &= 45 \\ 45 + 32 &= 77 \\ \therefore 25^\circ\text{C} &= 77^\circ\text{F} \end{aligned}$$

A

Which words in the text have the same meaning as

- 1 near the surface
- 2 unchanging
- 3 alteration
- 4 extremely small
- 5 decreased
- 6 breathing out
- 7 controlling
- 8 changing into vapour
- 9 reluctance
- 10 discharge of waste products

B

Write five sentences using the following verbs

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------|
| 1 to maintain | 3 to increase | 5 to occur |
| 2 to produce | 4 to decrease | |

heat production – wytwarzanie ciepła
 heat loss – utrata ciepła
 heat-regulating – regulujący ciepło
 hypothalamus – podwzgórze
 sensitive – wrażliwy
 to be sensitive to sth – być wrażliwym na coś
 minute – bardzo mały
 variation – zmiana
 rise – wzrost
 increase – wzrost
 flow – przepływ
 surface – powierzchnia
 muscle tone – napięcie mięśniowe
 to diminish – zmniejszyć (się)
 unwillingness – niechęć
 to move about – ruszać się
 fall – spadek
 blood temperature – temperatura krwi
 decreased – zmniejszony
 increased – zwiększony
 desire – pragnienie, chęć
 shivering – dreszcze
 reflex – odruch; *tu*: odruchowy
 contraction – skurcz
 to occur – wystąpić
 Fahrenheit thermometric scale – skala temperatury Fahrenheita
 degrees Fahrenheit – stopnie Fahrenheita
 degrees Centigrade – stopnie Celsjusza
 to extend – rozciągać się
 freezing point – temperatura zamarzania
 boiling point – temperatura wrzenia
 to convert – przeliczyć
 to subtract – odejmować
 to multiply – mnożyć
 to divide – dzielić
 alteration – zmiana
 reluctance – niechęć

