Monsoons in India

As you have read, the climate of much of South Asia is a monsoon climate. Monsoons are seasonal shifts in the prevailing winds. They bring almost all the rain that falls on South Asia. Compare the two maps below. Then complete the paragraphs that follow.

In the winter, the monsoon winds blow in a (1) direction, bringing cool, dry air to India. In winter, the average precipitation in most parts of the country is about (2). The coastal areas along the (3) tip of India receive precipitation of 10–40 inches (25–100 cm) during the winter.

In summer, monsoon winds blow in a (4) direction, picking up moisture from the Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea, and (5). During the summer months, the eastern part of India receives (6) of rainfall. The northernmost tip of India remains dry all year long. This is because the (7) block the monsoon rains, causing the winds to drop their moisture on the mountains’ southern slopes.