

## No 14 Gap Fill

Put these words into the spaces in the paragraph below.

era  
excessively  
massive  
drought  
precipitation  
single  
prolonged  
fauna

Farmers pray for rain in times of (1) \_\_\_\_\_. Most of us have experience of wanting the heavens to open for our garden to be watered during an (2) \_\_\_\_\_ dry spell. However, none of us can imagine a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ period of rain lasting two million years. U.K. geologist and forensic scientist Alastair Ruffell has discovered that 200-300 million years ago, before the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ landmass of Pangea separated into continents, Earth did see an (5) \_\_\_\_\_ during which it rained non-stop for up to two million years. Dr Ruffell said this helped forge the development of flora and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ all over the globe. He believes the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ may have been sparked by a huge rise in humidity following a series of (8) \_\_\_\_\_ volcanic eruptions.

Put these words into the spaces in the paragraph below.

dated  
terms  
findings  
mammals  
evidence  
deposited  
origins  
diversify

Dr Ruffell and his team based their (9) \_\_\_\_\_ on research conducted on strata of rock in the Eastern Alps in Europe in the 1970s and 80s. The data showed unusual layers (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in ancient rock that (11) \_\_\_\_\_ back over 200 million years. Ruffell said this led to growing (12) \_\_\_\_\_ that the wet period may have been, "the trigger that enabled dinosaurs, and possibly the other members of our modern land-based fauna, to (13) \_\_\_\_\_ and dominate the land". He added: "It may have been one of the most important events in the history of life, in (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of its role in allowing not only the age of dinosaurs, but also the (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of most key classes that form the modern fauna of...turtles, crocodiles, lizards and (16) \_\_\_\_\_