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The most likely reason Francis Beaufort used his observations of the sea for his scale is because

in the period 1774 to 1857 Britain was an important shipping nation.

many people lived by the sea in Beaufort's time.

wind conditions are easier to observe on water.

Beaufort was a British naval officer.

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When the wind condition is described as 'Light air'

there is no wind.

smoke drifts.

leaves rustle.

wind is felt on the face.

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According to the scale, when the wind reaches 35 kph

smoke rises vertically.

twigs break off trees.

loose paper rises.

small leafy trees begin to sway.

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The word *fresh*, as used in the table (fresh wind, fresh gale), suggests that the wind is

blowing quite strongly for that wind type.

not salty.

refreshing.

cooler than usual.

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When winds reach Fresh gale force

walking becomes difficult.

trees are uprooted.

there is widespread damage.

devastation occurs.

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The scale could best be described as

- accurate.
- scientific.
- practical.
- experimental.

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