

WEATHER

Everybody speaks about weather,
but nobody does anything about it.

Mark Twain (1835-1910)

American writer

Phonetics

1. Look at the tongue-twisters. Transcribe them and mark the intonation.
 - a) The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain.
 - b) In Hartford, Hereford, and Hampshire hurricanes hardly happen.
2. Ω Listen to the clip from the film “My Fair Lady” paying attention to the pronunciation of the tongue-twisters. Practice reading out the tongue-twisters.

Eliza: **The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain.**

Henry: What was that?

Eliza: **The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain!**

Henry: Again!

Eliza: **The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain!**

Henry: By George, she's got it! By George, she's got it! Now, once again where does it rain?

Eliza: On the plain! On the plain!

Henry: And where's that soggy plain?

Eliza: In Spain! In Spain!

The three: **The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain! The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain!**

Henry: **In Hartford, Hereford, and Hampshire...?**

Eliza: **Hurricanes hardly happen.** How kind of you to let me come!

Henry: Now once again, where does it rain?

Eliza: On the plain! On the plain!

Henry: And where's that blasted plain?

Eliza: In Spain! In Spain!

The three: **The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain! The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain!**

3. Transcribe A's lines in the following telephone conversation between two friends. Punctuate the lines carefully to make the meaning clear.

A / wɒt ə ju du:ɪŋ et ðə wi:kend /?

.....
B I haven't decided yet.

A / wɪə ɡəʊɪŋ tə skɒtlənd djʊ wɒnə klɑm tu: /

.....
B I'd love to. Where are you staying?

A / wɪv dɪsɑɪdɪd tə kæmp nʌn əv ʌs kən əfɔ:d tə peɪ fərə hœutel /

.....
B Camping in Scotland in October! You'll be freezing.

/ nəʊ wɪ wəʊnt wɪv ɡɒt strɒŋ tents lɒts əv wɔ:m kləʊz ən θɪk sli:pɪŋ bægz /

.....
B Have you checked the weather forecast?

A / əv kɔ:s wɪ hæv ənd ɪts prɪtɪ wɔ:m fə ɒctəʊbə /

.....
B OK then. It'll be quite an adventure!

A /eksələnt aɪl tel ðɪ ʌðəz ðeɪl bɪ dɪlɑɪtɪd wɪl pɪk ju ʌp et sɪks ɒn fraɪdeɪ si: ju ðen ɡʊdbaɪ /

TALKING ABOUT THE WEATHER: WARMING UP

1. Brainstorming: Think of words and collocations about the topic "Weather" and note them down (as many as you can write in 3 minutes). Share the words with the class.
2. If there were no clouds, we should not enjoy the sun. (*English proverb*) Which quotation from the two below has a similar meaning? Comment upon the quotations.

"There is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather." - John Ruskin.

"Life, believe, is not a dream, So dark as sages say; / Oft a little morning rain / Foretells a pleasant day!" - Charlotte Bronte.

3. Work in pairs. Ask your partner the following questions, note down some words and phrases you needed to answer them (in English or in Russian, if you don't know the English equivalent of the word you need). What words and phrases did your partner use? Are there any Russian words you couldn't find English equivalents to?

Student 'A'

1. What's the weather like today?
2. What do you think the weather will be like tomorrow?
3. What's your favorite kind of weather?
4. Does your city usually have good weather?
5. Which do you like better: rain or snow? Why?
6. What causes (or makes) weather?
7. What is 'hail'? Have you ever

seen hail? 8. What is the difference between 'climate' and 'weather'? 9. Do you like to watch the 'weather channel' on TV? Why? Why not? 10. How can you keep dry when you go out in rainy weather?

Student 'B' 1. What was the weather like yesterday? 2. What is 'weather'? 3. What kind of weather do you NOT like? 4. Which city in your country has the best weather? 5. Which do you like better: very hot weather or very cold weather? Why? 6. What is a 'tornado'? Have you ever seen one? 7. What is a 'flood'? Have you ever seen a flood? 8. How is our earth's climate changing? 9. Would you like to be a TV weather reporter? Why? Why not? 10. What kind of strange kinds of weather do you know about? Tell me about them.

4. Report some of your partner's answers to the questions to the class. Start like this: *We got chatting about weather and stuff like that and I've found out that...*

TALKING ABOUT WEATHER: SPEECH PATTERNS

1. Study the speech patterns a) and b) used to talk about the weather. Make short exchanges using the given speech patterns as in the model.

Model 1

S1: How's the weather out there?

S2: You can have it.

Model 2

S1: It's slippery out there. Lovely weather for ducks.

S2: You said it.

Common questions about weather: It's snowing here, what's it doing there?

What's the temperature there?

a) SPEECH PATTERNS: TALKING ABOUT WEATHER

What's	it the weather	(like)	out (there)?
	the temperature	there	
How's	the weather	-	out (there)?
What's	the weather	forecast (for today)?	
I wonder what		is going to be like.	
What kind of	weather	are we having?	
It's	(very) wet	here. out there.	

It is	pouring drizzling. snowing hard. freezing. getting worse. clearing up. clear. chilly. slippery. dusty.	It's a	fine dull rainy wet cool day. warm gloomy lovely frosty grey	day (morning etc).
It	is	(very) rainy snowy	in this area.	
	often	rains pours drizzles thunders gets frosty		
I think I don't think	it will	keep fine. turn out wet.		
It's	a lovely morning, a lovely day, lovely weather, wonderful weather (we are having),	isn't it?		
Isn't it	a beastly day? glorious weather? ghastly?			
There's	a cold/piercing/sharp/strong wind blowing from the West. nothing like breathing in the crisp winter air.			
What	glorious splendid miserable dull severe foul mild wretched gloomy windy blustery	weather (we're having)!		
	a glorious day!			
in such	fine	weather		
on such <i>a</i>	fine	day		
in the	shade			

in the	shadow
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b) RESPONDING TO COMMENTS ABOUT WEATHER

What miserable weather!	You said it!
Beautiful weather, isn't it?	It surely is.
How do you like this weather? (about bad weather)	You can have it. (about bad weather)
Nice weather we're having. (sarcastic, about bad weather)	Yes, lovely weather for ducks. (sarcastic, about bad weather)

TALKING ABOUT WEATHER: SPEECH PATTERNS PRACTICE

1. Practice the following patterns using the words from the boxes.

Pattern 1. How's the weather? – It's getting pretty (cold) outside.

Model:

T: How's the weather?

S1: It's getting pretty cold outside. How's the weather?

S2: It's getting pretty warm outside. How's the weather? etc.

1) hot; 2) gloomy; 3) cloudy; 4) cold; 5) nasty; 6) slushy; 7) slippery; 8) wet; 9) warm; 10) close; 11) windy; 12) frosty.

Pattern 2. (Beautiful weather), isn't it?

Model:

T: Beautiful weather, isn't it?

S1: It surely is. Nice day today, isn't it?

S2: It surely is. ... etc.

1) Nice day (today); 2) It's a beautiful day; 3) Nice morning today; 4) Lovely day; 5) Terrible weather; 6) Nasty day; 7) It's changing;
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Pattern 3. What (strange) weather we're having!

Model:

T: What strange weather we're having!

S1: What awful weather we're having! etc.

1) terrible; 2) pleasant; 3) dreadful; 4) nice; 5) lovely; 6) unusual; 7) crazy; 8) wonderful; 9) dreadful; 10) stunning; 11) gorgeous; 12) nasty; 13) odd; 14) muggy; 15) cold; 16) hot.

Pattern 4. What's the weather like today? – It looks as if it is going to rain.

Model:

T: What's the weather like today?

S1: It looks as if it is going to rain. What's the weather like today?

S2: It looks as if it is going to snow. What's the weather like today? ...

1) get pretty hot; 2) get pretty cold; 3) get pretty cloudy; 4) get terribly cold; 5) get freezing cold; 6) get bitter cold; 7) be cloudy all day; 8) be a very hot day; 9) be a very warm day; 10) be a very cold day; 11) be a sunny day; 12) be a rainy day; 13) be amazingly beautiful weather; 14) be excellent weather

Pattern 5 What's the weather like today? – It looks as though it is going to (rain).

Model:

T: What's the weather like today?

S1: It looks as though it is going to rain. What's the weather like today?

S2: It looks as though it is going to snow. What's the weather like today? ...etc

Use the vocabulary box from Pattern 4.

Pattern 6 'What nasty weather we're having today!' – 'Yes, it doesn't look like it's going to stop raining'.

Model:

T: What a terrible day!

S1: Yes, it doesn't look like it's going to stop raining'.

1) be a very warm day; 2) to turn to the better; 3) be a sunny day; 4) be a rainy day; 5) stop snowing; 6) stop drizzling; 7) brighten up; 8) clear up; 9) change for the better

Pattern 7 Can you believe this weather?' – You said it! It's really (nice outside)!'

Model:

T: 'Can you believe this weather?'

S1: 'You said it! It's really _____ isn't it?' 'Can you believe this weather?'

S2: 'It's a very warm day, isn't it?'

1) nice weather); 2) bright and sunny; 3) gorgeous; 4) arctic out there; 5) a beautiful day; 3) a lovely day; 4) freezing outside; 5) warm; 6) a nice day.

VOCABULARY: WEATHER

1. Study the vocabulary and the examples of its use. Which words are unfamiliar to you? Note them down.

I. Climate and Weather:

Climate – 1) the typical weather conditions in a particular area, e. g. *Florida has a dry subtropical climate with moderate temperatures and changeable, rainy*

weather. The country's climate is ideal for growing grapes. Is the climate in Spain hot? 2) an area with particular weather conditions: These flowers will not grow in cold climates. to be typical of, to be famous for. a mild / dry / wet / tropical climate.

Weather - the state of the air and atmosphere at a particular time and place : the temperature and other outside conditions (such as rain, cloudiness, etc.) at a particular time and place: *How's the weather? The weather today will be hot and dry.*

Seasons: autumn (fall - AmE), winter, spring, summer

to come, to set in, to be over, to begin, to last

an early/a marvelous/late spring

midsummer - the middle or height of the summer

midsummer months (July and August) *The midsummer months are supposed to be the peak in terms of the number of visitors.*

early summer - June *It takes place in early summer, usually on the first or second weekend of June.*

Indian summer («бабье лето») - an unseasonably warm, dry and calm weather, usually following a period of colder weather or frost in the late autumn.

Describing warm and hot weather:

close/stuffy - warm in an uncomfortable way, not having enough fresh air: *It's very close in here: let's open a window.*

stifling – so hot, you can hardly breathe

humid - warm/hot and damp

muggy - damp and warm

scorching (very hot)

boiling hot (a common expression for describing a very hot day, e. g. *It was boiling hot, so we all jumped into the lake.*

heat, a heat wave (e. g. *We are in for a heat wave*)

to keep, to last

warmth (n).

drought [draut] (a long period with no rainfall, e. g. *Forest fires are a serious danger during a drought.*);

to thaw, to melt: *It's thawing*

Describing cool and cold weather

cold weather

chilly weather (cold, but not very)

frosty weather;

It's cold. It's frosty. It's freezing (hard);

freezing cold (common expression used to describe a very cold day, e. g. *It was a freezing cold day for the Santa Claus parade.*)

the cold (cold weather or temperatures, e. g. *If you go out in the cold, wrap up well in warm clothing, especially gloves and socks.*)

frost (severe, hard, biting, sharp, bitter);

about a person: to be cold, to be chilled (to the bones); chapped skin/lips (sore, rough, and broken, especially because of cold weather, e. g. *She is working outside and her hands are red and chapped.*), to be sick and tired of (the cold, bad weather etc.).

about rivers and ponds: to be frozen over;

below freezing (temperature less than 0°C), e. g. *It's supposed to go below freezing before the weekend.*), below zero (15 degrees of frost). *It's ten (-10 degrees) below. It's 35 degrees Celsius,*

minus (indicates that a temperature is below zero, e. g. *It was minus twenty degrees at the top of the ski slope.*);

to snow hard (heavily), to be covered with snow/frost; *It's beginning to snow, it's snowing, it snows (in this area), the snow is just sprinkling. The snow is falling thick. It looks like snow. There has been a good fall of snow. It's a rather snowy winter;*

slush - snow that has started to melt; rain and snow on the ground; half-snow, half-water.

a snowstorm

a blizzard (a storm with lots of snow and wind, e. g. *The airplane couldn't take-off because of the blizzard.*)

a heavy snowfall

an ice storm - a storm in which frozen rain falls and covers everything with ice: *Northern New York is still recovering from last week's ice storm.*

glaze ice, glazed frost, silver frost - a thin clear layer of ice caused by the freezing of rain or water droplets in the air or by refreezing after a thaw.

black ice, ice covering (on the roads), ground surface icing - a dangerous type of ice that forms on roads and that is so thin that it cannot be seen by a driver; the same as regular ice. It is often camouflaged and looks the same as the road surface, making it hard to spot before you walk or drive on it: *If you hit a patch of black ice, stay calm and take your foot off the accelerator but don't hit your brakes.*

NOTE: Glaze ice is not to be confused with black ice — spots of ice on the ground that form due to a drop in temperature. The temperature usually drops to below-freezing after a thaw in winter or as a result of radiation cooling at night during the transition period. Unlike glaze, black ice is local and cannot turn into a natural disaster.

slick - having a smooth, shiny surface so that you tend to slide when walking or riding on it: *roads slick with ice*

muddy; slushy

slippery - wet or smooth so that it slides easily or causes something to slide: *The road was wet and slippery.*

flakes of snow

a snowdrift - a large pile of snow formed by the wind: *There were some snowdrifts as high as twenty feet.*

avalanche [ˈævələːnʃ] (a dangerous slide of snow down a mountain, e. g. *The skiers were warned about a possible avalanche.*)

a flurry - a sudden light fall of snow, blown in different directions by the wind:
There are a few flurries but the snow isn't sticking to the roads.

Questions

1. What is the difference between the climate and the weather?
2. Which words and expressions from the vocabulary list above can be used to talk about a) a very hot day; b) a little amount of snow; c) a big amount of snow falling from the sky?
3. What's the difference between glaze ice and black ice?
4. What are the chances of surviving an avalanche?
5. Do you know some areas where temperatures never go below freezing?
6. Write five more questions of your own using the vocabulary of this section.

II. Atmosphere:

rainy / snowy

NOTE: It is raining (It's snowing.) It's rainy (It's snowy.) What's the difference? We use "it's raining" when we just want to describe the weather right now. But when we say "it's rainy," we might be describing the general climate of a place: "I wouldn't go there on holiday. It's really, really rainy." or even just the day: "Eugh! What a rainy day!" Use 'It is raining' ('It's snowing.') when it is actually raining (or snowing) now – when rain (snow) is actually falling from the sky.

Use "It's snowy" to describe the fact that there's a lot of snow out there – either falling from the sky, on the ground or both.

to die down *Then the rain died down, and we continued with our day.*

(a) thick fog (quite thick, associated with cold weather)

(a) haze (light mist caused by heat)

(a) mist (little fog, often on the sea, or caused by drizzle)

smog (mixed of fog and pollution)

hazy, misty, foggy, overcast

to spread over, to cover, to lift, to clear up: *It's clearing up. The clouds are lifting.*

to be overcast with: *The sky is overcast with heavy clouds.*

light/scattered clouds: *There's hardly a cloud in the sky.*

to shine, sunshine (n)

to rise – to set, to go in - *The sun's going in.*

not to see much of the sun

to lie in the sun/to bask in the sun/to sunbathe, to get tanned, to get sunburnt

to chill out/cool off in the pool.

fresh, chilly, cool

muggy (damp and warm)

a breath of air;

a heat wave

to stir (*Not a leaf is stirring.*)

a breeze - a light wind, e. g. *Don't bother with a hat. There's always a breeze near the ocean.*

a bluster - a violent wind.

a gale - a strong, violent wind

a hurricane, BrE: ['hʌrɪkən], AmE: ['hʌrɪkeɪn] – a tropical storm with extremely strong winds and heavy rain

NOTE: Hurricanes, typhoons and cyclones are exactly the same – but they tend to be called *hurricanes* in the Americas, *typhoons* in eastern Asia and *cyclones* in India, e. g. *Half of the buildings on the island were flattened by the hurricane.*

a storm

a tornado - violent and destructive whirlwind (смерч)

to spring up (about a wind) - to start/begin to blow

to keep on steadily

to move (to the) North

to change direction, to die away

to blow steadily

windy, blustery

to drive clouds across the sky

a cold wind, a chilly wind, a bitterly cold wind

a downpour *Wow! Look at the sky! Expect a downpour! The sudden downpour took everyone by surprise and almost destroyed all the sound equipment.*

to pour down *It's pouring down.*

a shower - a short period of light rain, e. g. *It was just a shower, so we didn't get too wet.;*

heavy showers (when a lot of rain falls during short periods)

scattered showers

torrent (a large amount of water moving very rapidly and strongly in a particular direction), a raging torrent (a very violent torrent, e. g. *After five days of heavy rain the Telle river was a raging torrent.*), torrential rain (= very heavy rain), the rainy season / the Monsoon [mɒn'su:n] (a time when it rains a lot in hot countries; in case it rains/snows, to be on the safe side.

drizzle *It's drizzling.*

a thunderstorm *A thunderstorm is coming.* a local occasional thunderstorm

a clap / peal of thunder, a flash of lightning,

to rain (hard, heavily)

to drizzle (to rain slightly, e. g. *I think I'll take the dog for a walk. It's only drizzling now.*

to pour (down), to fall heavily (about the rain): *It's absolutely pouring (down). It's coming on to pour.*

It never rains but it pours (a proverb)

It begins to rain/raining; it's beginning to rain.

It looks like rain. It's going to rain.

to get soaked to the skin, to get wet through

to be caught in the rain

to look for (a) shelter,

to take/find shelter

to get flooded (about roads)

a rainbow

a flood

hail, hailstones

to get wet through, to be soaking wet / wet through (= very wet), to be wet like a drowned rat - to be very wet, especially because you have been in heavy rain.

to be splashed with mud (from head to foot (BrE) /from head to toe (AmE));

Questions

- 1) Are there a lot of heavy showers in your area?
- 2) What do you usually do if it's coming on to pour?
- 3) Which words from the vocabulary list name hazards related to thunderstorms? What can be done by the governments to prevent these hazards?
- 4) Have you ever been in an area that got flooded? Have you ever gotten soaking wet?
- 5) Write five more questions of your own using the vocabulary of this section.

Making a conversation about the weather

Small Talk

1. Practice saying the chants.

Hot and humid.

It's hot today. - Hot and humid. - It's hot today, isn't it? - It's hot today. - Hot and humid. - It's hot today, isn't it? - It's sure is. It's sure is. Hot and humid. Hot and humid. - Too hot. Much too hot. Too hot. Much too hot. - It's too hot to work. - Too hot to play. - Too hot to walk to work today. - It's too hot. - Hot and humid. - Too hot. - Hot and humid. - Too hot to work. Too hot to play. Too hot to walk to work today.

Clear blue sky.

Clear blue sky. Clear blue sky. - Look at the sky. It's clear as a bell. - Clear blue sky. - It's beautiful today. Not a cloud in the sky. - Clear blue sky. - Look at the sky. It's clear as a bell. - Clear blue sky.

It's a nice day today, isn't it?

It's a nice day today, isn't it? – It certainly is. It's a beautiful day. - It's a nice day today, isn't it? – It certainly is. It's a beautiful day. – Nice day today. Nice day today. Day today. Day today. Nice day today. - Nice day today, isn't it? - It certainly is. It's a beautiful day. - It's a nice day today, isn't it? – It certainly is. It's a beautiful day. - It's a nice day today, isn't it? – It certainly is. It's a beautiful day. - Nice day today. Nice day today. Day today. Day today. Nice day today. - Nice day today, isn't it? - It certainly is. It's a beautiful day.

2. Ω Listen to the dialogue then read it imitating the intonation of the native speakers.

- It's such a nice day.
- Yes, it is. It looks like it may rain soon.
- Yes, and I hope that it does.
- Why is that?
- I really love how rain clears the air.
- Me too. It always smells so fresh after it rains.
- Yes, but I love the night air after it rains.
- Really? Why is that?
- Because you can see the stars perfectly.
- I really hope it rains today.
- Yeah, me too.

3. Fill in the gaps with missing words from the box. Then check using the script and practice the dialogues with your partner.

last, worse, colder, keeps fine, lots of sun, to cloud over, in for, get up, the forecast, see us through the worst of it, clearing up
--

a)

A: Fairly 1) _____ for the time of year.

B: Yes. Quite different from 2) _____.

A: They say we're 3) _____ snow.

B: Let's hope it 4) _____ for the weekend.

b)

A: It seems to be 5) _____.

B: It 6) _____, doesn't it?

A: 7) _____ it's going to turn 7) _____.

B: Still, another month should 8) _____.

c)

A: 9) _____ this morning.

B: Yes, much better than yesterday.

A: The wind'll probably 10) _____ later.

B: As long as 11) _____.

d)

A: It's good to see the sun again.

B: A big improvement 12) _____ what we have been having.

A: It's supposed 13) _____ this afternoon.

B: I didn't think it would 14) _____.

Script:

a)

A: Fairly mild for the time of year.

B: Yes. Quite different from the forecast.

A: They say we're in for snow.

B: Let's hope it keeps fine for the weekend.

b)

A: It seems to be clearing up.

B: It makes a change, doesn't it?

A: Apparently it's going to turn colder.

B: Still, another month should see us through the worst of it.

c)

A: Nice and bright this morning.

B: Yes, much better than yesterday.

A: The wind'll probably get up later.

B: As long as it doesn't rain.

d)

A: It's good to see the sun again.

B: A big improvement on what we have been having.

A: It's supposed to cloud over this afternoon.

B: I didn't think it would last.

4. In pairs make similar dialogues using other suitable words and expressions describing weather instead of the ones you have used to complete the dialogues. Practice the dialogues.

5. Practice the dialogues with your partner. Write out all the useful phrases. Make a similar dialogue using the vocabulary of this section.

a)

- Jess, you've been lying in the sun too long in such boiling hot weather! Don't let yourself get burnt!
- Don't worry. I have put on the sun lotion, so I am absolutely safe from getting burnt.
- Don't be so sure, you never know... To be on the safe side, you might just as well move to the shade... By the way, why don't we refresh ourselves in the pool?
- A brilliant idea! There's nothing more pleasant than chilling out in the pool after a long hot day!
- You can say that again, Jess! We couldn't ask for a better thing than this. Quick, off to the pool!

b)

- What a hot day! The heat is simply unbearable.
- You said it. It feels really hot out here. No wonder – it's 30 degrees in the shade and it's so calm that not a leaf is stirring.
- What do you say to going to my place? The air conditioner will chill the room out in no time and you'll be as fresh as a daisy again.
- That's a very good idea!

- Oh, you're back already. What's the weather like today? Is it cold?
- Not at all. The weather is very springlike. It's quite warm already and there's hardly any snow.
- It looks like there's a wind blowing.
- There *is* a slight wind, but it feels refreshing. It's a lovely change from the weather we've been having lately. By the way, Elizabeth ...
- Yes, Caroline? What is it this time?
- Are you doing anything special after classes today?
- Nothing special, just the usual things. Why?
- I was wondering if you would like to take a walk somewhere. It's a crime to stay indoors in such glorious weather.
- That's all right by me. I need to get a breath of fresh air. Let's meet at five at our usual place.
- It's a deal. See you at five.

c)

- What's the weather like in spring here in this area?
- Rather changeable. It's usually mild, but sometimes we have snow and frost even as late as March.
- And what's the weather like here in May?

- Oh, in May the weather is ideal and nature is so splendid. I like to get out at this time of year. There is nothing like breathing in the fresh, spring air and taking time to stop and smell the flowers.
- Are you fond of flowers?
- I do love flowers especially those fragrant ones, lilies-of-the-valley. Sadly they are on our regional Red Data List, because they are endangered species, so you can't pick them up in the forest.

d)

- Come on, lazybones! Get out of bed. Let's go jogging before breakfast.
- What's the weather like?
- Well, look out of the window and see for yourself. How do you feel about today's weather?
- You can have it. Looks like the thaw is here – the snow is melting and drops are trickling from the roof, so the slush must be awful. And it looks like there's a piercing wind blowing... We might just as well stay at home in such beastly weather.
- Well, the weather is not good but it's not horrible either. Some exercise will definitely do us good. And we need to get in shape after winter time! So put your running kit on and let's go.

6. Use the phrases from the conversations in questions to other students as in the model.

Model

S1: Have you ever been out **in beastly weather**?

S2: Yes, I have been caught in the rain a couple of times.

S1: When was the last time?

S2: In Sochi, there was really big flooding there a few years ago. My friend and I were leaving from Sochi's airport, and it was filled with brown water, so we were up to our ankles in water.

TEXT

1. Listen to the text and read it. Say which of the following facts were mentioned in the text. Prove or explain your answers.

- a) Nine out of ten people in Britain lack imagination;
- b) Conversations about weather are not common among intelligent people in Britain;
- c) Small wonder that people in Britain talk about the weather so often;
- d) If you keep ducks, wet weather is very good for their healthy growth;
- e) People in Britain often say that they will definitely do something in any sort of weather;
- f) It's better to stay out in miserable weather;
- g) Some people believe old adages about weather signs;
- h) The author is worried about possible climate change on Earth.

Talking about the Weather

Someone once said that if it wasn't for the weather, the English would have nothing to talk about.

Frank McKinney Hubbard said: Don't **knock** the weather. If it didn't change **once in a while**, nine out of ten people couldn't start a conversation.

This supports Oscar Wild's statement that: "Conversation about the weather is the last **refuge** of the unimaginative." Yet many conversations begin with "What do you think of the weather?" or "Nice weather we're having, isn't it?" It's hardly surprising in a country like the UK, where the weather is **changeable**, to say the least. In the morning you might look out of the window to find the sun shining. It's fine weather.

"Turned out nice again, hasn't it?" you say, with fingers crossed.

Of course, crossing your fingers doesn't usually have any effect apart from making you feel better. So, by the afternoon, it's raining cats and dogs! Lovely weather! You'll be saying. "Yes, lovely weather for ducks!"

And because the weather in Britain is so changeable, people often promise to do things, "come rain or shine". Of course, these people often **get wet**.

Get wet when it's **chilly**, and you'll catch a cold. Then you'll be feeling a bit under the weather. You'll need to spend a few days in bed. But after a **hot toddy** or two, you'll soon be feeling as right as rain again. So it's best to stay out of **miserable** weather. But just how do you know it's going to rain?

You could trust in the old **adage**, "Red sky at night, shepherd's delight." Or take a **peek** in the morning. "Red sky in the morning, **shepherd's** warning." Some people trust in such old **sayings**. You might just as well trust in your barometer. As Ambrose Bierce pointed out in his "The Devil's Dictionary", A barometer is an **ingenious** instrument which indicates what kind of weather we are having.

Other people trust in the weather forecast. Unlike barometers, meteorologists are supposed to tell us what the weather is going to be like. They watch local climate **patterns** and try to predict how the weather will change. They lie to us through their television weather forecasts. Here they use symbols and maps to make the weather, which is very **complicated**, easier to understand. Often, the colour of the sky in the morning is a more **accurate** indication of the coming weather.

These days there is a lot of talk about climate change. Some people say that climate change is a storm in a teacup. But scientists **predict** that we are going to experience more extreme weather conditions. This puts the wind up me. I can tell you. Let's just hope that **humanity** can **weather** the storm.

In the next video we'll look at some weather conditions in more detail. Just remember for now that,
Whether the weather be fine
Whether the weather be not,
Whether the weather be cold,
Whether the weather be hot,
We'll weather the weather
Whatever the weather
Whether we like it or not.

2. **In a monolingual dictionary find and write out definitions of the words in bold (fitting the context).**
3. **Write out all the idioms, expressions, phrases and collocations related to weather (or containing the words related to weather) from the text and explain their meaning (in English).**
4. **Make up a short story (not necessarily about weather) using the idioms, expressions, phrases and collocations you have written out.**

TEXT

Read the text and explain the meaning of all the phrases in bold.

Talking About The Weather: Weather-Related Sayings In English

It is a truth universally acknowledged that the British are **obsessed with** the weather. Although the people of the British Isles seem reserved and restrained, **upon mentioning** the weather they immediately **jump into conversation**.

Undoubtedly, **the fascination of** the Brits **with** the weather comes as a result of its **unpredictability**. From one hour to the next, it is almost impossible to predict whether you'll need an umbrella or a pair of sunglasses. And, if you ever visit Britain's capital, don't be surprised if you wake up on a gloriously sunny morning **only to** be prevented from your afternoon walk because of a drizzle.

However, talking about weather is not only **a result of a necessity** and **an everlasting need to** prepare for what the day may bring. It is a nice way to **engage in a casual conversation, avoiding matters that are too personal**. Certainly, weather is **a common ground** even **for** strangers. Hence, it is **a perfect topic for small talks** where it is **essential to establish a connection** and **build a relationship** in just a couple of minutes.

As any other social skill, making a small talk can be easily learned. Here we explain the most common **conversation starters** related to weather as well as some phrases useful for providing your conversation with the elements from **the native speaker atmosphere**.

If you wish to bring the weather into the conversation, probably the best way **to start off** is to simply ask: “How do you like this weather?”

Of course, the responses may vary depending on the attitude of the other speaker, but you’ll often hear something like: “You can have it”, by which it is meant that the weather is not too good for the speaker. It is also a fine idea **to introduce a dose of sarcasm into your conversation**. For instance, on a dull rainy day you could say:

“Nice weather we’re having”.

You can expect the answer to be as sarcastic as your question:

“Yes, **lovely weather for ducks**”.

By saying this, the speaker implies that there must be someone who likes the weather. It’s just not him.

If you want to be more illustrative of the weather, you could use ‘**raining cats and dogs**’ or ‘**raining stair-rods**’ to say that is raining heavily.

On the other hand, there is the time of the year when it is unusually hot and dry. This is called **Indian summer**.

It is often the case the case that weather prevents us from completing some daily tasks or plans. The phrase ‘**weather permitting**’ is used to express our fears that something will not go as planned because of the weather. Hence, you may hear:

“Weather permitting, we’ll go on picnic”.

On the other hand, we can use the phrase ‘**come rain and shine**’ to imply that something will happen despite the circumstances. For example, you can tell your beloved one: “I’ll be there for you, come rain or shine”.

There are some idioms not directly related to expressing weather conditions, but the way someone feels. For instance, if someone is ‘**under the weather**’, then that person is probably ill.

And, if you have ‘**a fair weather friend**’, then this friend, being present only on happy occasions, is not very reliable company.

Also, every once in a while we ‘**ride out the storm**’. This means that we have successfully overcome some difficulty in our lives.

Occasionally, we love ‘**making heavy weather**’ of doing something. This happens when it takes longer time than it is necessary to complete something.

Similarly, if there’s ‘**a tempest in a teapot**’, this means that a lot of exaggeration has been made to an unimportant event.

Sometimes, it seems that words alone are not enough **to provide comfort and consolation for those in need**. Therefore, if you wish to encourage your **fellow friend**, it would be nice to say ‘Every cloud has a silver lining’. By this, it is meant that there is certainly **a way forward for** anyone struggling with difficulties.

Undoubtedly, weather plays an important part in our lives, hence so many phrases directly or indirectly connected with it. Why wouldn’t we **take the best out of it** and **have a fine conversation** even **with** some strangers? Who knows - perhaps **an effortless conversation** about the weather could even become **a lasting friendship**.

<https://www.italki.com/article/292/Talking-About-The-Weather:-Weather-Related-Sayings-In-English?hl=es>

Discuss the following.

- 1) Why, in your opinion, English people talk about weather so much?
- 2) Is it the case in your country? Can you try and explain the reason for it?
- 3) Read the following and say if it’s the same in your country.

Foreigners are often amused that the English spend so much time discussing the weather. The reason for this is not simply that their weather is interesting and variable, but that the English are reluctant to converse about personal matters with people who are not friends. Mentioning the weather can be a useful and inoffensive way of starting a conversation with a stranger at a bus-stop or in a train.

Comment upon the following proverbs and illustrate their meaning.

- 1) If there were no clouds, we should not enjoy the sun.
- 2) Small rain lays great dust.
- 3) As welcome as a storm.
- 4) After rain comes fair weather

(sunshine). 5) It never rains but it pours. 6) April weather. 7) For a rainy day (to save, to put by, to lay up). 8) Every cloud has a silver lining.

Give Russian equivalents to the phrases in bold from the text ‘Talking About The Weather: Weather-Related Sayings In English’, learn them and use them in questions to other students as in the model.

Model

S 1: Are there any people you know who **are obsessed with** some idea?

S 2: Yeah, my new roommate is a clean freak. She literally cleans every square inch. On the one hand, she has already cleaned some things very clean. On the other hand, she kind of complains about things being dirty.

Ω Listen to the rhyme and mark the intonation. Practice saying the rhyme.

The south wind always brings wet weather;
The north wind, wet and cold together.
The west wind always brings us rain;
The east wind blows it back again.

Translate the following proverbs and sayings into Russian or give their Russian equivalents and comment on their use in English.

1. Every cloud has a / its silver lining.
2. To throw straws against the wind.
3. There's no bad weather, there are bad clothes.
4. If there were no clouds, we should not enjoy the sun.
5. Into every life a little rain must fall.
6. Make hay while the sun shines.
7. After rain comes fair weather.
8. The morning sun never lasts a day.
9. Don't have thy cloak to make when it begins to rain.
10. While it is fine weather, mend your sail.
11. It is an ill wind that blows nobody good.
12. The wind cannot be caught in a net.

Making a conversation: Talking about cold weather

1. Practice saying the chant.

It's cold outside. It's bitter cold.

It's cold outside. It's bitter cold. – Put on your sweater. It's bitter cold. - It's cold outside. It's bitter cold. – Wear something warm. It's bitter cold. - It's cold outside.

It's bitter cold. – It's freezing. Wear something warm. – Bundle up. It's cold outside. - Wear something warm. It's bitter cold.

Look! The leaves are starting to fall.

Look! The leaves are starting to fall. Winter is coming, winter is coming. Now the nights are growing cold. Winter is coming soon. Look at the sky! It's starting to snow. Winter is here, winter is here. Look at the sky! Look at the snow! Winter is here, winter is here.

Look, the snow is starting to melt. Spring is coming. Spring is coming. Look, the flowers are starting to bloom. Spring is coming soon. Look at the trees, look at the flowers. Spring is here, spring is here. Look at the sun, look at the sky. Summer's coming soon.

Make up two or three dialogues about autumn or winter weather. Practice the dialogue with your partner.

1. Answer the questions.

1) Where did you spend your last vacation? Your summer vacation? Your Christmas vacation?

2) How do you spend your time when you are on holiday and the weather is bad?

3) What are some things that you always take with you on a trip?

2. Ω Watch the video “The Weather in Shanghai” and do the quiz. Two friends are talking on the telephone. Jessica lives in Los Angeles and Adam lives in Shanghai. Check your answers using the script.

Weather in Shanghai

Quiz

1) Jessica lives in _____ .

- a) New York
- b) Los Angeles
- c) Shanghai

2) Jessica wants to know what the weather in Shanghai is going to be like because she _____ .

- a) doesn't like bad weather
- b) wants to pack in the afternoon
- c) wants to buy the plane ticket

3) Adam says the weather in Shanghai is _____ than in L.A.

- a) hotter

- b) cooler
 - c) cloudier
- 4) According to the local weather forecast, the weather is going to be _____.
a) sunny
b) windy
c) partly cloudy and rainy
- 5) This time of the year it's the rainy season.
a) TRUE
b) FALSE
- 6) When Adam says they had severe weather last month, he means _____.
a) it rained a lot
b) it was a bit cold
c) the weather was very bad (wind, rain, etc...)
- 7) Adam thinks the temperature is going to be _____ during the day and 10°C at night.
a) 10°C
b) 5°C
c) 15°C
- 8) Jessica is surprised when she hears 10° because she thinks _____.
a) 10 degrees Celsius (10°C) is too cold for her
b) it's 10 degrees Fahrenheit (10°F), equivalent to -12°C
c) it's worse than Siberia
- 9) Adam looks very happy because _____.
a) he doesn't mind the rain
b) he likes cold weather
c) they are going to have a great time.

Script

A: Hello?

J: Hi, Adam!

A: Hey! How are you doing? Are you getting ready for your visit? It's gonna (going to be) be great! I'm really looking forward you around Shanghai. It's so exciting!

J: Great! Me, too. Actually, that's why I am calling. What do you think the weather is going to be next week? This afternoon, I'm just going to do some packing.

A: Well..It's gonna be cooler than Los Angeles, and it will surely be rainy here. In fact, according the local weather forecast, u... it's gonna be partly cloudy and rainy this week. And then even rainier next week.

J: Really? Is it the raining season on now?

A: Well, it's not the raining season yet, but we had some severe weather last month.We cherr as every week and this month is gonna be even rainier.

J: So, I should definitely bring my umberalla.

A: Yes. And you might want to bring a jacket, too. It's a little cooler than Los Angeles. It will be about 15 degrees when you get here and It might dip down to around 10 degrees and that.

J: 10 degrees? I though you are in Shanghai not in Siberia.

A: Oh, sorry. I meant 10 degrees Celsius. Let's see... That's about 48 degrees Fahrenheit

J: Oh, good! That's more like it! That's much cooler than Los Angeles, but not too severe.

A: Anyway, we gonna have a great time.

3. Practice the dialogue with a partner.
4. With a partner, make a similar dialogue about planning a trip to a) Madrid, b) Paris, c) Berlin, d) your choice.

TEXT

1. Ω Listen to the text 'Weather' while reading it. Choose the correct answer to the following questions about the text.
 1. When the weather keeps changing:
 - a. people's reaction slow down
 - b. people become irritable
 - c. people find it hard to focus on their work.
 2. The weather in Britain:
 - a. is very changeable
 - b. is depressing
 - c. is random.
 3. Violent storms are common:
 - a. in mid and high latitudes
 - b. in Britain
 - c. in tropical climates.
 4. Anticyclones often:
 - a. bring cloudy weather

- b. bring rain and wind
- c. bring fine weather.

5. Weather forecasting:

- a. is always wrong
- b. has been done for a long time
- c. is easy.

6. According to a traditional rhyme, if there is a red sky at night:

- a. the next day will be fine
- b. the next day will be rainy
- c. the next day will be windy

7. When the air is humid:

- a. pine cones close
- b. seaweed feels dry
- c. the weather will be fine.

8. According to the article, weather is linked to:

- a. the stock market
- b. the outbreak of disease
- c. successful studying.

9. Extreme sports are:

- a. dangerous
- b. routine
- c. easy

Weather

by Mike Rayner

It's hardly surprising that weather is a favourite topic for so many people around the world – it affects where we choose to live, what we wear, our moods, and perhaps even our national characteristics. A sunny day can relieve the deepest depression, while extreme weather can destroy homes and threaten lives.

The effects of weather

Palm trees bent double in hurricane force winds, cars stranded in snow drifts, people navigating small boats down flooded city streets – images we are all familiar with from news reports of severe weather spells. But many of the effects of the weather are less newsworthy.

'I'm feeling a bit under the weather' is a common complaint in Britain, especially on Monday mornings, and it seems that weather really can be

responsible for moods. Studies have shown that changeable weather can make it hard to concentrate, cloudy skies slow down reflexes, and high humidity with hot, dry winds makes many people irritable and snappy.

Some suggest that the weather also leaves its mark on character, giving people from the same region similar temperaments, although it seems that economic, political and social factors are likely to have a much stronger effect than the weather.

What causes changes in the weather?

If you live in a place like Britain, where the weather seems to change daily if not hourly, you could be forgiven for thinking that the weather is random. In fact the weather is controlled by systems which move around areas of the globe. In the UK the weather depends on depressions, often called 'lows', and anticyclones, also known as 'highs'. These systems start in the Atlantic Ocean, and make their way across the British Isles from the west to the east. Highs bring sunny weather, while lows bring rain and wind.

The weather systems in tropical climates are very different from those in mid and high latitudes. Tropical storms develop from depressions, and often build into cyclones, violent storms featuring hurricanes and torrential rain.

In modern times, human activity seems to be altering weather patterns. Gases produced by heavy industry change the temperature of the Earth's surface, and affect cloud formation. Some researchers say that factories in Europe and North America may have been one of the causes of the droughts in Africa in the 1980s.

Can we predict the weather?

The human race has always tried to guess the weather, especially in areas of the world where there are frequent changes. Traditional rhymes point to early attempts to identify weather patterns, popular poems include:

- Red sky at night, shepherds' delight; Red sky in the morning, shepherds' warning
- Ash leaf before the oak, then we will have a summer soak;
Oak leaf before the ash, the summer comes without a splash
- Flies will swarm before a storm.
- Rain before 7, clear by 11.

Two other popular traditional ways of forecasting the weather used pine cones and seaweed. When the air has a high level of humidity there is a higher chance of rain, when the humidity is low, there is more chance of fine weather. Pine cones and seaweed react to changes in humidity - pines cones

open, and seaweed feels dry when the humidity is low, while high humidity has the opposite effect.

While folk wisdom can still provide a guide to help forecast weather, today's methods of prediction increasingly rely on technology. Satellites, balloons, ships, aircraft and weather centres with sensitive monitoring equipment, send data to computers. The data is then processed, and the weather predicted. However, even this system cannot predict weather for longer than about week.

A recent study by an Australian psychologist suggests that certain people may have a special gift for predicting the weather. However it is possible that these people would use their talent in another way, since the same group had considerable success in forecasting changes in another chaotic system – the stock market.

It appears that a study of weather patterns may also enable scientists to predict the outbreak of disease. An Ebola epidemic in Uganda in the year 2000 came after the same rare weather conditions that had been present before an outbreak 6 years earlier. Efforts to limit the spread of airborne diseases such as foot and mouth are also strongly dependent on favourable wind conditions.

Extreme weather

Although people in Britain often moan about the weather, we should spare a thought for the inhabitants of parts of the world where extreme weather regularly wreaks havoc on the environment and population. Sandstorms, tornadoes, blizzards and flashfloods regularly kill thousands of people and leave many others homeless.

While most of us try to avoid extreme weather, some adventurous souls actively seek out places where extreme weather conditions exist. Sports such as surfing, kite boarding, ice-climbing and whitewater rafting are becoming increasingly popular with people seeking relief from the monotony of daily routine. Extreme sports are about exhilaration, skill and danger, and often harness the weather to provide adrenaline addicts with their kicks.

Even more extraordinary are storm-chasers – weather enthusiasts who risk their lives following tornadoes and thunderstorms at high speed to witness the damage they cause at close hand.

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/magazine/weather>

2. Give Russian equivalents to the following expressions.

extreme weather	wreak havoc on the environment
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relieve depression	and population
destroy homes	flashflood
threaten lives	Sandstorm
hurricane force winds	adventurous
snow drifts	seek out
flooded city streets	kiteboarding
severe weather spells	ice-climbing
newsworthy	white-water rafting
feel a bit under the weather	kiteboarding
be responsible for moods	seeking relief from
slow down reflexes	the monotony of daily routine
high humidity	exhilaration
irritable	harness the weather
snappy	adrenaline addicts
leaves its mark on character	storm-chasers
temperament	to witness
moan about the weather	

3. Give English equivalents to the following words and expressions:

неудивительно; любимая тема для разговора; оказывать влияние на выбор места жительства; оказывать влияние на настроение; облегчить депрессию; экстремальные погодные условия; угрожать жизни человека; ветры ураганной силы; застрять в снежных заносах; затопленные улицы города; короткие периоды ненастной погоды; воздействие погоды; чувствовать себя подавленным; отвечать за настроение; исследования; затруднять концентрацию внимания; замедлять реакцию; высокая влажность; раздражительный; откладывать отпечаток на характер человека; похожий темперамент; жаловаться на погоду; наносить ущерб окружающей среде и населению; песчаная буря; буран (вьюга); ливневый паводок; оставлять людей бездомными; искатель приключений; выискивать места с экстремальными погодными условиями; искать спасения от монотонности повседневной жизни; восторг; использовать погоду; охотники за ураганами; рисковать жизнью, преследовать торнадо и грозовые бури; причинять ущерб; любитель экстрима; с близкого расстояния.

4. Match the words and their definitions.

extreme	(v): travel on a desired course after planning a route
navigate	(adj): very bad, serious, or unpleasant
spell	(adj): very severe or serious
humidity	(n): a large pile of snow or sand that has been blown by the wind
drift	(n): a short period
severe	(n): moisture in the air

blizzard	(n): a sudden local flood, typically due to heavy rain
irritable	(n): a change that results when something is done or happens
snappy	(n): a substance that is released in the body of a person who is feeling a strong emotion (such as excitement, fear, or anger)
effect	(adj): feeling or showing irritation
havoc	(n): a person who likes or enjoys something very much and spends a large amount of time doing it
flashflood	(adj): willing to take risks or to try out new methods, ideas, or experiences
affect	(n): a strong dangerous wind which forms itself into an upside-down spinning cone and is able to destroy buildings as it moves across the ground.
adventurous	(n): a severe snow storm with strong winds.
adrenaline	(adj): becoming angry or annoyed easily
addict	(n) a situation in which there is much destruction or confusion
tornado	(v): to cause a change

5. In pairs, discuss the following questions. Make use of the vocabulary under study. Report to the class the most interesting points of your discussion.
- 1) What time of year is the best weather where you live?
 - 2) Where do you get your weather information?
 - 3) What is the hottest natural temperature (not in a sauna) you have experienced?
 - 4) Where and when was it and what did it feel like?
 - 5) How do you depend on the weather reports? When would knowing tomorrow's weather change your plans?
 - 6) What is the weather like in your country for each season?
 - 7) Do you think weather patterns are changing? If so, what do you think is causing these changes?
 - 8) How can extreme weather conditions affect the economy and social life in countries?
 - 9) In your opinion, which season is the most beautiful? Which season is the most comfortable for you?
 - 10) What kind of climate do you prefer when choosing a place to go on vacation?
 - 11) What month gets the most rain around here?

- 12) Do you have many disasters in your country which are caused by weather?
- 13) Do you know any interesting myths or stories about weather?
- 14) Are there any special traditions associated with different seasons in your country?

HOW TO DESCRIBE GOOD OR BAD WEATHER

1. Look at the following patterns, expressing one's delight with the weather or dislike of it. Work in pairs. Use these patterns to respond to the following.

For good weather	For bad weather
<p>The weather is improving. I hope it will keep fine (it keeps fine). I hope this kind of weather will last (lasts). It's absolutely marvellous! Isn't it gorgeous! It's so nice and hot! Personally I think it's so nice when it's hot, isn't it? I adore it. Don't you? Nice day, isn't it? What a glorious morning! What lovely weather! What glorious weather we are having today! Fancy such a day in December! It's so nice when it's warm. What a beautiful winter evening! This breeze is so refreshing! It's so surprisingly warm for this time of the year! What a fine day we are having! I love the sun. Isn't it wonderful? It's a lovely day, (why don't we go for a walk?) Morning, (Bill). Nice weather, isn't it? Lovely day, isn't it? Lovely weather, isn't it? It's wonderful weather! I hope it will keep fine. It seems almost too good to last. We couldn't ask for a better day than this.</p>	<p>Nasty day, isn't it? It certainly is horrible! Isn't it dreadful? I hate rain. I don't like it at all. Do you? Dull morning, isn't it? Nasty day, isn't it? I hate snow. What a horrible day! What wretched weather! The heat is unbearable. I can't stand this wind. The weather is turning bad. Rain all day long. Isn't it dreadful? It's pouring again. Isn't it wretched? Is it likely to clear up?</p>

2. Study the following adjectives used to describe good or bad weather.

Adjectives used to describe good weather: fine, lovely, bright, pleasant, mild, marvelous, beautiful, gorgeous, superb, glorious, beautiful, gorgeous, marvellous (very sunny and warm), nice, lovely, bright, fine (pleasantly warm and sunny),

Adjectives used to describe good weather: dismal, dull, unpleasant, changeable, broken, unsteady, unsettled, sweltering, much too hot and humid, windy, chilly, beastly, miserable, glorious, splendid, dull, severe, foul, mild, wretched, gloomy.

3. In the right hand column, find English equivalents to the Russian sentences in the left hand column.

<p>A.</p> <p>1. Довольно тепло (прохладно, холодно), правда?</p> <p>2. Стоит прекрасная (жаркая, чудесная) погода.</p> <p>3. Какой прекрасный (хороший, очаровательный, восхитительный) день (ночь)!</p> <p>4. Я думаю, что хорошая погода постоит. Я бы сказал, что погода улучшается. Постепенно прояснится. Проясняется.</p> <p>5. Какая ясная (звездная, безоблачная) ночь! На небе ни облачка!</p> <p>6. Чудесное утро (вечер), не правда ли? На улице чудесно!</p> <p>7. Я думаю, что день будет чудесный. Солнце выходит.</p>	<p>1. A wonderful morning (evening), isn't it? It's wonderful out.</p> <p>2. Rather warm (cool, cold), isn't it?</p> <p>3. I think it will continue (keep) fine. The weather is improving, I should say. It will clear up by and by. It is clearing up.</p> <p>4. What a clear (starlit, cloudless) night! Not a cloud in the sky!</p> <p>5. I expect we'll have a fine day. The sun is coming out.</p> <p>6. We are having a spell of fine (hot, wonderful) weather.</p> <p>7. What a fine (nice, most lovely, glorious) day (night)!</p>
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<p>B.</p> <p>1. Небо все в облаках. На небе низко висят облака.</p> <p>2. Дождь (снег) прекратился (перестал), но погода такая неопределенная (не установилась), переменчивая.-</p> <p>3. Начинает моросить. Идет мелкий морозящий дождь. Льет как из ведра. Дождливая погода (шутл).</p> <p>4. Кажется, день сегодня</p>	<p>1. It's beginning to drizzle. There's a fine drizzling rain. The rain is still falling. It's coming down hard (in torrents, in buckets). It's lovely weather for ducks.</p> <p>2. It seems a dull (wet, damp, gloomy) day. What a rainy (cloudy, foggy, windy, stormy) day. It's hazy (misty).</p> <p>3. I expect we'll have rain (a shower, a thunderstorm). It will turn out a wet day. It won't keep fine. We are in for bad (cold, rainy, freezing) weather.</p>
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<p>пасмурный (серый, мрачный).- Какой дождливый (облачный, ветреный, штормовой) день. Туманный день - (туманно).</p> <p>5. Я думаю, что будет дождь (ливень, гроза). День окажется серым. Хорошая погода не продержится. Плохой (холодной, дождливой, морозной) погоды не миновать.</p> <p>6. Мрачное утро (день), правда? На улице довольно пасмурно. Отвратительная погода. Какая ужасная (жуткая, неприятная) погода!</p> <p>7. Дождь все еще идет. Идет сильный дождь (сверкает молния, гремит гром, идет град). Сверкает вспышка молнии. Слышишь раскат грома? Какой сильный удар грома! Всю - неделю то и дело идет дождь. Дождь идет уже целую неделю.</p> <p>8. Не попади под дождь (ливень). Ты промокнешь насквозь. Я вымок (промок насквозь, до костей). Моя одежда насквозь мокрая.</p>	<p>4. It's a dull morning (day), isn't it? Rather nasty out! Beastly weather! What wretched (frightful, terrible, awful) weather!</p> <p>5. The rain is still falling. It's pouring (lightning, thundering, hailing). There goes a flash of lightning! Do you hear the crashing of the thunder? What a tremendous clap of thunder! It's been raining off and on for a week now.</p> <p>6. The sky is overcast. The clouds are hanging low in the sky.</p> <p>7. Don't get caught in the rain (in a shower). You'll get wet through and through. I'm drenched (soaked, wet to the skin). My clothes are soaking wet.</p> <p>8. It has stopped (ceased, left off) raining (snowing). But the weather is so uncertain (unsettled, changeable).</p>
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<p>С.</p> <p>1. Идет жаркая волна. Установилась жаркая погода.</p> <p>2. Жаркий (душный, пыльный, знойный, жаркий и влажный) день. Воздух влажный.</p> <p>3. Дышать нечем (ни дуновения ветерка). Ни листочек не колышется. Не удивительно, такое палящее (обжигающее) солнце.</p> <p>4. 300 тепла в тени. Температура повышается.</p>	<p>1. There's hardly a breath of air. (There's not a breath of air.) Not a leaf is stirring. No wonder, with such a blazing (scorching) sun.</p> <p>2. A heat wave is coming on. Hot weather has set in.</p> <p>3. It's a hot (close, stifling, dusty, sultry, sticky) day. The air is humid.</p> <p>4. The heat is unbearable (oppressive).</p>
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<p>D.</p> <p>1. Река замерзла. Мороз сковал реку. Установилась холодная погода. Термометр показывает 00. Я дрожу от холода. У меня зубы стучат от холода.</p> <p>2. Становится прохладно. Какой холодный (морозный) день! Ужасно холодно на улице.</p> <p>3. Идет снег. Какие мягкие, большие и пушистые снежинки! Они падают очень густо. Сильный снегопад.</p> <p>4. Была тяжелая (суровая, мягкая) зима. Но в воздухе уже весна.</p> <p>5. Морозит. Стоит суровый (сильный) мороз. Неожиданно установился период холодной погоды. Я промерз до костей.</p> <p>6. Поднялся сильный ветер. Ветер метет снег. Похоже, что будет буря.</p> <p>7. Стоит оттепель. Тают снег и лед. На улице слякоть (грязно). Иди осторожно, вокруг слякоть и грязные лужи. Местами еще очень скользко.</p>	<p>1. Snow is falling. What soft, fluffy, large snowflakes! They are coming down thick. There is a thick (heavy) snowfall.</p> <p>2. The river is frozen over. The frost has locked the river. Cold weather has set in. The thermometer is at zero. I'm shivering. My teeth are clattering with the cold.</p> <p>3. It is getting chilly. What a cold (frosty) day! It's extremely (bitterly, beastly) cold out.</p> <p>4. A strong wind has risen. The wind is blowing the snow high in the air. It looks as if we're going to have a snowstorm.</p> <p>5. There's been a thaw (it's thawing). The snow and ice are melting. It's slushy (muddy, dirty) out. Look out for the slush and mud puddles. It is still very slippery in places.</p> <p>6. It's been a hard (severe, mild) winter. But spring is in the air.</p> <p>7. It's freezing. We're having a severe (hard) frost. We're having a sudden spell of cold weather. I am chilled to the bone.</p>
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4. Make three or four dialogues of your own about different types of weather using the expressions in bold from the dialogues above and the Vocabulary under study.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE EXERCISES

1. Fill in the gaps with the words from the box.

way, snap, day, later, believe, west, personally, gorgeous, surely, breath, rain, fancy, look, like, clear, unseasonably

- 1) 'It's _____ warm'.
 2) 'It _____ is a nice day, isn't it?'

- 3) 'Can you _____ this weather?'
- 4) 'I think it will soon _____ up'.
- 5) 'It might rain _____ in the evening.'
- 6) 'Look at the sky. It is going to _____.'
- 7) 'It is going to rain by the _____ of it.'
- 8) 'They are expecting rain/snow in the_____.'
- 9) 'It looks like showers are coming our _____.'
- 10) 'Doesn't feel much _____ summer, eh?'
- 11) 'Isn't it _____!'
- 12) 'Lovely _____, isn't it?'
- 13) '_____, I think it's so nice when it's hot – isn't it?'
- 14) '_____ such a day in July. Rain in the morning, then a bit of sunshine, and then rain, rain, rain, all day long.'
- 15) 'I've just heard we are in for a cold _____ at end of this week, with plummeting temperatures and heavy snow!'
- 16) 'It's quite fresh, you can see your _____ in the air, so you'd better take a jumper.'

2. Substitute the underlined words with their opposites.

1. 'Looks like we're going to have a windy day'.
2. I love it when it's warm like this!
3. 'Terrible weather, isn't it?'
4. 'The winter months are tolerable because I don't mind the cold.'
5. 'Some people loathe winter, they're tired and depressed'.
6. 'All the forecasts suggest we are in for a cold snap, as the Siberian air moves southward into the Lower Volga Region.'
7. "The weather is supposed to be gorgeous tomorrow."
8. They said it might get cloudy in the afternoon.
9. It appears that severe weather is coming.
10. I am hoping we have a relatively mild winter, the same as last year.
11. The weather forecasters say we should expect worse conditions over the next few days.
12. 'Although this area is in for a humid spell, chances are good for a dry weekend, and at least Saturday should have partly sunny skies.'

3. Consult your dictionary and give all possible derivatives from the following words.

sun mist air fog wind light rain dark warm

4. Explain the difference between the synonyms or analogous words.

to chill - to freeze

breeze - wind

veil - haze - mist - fog

to smoke - to steam up

cool - chilly - cold - icy - bitter

5. Match the nouns with adjectives to make common phrases.

Pattern: heavy rain, heavy snow, etc.

Nouns: fog wind sky air rain

Adjectives: heavy, bitter, biting, chilly, strong, cloudy, snow, fresh, brisk, thick, drizzling, thin, hot, cold, piercing, bright, southerly, clear, swirling, chilly, misty, clean, drenching.

6. Find the word with the strongest meaning in each of these groups of words.

- 1) unpleasant - bad - beastly - wretched - nasty;
- 2) breeze - squall - gust - storm - hurricane;
- 3) cold - chilly - cool - frosty - freezing;
- 4) downpour - rain - shower - drizzle;
- 5) stuffy - warm - close - sultry - hot;
- 6) waterfall - flood - stream - whirlpool;
- 7) splendid - glorious - fine - pleasant - nice;
- 8) haze - dimness - fog - mist - smog.

7. Match parts of the compound words below.

1) thunder	stones
2) torrential	drift
3) down	storm
4) heat	warning
5) hail	rain
6) snow	wave
7) gale	pour

8. Fill the gaps with suitable words from the suitable words and phrases.

My first experience of real winter weather was when I went to Northern Canada. I was used to the sort of snow that falls in London, which quickly turns into brown ... with all the people walking on it. In fact, most of the time I was in London, it didn't really snow properly, it was mostly Apart from that, British winters mean a bit of white ... on my garden and occasionally having to drive very carefully on icy roads early in the morning. I had never experienced the ... and ... that can paralyze the whole city in less than an hour and close roads completely. However, when the earth finally ... and all the snow ... away in spring, everything comes to life again and looks more beautiful than ever.

9. Look at the words from the previous exercise and put them in the order they are given in the text.

sleet, frost, thaws, snowdrifts, slush, blizzards, melts.

10. What kind of weather do you think caused the following to happen? Write a sentence which could go before each of these.

1) We had to sit in the shade every afternoon. 2) The sweat was pouring out of us. 3) I can hardly breathe; I wish it would rain to cool us down. 4) Cars were skidding out of control. 5) Even the postman had to use the boat to get around. 6) They had to close the airport; the snow was a metre (Am. meter) deep. 7) We were able to sit in the garden in the middle of winter. 8) The earth became rock-hard and a lot of plants died. 9) It blew the newspaper clean out of my hands. 10) A row of big trees had been uprooted like matchsticks. 11) I could hardly see my hand in front of my face.

11. What types of weather are bad or good for doing these things?
Example: skiing bad: mild weather which makes the snow melt;
good: cold, clear days.

- 1) Planting flowers in a garden.
- 2) Having an evening barbecue.
- 3) Going out in a small sailing boat.
- 4) A day of sightseeing in a big city.
- 5) Camping out in a tent.
- 6) Looking at ships through binoculars.

12. Choose the right word from a couple of similar-looking ones. Change word forms if necessary.

- 1) (slush, mud) a) If you are in the middle of winter, try tucking those jeans into your knee-high Western boots to keep them safe from ... and puddles. b) He'd been playing football and was covered in
- 2) (ice drift, snowdrift) a) The path was hedged by two long They were like two mountain ranges. b) The ... started at night. In the morning the children ran to the river to look at the huge blocks of ice drifting across the water.
- 3) (icing, icicle) a) There was heavy ... on the road and all cars were moving very slowly. b) After a thaw there appeared ... on the edge of the roof; they looked like sparkling needles.
- 4) (frost, hoarfrost) a) Three branches were covered with ... and the forest looked enchanting and somewhat mysterious. b) The ... was biting the nose and the cheeks. It was impossible to stay long in the street.

- 5) (draught, drought) a) Severe ... killed the crops. Not a drop of rain fell on the ground for a month. b) When the door opened, the ... blew off the papers down on the floor.
- 6) (to freeze, to be freezing) a) In winter all rivers and lakes in these parts always b) The temperature was quite low and I felt that I was
- 7) (blizzard, drizzle) a) Boring ... spoiled the day. It was too wet and dull. b) The ... was blinding us. Snowflakes were swirling in the air.
- 8) (light, lightning) a) There is not enough ... in the room. The table should be moved closer to the window. b) The ... split the sky into two parts. A deafening thunder crack followed.

13. Choose the correct alternative to fill each gap in the following sentences.

- 1) It's absolutely ... outside, so wear your gloves.
A. cold B. chilly C. freezing
- 2) We had to postpone the match because it started to really
A. drizzle B. pour C. shower
- 3) Tomorrow will be mild with the possibility of a few ... in the evening.
A. rain B. showers C. sleet
- 4) It's only a bit of light You won't need an umbrella.
A. sleet B. drizzle C. hail
- 5) Close to the Equator the weather is hot and ... and there are often electrical storms.
A. damp B. mild C. humid
- 6) The old house was very cold and ... in winter.
A. humid B. damp C. freezing
- 7) Open the window. There's a lovely cool ... outside.
A. breeze B. gale C. gust
- 8) There was such a ... that my umbrella blew inside out.
A. rain B. breeze C. gale
- 9) The ground was completely white. I thought it was snow at first, but it was just a heavy
A. hail B. frost C. sleet

14. Read the following conversation, paying particular attention to the underlined idioms. As you are reading, try to work out what the expressions mean.

A: You seem to be making very heavy weather of this exercise. It's not at all complicated.

B: It's OK for you to talk. You're a genius at maths; you get through these exams like greased lightning.

A: The secret is, don't listen to what the professor says - that's a lot of hot air. Just think logically for yourself.

B: To tell the truth, I'm a bit under the weather today, so my brain is less active than usual.

A: I'll help you. Look, all you do is multiply by 2,3 and then divide by 3,5, ...

B: Oh, I see. That's the first time I've understood what to do. Gosh, you're like a breath of fresh air. Thanks a lot. I owe you a favour.

A: Save it for a rainy day.

15. Translate into English using the vocabulary under study. Do it in writing.

1. Осенью погода обычно сырая. Часто идут дожди. Дуют сильные ветры. Дни стоят очень пасмурные. Небо затянуто облаками. Солнца мало. По ночам иногда бывает сильный туман. 2. Какой сырой, ветреный и мрачный день! Время от времени начинает моросить. В такую погоду совсем не хочется выходить на улицу. 3. Началась оттепель. Снег тает. На улицах лужи. На небе ни облачка. В воздухе чувствуется весна. 4. Какая неустойчивая погода! Дождь то шел, то прекращался в течение недели. Со стороны моря идет густой туман. Вчера мы попали под ливень, промокли насквозь и вынуждены были вернуться домой. 5. Зима в нашем городе наступает рано. Иногда уже в конце ноября все покрывается снегом. Замерзают реки и озера. Часто дуют холодные сильные ветры. Иногда бывает пурга. Дни становятся все короче и короче, а ночи длиннее. Временами выходит солнце, но оно совсем не греет. 6. Каждый день облачное небо, ливни, грозы. Этот период ненастной погоды продолжается уже слишком долго. 7. На улице +300 в тени и температура продолжает повышаться. Жара невыносимая. Просто нечем дышать! Так душно, что невозможно находиться в помещении. 8. Установилась холодная погода. Со вчерашнего дня морозит. Сегодня на улице ужасно холодно. 9. В течение дня погода в Англии меняется несколько раз, гораздо чаще, чем на континенте. 10. Туман очень густой. Все машины медленно ползут (to crawl along) с зажженными фарами.

TEXT

The climate of Great Britain

1. Write 3 questions the answers to which you expect to hear in the text.
2. Read the text. Were your questions answered? Give answers to these questions and find answers to the questions that have not been answered in some other sources.

The climate of Great Britain, influenced by the Atlantic Ocean, is **temperate and humid**, with **relatively small temperature variations between winter and summer**. The weather, however, is **variable**, with **frequent changes from day to day** or even **in the same day**.

The **average temperatures at sea level are above freezing** (0 °C) also in January, when they **hover around** 4/5 °C in the main cities, and reach 6 °C in the south-western **tip of the country**; in July, they **range from** 12 °C (53.5 °F) in northern Scotland **to** 18.5 °C (65.5 °F) in the London area.

Precipitation is frequent throughout the country, but it's more frequent and **abundant** in the north and in the west. For example, in western Scotland, there are about 200 **days with rain** (that is, more than one day out of two!), while the southeast is **less rainy**.

The Best Time

The best time to visit Britain is summer, from June to August: it's a very cool season in Scotland, and **progressively warmer as you head south**; it's quite rainy everywhere, but also **relatively sunny**.

In the whole of Britain, June is a good month: the days are very long, the country is **in bloom**, there's **no shortage of rain and clouds**, but they **alternate with sunny spells**. **In the month of May** too (which is very cool, and sometimes even cold, especially in the north and in Scotland), the weather is often **acceptable**, at least in the second half.

The **mid-summer season** (July-August) is **pleasantly warm** in the center and south, and between one shower and another, the sun can come out.

The sea is cold even in summer: in August, the temperature of the Atlantic Ocean **reaches** just 12 °C in the Shetlands, 13/14 °C in Scotland, and 17 °C in the English Channel and in Cornwall.

Since the climate of Great Britain is **not characterized by weather extremes**, **there is no season to be absolutely avoided**, although it must be said that from November to January, the days are very short and the sky is often gray or cloudy, moreover, in winter, from December to February, but sometimes also in November and March, there may be cold periods, with snow and frost.

What to Pack

In winter: **pack warm clothes**, such as a sweater, a coat, **a wind jacket**, and a **raincoat**. For Scotland and the Highlands, and for cold periods: pack gloves, a hat, and a scarf.

In summer: pack clothes for spring and autumn, a jacket and a sweater, and a raincoat or umbrella. In the area of London, it's more likely that in some days you can **wear light clothing**, a T-shirt and shorts.

The Climate in England

In England, the climate is temperate and influenced by the ocean, and it's cool for most of the year.

Rainfall is more abundant in the western part (in Liverpool and Manchester).

In the eastern and southern **plains**, the rains are still quite frequent but they are not abundant.

Fog can be formed **in the inland areas of** England at night in autumn and winter. Instead, from April to September, sea fog can form on the north-eastern coasts, in Yorkshire and Northumberland.

Winter in England is cold and cloudy, sometimes foggy, sometimes windy. The average temperatures in this season don't vary much from north to south: in January, they are around 3/4 °C in the north (see Newcastle, Middlesbrough, Sunderland), around 4/5 °C in the center-south (see Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, London), and around 5,5/6 °C in the far south (see Plymouth, Southampton, Brighton).

In fact, the southernmost regions are the farthest from the Pole, but they are also the closest to the European mainland, from which cold air masses of Russian origin can arrive during winter. For this reason, the east side (which includes London) is also more prone to snowfall. However, these snowy or freezing periods are typically short-lived; in fact, here too, as in Scotland, the westerlies tend to come back after a short time.

Given that cold air masses reach Scotland from the north and England from the east, it's not surprising that, in addition to West Wales, the mildest area is south-western England (Devon and Cornwall), where the average temperature in January and February hovers around 6 °C. Here, snowfalls and frosts are rare.

Spring in England is very cool, and the temperature increases slowly; rainfall is still frequent, but it's not as abundant as in autumn and winter. In March, and sometimes even in April, there may be cold periods, with occasional snowfalls, more likely in inland and northern areas.

Late spring is the sunniest period of the year, despite the almost daily presence of clouds; the wind also **reduces its intensity and frequency**. In May, the country is covered with flowers.

June is a nice month: the days are long, nature is **in bloom** (also thanks to **the passion of the British for gardening**), and the temperatures are pleasant. However, there can be, as always, rain and showers.

Unlike in winter, during summer, the temperature increases from the north-west to the south-east, so the highest temperatures are found in the area of London. In fact, daytime temperatures in summer range from 19 °C in Newcastle to 23 °C in the London area. In the south-west, which during winter was the

mildest area, summer is cool: **lows** are around 13 °C and **highs** around 20 °C (68 °F).

Even in summer, the weather is variable across the country, so that it can **change from day to day**, or several times during the same day. Southern England is the area most **subject to** hot periods, when currents from Spain can bring a taste of Mediterranean summer, and the temperature may even reach 28/32 °C. These periods, however, do not **occur** every year, and usually, they only last a few days.

During summer, the rains are more frequent and abundant in the north than in the south: in Manchester, there are on average 11 days with rainfall in July, while they are "only" 8 in London.

Sometimes in summer, **thunderstorms** can **burst**, especially in inland and southern areas, often **accompanied by wind gusts**.

In Northern England, the sky is often cloudy: in Liverpool and Manchester, the sun shines **at most** for 6 hours a day from May to July; it goes a bit better in the south, where in some areas (see London), it reaches 7 hours, and even more so on the southern coast (see Plymouth, Brighton, Eastbourne), where it can reach 7.5/8 hours.

Autumn in England is gray and rainy, sometimes windy. In November, the first occasional snowfalls can occur.

3. Write an article about weather in your country or some other country in the world (make use of the expressions from the text). Give your own title to the article.

Speaking about bad weather: The rain! I hate rain! (It) looks like rain (snow, thunderstorm). It is going to rain. Wow, it's really pouring out there! It's pouring outside. We are in for nasty weather. Nasty weather is coming. It looks as if we are going to have snow. We can expect nasty weather. There's hardly a breath of air/a cloud in the sky/a leaf stirring. Fancy such a day in July! (BrE) Nasty weather! The weather is getting worse and worse. We are in for a spell of nasty weather. It's so close. We haven't had a drop of rain for weeks. They're calling for blue skies all week. (about the weather forecast)

Talking about wet weather

1. Practice saying the chants.

- 1) Do you think it's going to rain?

Do you think it's going to rain? – I hope, not. - Do you think it's going to rain? - I hope, not. – It looks like rain. It looks like rain. Do you think it's going to rain? - I hope, not. - Do you think it's going to snow? – I hope so. - Do you think it's

going to snow? – I hope so. - It looks like snow. It looks like snow. Do you think it's going to snow? - I hope so.

2) Yesterday it rained and rained.

Yesterday it rained and rained. Yesterday it poured. Yesterday the streets were wet. The children all were bored. The people stayed indoors all day. There wasn't much to do. At last it stopped. We stepped outside. A rainbow! There! For you!

3) It Was Raining When She Saw Him

It was raining when she saw him. It was raining when they met. It was pouring when they fell in love, the streets were dark and wet. It was raining when they parted. There were dark clouds in the sky. It was raining when he left her, when he turned and said "Good-bye."

2. Practise the dialogues with your partner. Write out all the useful vocabulary and make three or four similar dialogues. Make use of the clichés from the previous exercises.

a)

- Well, how did you enjoy your walk yesterday?
- Enjoy our walk? Are you kidding? Didn't you hear about yesterday's torrential rain in the country? We were caught in the rain and it soaked us to the skin.
- No way! And the weather was so nice in the morning when you left... And the weather report was so promising...
- Yes, it was. But it suddenly changed for the worse in the afternoon. In the end, when we eventually got home, we looked like a pair of drowned rats.
- Bad luck, it wasn't your day.

b)

- So when are you planning to come to St Petersburg?
- I am coming in two days, this Friday. What's the weather like there?
- It's warm and humid and evenings can be cooler even when the sun is still shining, so it's worth bringing a warm sweater.
- Fine, I'll bring my woolen pullover and a jacket to be on the safe side.
- And could I ask you to bring my video camera. I want to record some videos. The White Nights here are truly breathtaking.
- Sure I'll take the camera with me. Shall I bring anything else?
- No, that's all. Just bring yourself. See you Friday.

c)

- Look out of the window, Mary, it's a downpour! It looks almost like a flooding, streets have turned into waterways!
- Wow! Just take a look at that man running for the bus stop to take shelter. He must be drenched to the skin, poor thing, and he hasn't got an umbrella.

- Well the weather was all right in the morning, not great but it looked as if it were clearing up. And who would bother taking an umbrella with them unless it's a really bad day.
- Sure. And the rain is all the more surprising in that it has come after two weeks of very dry weather.

d)

- I think I must change my shoes. They've got completely wet. Wait a bit. I'll drop in at my place.
- But what's the use? Look at the clouds! It's going to rain again.
- Well, probably it is, but I'm afraid I can catch a cold.
- Have you ever been out in a thunderstorm?
- Yes, but I would not repeat it for the life of me.
- You got scared?
- And very much so. You would, too, with the lightning striking here and there and those deafening peals of thunder.

e)

- Oh, that's you, Tony? What is it like outdoors?
- It's just nasty.
- What do you mean by 'nasty'?
- Well, it's drizzling, and it's rather chilly and muddy.
- That's awful! I must go to the station to see Jimmy off.
- You'll have to put a rain poncho on and take the umbrella.
- How can you stand that climate of yours?
- Nothing doing. The weather is really nasty here in autumn, though we've got used to it somehow.
- Well, but they say it's rather awful here in spring, too.
- Oh, no, I wouldn't say that. It's usually sunny and warm in spring and it doesn't rain very often.

f)

- What a thick fog! I can't see anything beyond two or three yards.
- Yes, one can almost cut it with a knife.
- Do you often have such fogs, I wonder?
- As often as not. London is famous for fogs, you know.
- It's already six o'clock, but it's still light.
- Yes, the days are getting longer, spring is coming. What's the temperature today? Is it cold out?
- In the morning it was 2 degrees below zero and now it's plus 1. There's slush everywhere Looks like the snow is thawing out...
- It's more ice and sludge than snow. I'm afraid it may get colder tonight and we may get ground surface icing if the worst comes to the worst.

- Well, let's hope for the best.
 - Let's, but you might as well be careful when you are driving on the highway tomorrow.
3. Work in pairs. Practise back translating the dialogues above as in the example. (Student 1 translates the dialogues into Russian for Student 2. Student 2 does back translating. Student 1 checks if the translation is done according to the text of the dialogue.)

Example

Student 1:

- Я думаю, что мне нужно **переобуться**. Туфли **полностью промокли**. Подожди немного. Я **заскочу к себе домой**.
- А зачем? Посмотри на облака! **Снова пойдет дождь**.
- Ну, возможно, это так, но я боюсь, что я могу **простудиться**.
- Ты **бывала на улице в грозу?**
- Да, но я **бы не повторила бы это никогда в жизни**.
- Ты испугалась?
- **И очень сильно**. И ты бы тоже испугалась, **когда молния ударяет тут и там и эти оглушительные раскаты грома**.

TEXT

1. You are going to read a text about the weather in St. Petersburg in different seasons. Discuss the following.
 - 1) What do you know about the weather in St Petersburg? Have you ever been to this city?
 - 2) What do you think is the weather there like now? (If you have access to the Internet, check the weather forecast for St Petersburg to see if your guessing was right.)
2. Read the text and say what is the best and the worst time to come to St Petersburg in your opinion? Explain why using the weather vocabulary in bold.
3. Make an exercise for other students to practice the vocabulary of the text.

SEASONS AND WEATHER GUIDE
ST PETERSBURG

When to come and what to bring

The first factor most travellers consider when planning a trip to St. Petersburg is, of course, the weather. St. Petersburg's climate **gets a pretty bad press**, not least in the works of Russia's literary greats. Those of us who live here and love the city

believe that **the weather gives it**, and us, **just that little bit more character**. Nonetheless, **it pays to come prepared**.

The good news is that, as a **maritime** city, St. Petersburg is **never really cold** - at least by Russian standards - **with temperatures rarely dropping much below -10 °C even in the depths of winter**. And, despite Dostoevsky's descriptions of **the sweltering slums**, summer temperatures higher than 30 °C are **almost unheard of**. It is the year-round high humidity that most visitors, and residents, **find hard to bear** at times and, winter or summer, **waterproof clothing** is essential.

It's not just the weather that needs to be taken into account. Depending on the main purpose of your trip, you'll also want to consider the calendars of **the city's top attractions** - the Mariinsky Theatre, for example, takes two months off in the summer, while the fountains at Peterhof are only open from June to October. St. Petersburg also has an ever increasing number of festivals and holidays **spread throughout the year**.

Check our seasonal guide below to **find out about climate and annual events** in St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg Winter

If you want to understand St. Petersburg properly, you should visit in winter. Yes, it's cold and dark, but it's also **wonderfully atmospheric**, and the city never looks more beautiful than when **the sun finally rises on streets covered in fresh snow**. The cultural life of the city is also going **at full pace**, with plenty of premieres and parties **to fill the long dark evenings**, except over **the extended winter break** at the beginning of January. **Essential clothing in winter** includes hat, scarf and gloves, thick socks and **waterproof winter boots**, **plenty of layers** and a **genuinely warm coat** - many Russians now are switching from more traditional furs and sheepskins to **synthetic padded coats**, but they do need to be **of equivalent warmth** to their natural predecessors. Bear in mind that, while it's cold on the street, indoors it's normally **well above "room temperature"**, so unless you're planning to spend the whole day outside **you're better off with** things that can be easily taken off and put back on again. Thermal underwear is not necessarily **the best bet**.

St. Petersburg Spring

Spring comes to St. Petersburg at the very end of March, and can be **one of the best times of year for** sightseeing and culture, before the tourist rush of the summer. The city **comes alive** fast after the long winter and, despite **the residual cold**, the inhabitants tend **to be in celebratory mood**. The sight of the ice from Lake Ladoga flowing down **the city's waterways** out into the Gulf of Finland is quite spectacular.

Weather-wise, spring is not the **unmitigated** delight that **the uninitiated** might imagine. It can still be very chilly on and off until the middle of May, so you'll

need the equivalent of a **woolen overcoat**, and it's worth bringing scarves and gloves **just in case** - especially if you're planning to spend plenty of time outdoors. **Tough shoes or boots** are also recommended to **cope with the slush and mud** and, at this time of year, you'll need an umbrella.

St. Petersburg Summer

St. Petersburg's White Nights, which **run from** the end of May **through to** mid-July, are legendary. In the **seemingly endless twilight**, when **the sun dips below the horizon** for little more than an hour just after midnight, the city has **an unforgettable, dream-like beauty** that is truly **breathtaking**.

From late May **onwards**, the weather is normally **warm and humid**, but **not excessively so**. It should be pointed out that, if you're over the age of fifteen, shorts will immediately **mark you out as a tourist**, and do nothing for your popularity with the locals. The other thing to bear in mind is mosquitoes, which can be a **nuisance**, particularly in older buildings. The most effective protection comes from **plug-in fumigators**, which are cheap and readily available from kiosks, supermarkets and **hardware stores**. The most common brands are Raptor and Raid, and they should assure a decent night's sleep.

St. Petersburg Autumn

Autumn is short in St. Petersburg, **with weather that anyone but the natives would consider** wintry **coming in by** the middle of October. After the excesses of the summer months, the season sees the city getting back to work and **preparing for the long winter ahead**. However, September itself is a wonderful time to visit St. Petersburg, with **the glorious autumnal colors** in the parks and gardens highlighting the city's melancholy beauty.

The weather **remains comparatively mild** until mid-October, when the temperature begins to **dip below freezing**. If you're lucky, you'll get the chance to experience *babe leto*, literally 'granny summer', the Russian equivalent of an Indian summer that **brings a week or so of warmth and sunshine** at the end of September.

As in the spring time, warm clothing - including scarf, gloves and a woolen overcoat - is recommended, as the weather can be **extremely variable**. If you're going **to take advantage of** the excellent conditions **to explore the city on foot**, you should bring some **solid waterproof shoes**.

4. You and your friend have decided to go to St Peterburg for either your spring or summer holiday. Think about the advantages and disadvantages of going there in spring or summer in terms of the weather conditions. Then make up a dialogue (not less than 8 lines for each student).

5. Write about the weather in different seasons in your city using the vocabulary under study and the structures from the text about St Petersburg weather.
6. As is known, the weather can influence our mood. Listen to the song and fill in the gaps with words and expressions describing the weather conditions or the person's mood. Check using the script.

I'll never let you see
 The way my _____ is _____ me
 I've got my pride and I know how to hide
 All my _____ and _____
 I'll do my crying _____.

If I wait for _____,
 You won't know _____ from the _____ in my eyes
 You'll never know that I still love you so,
 Only _____ remain.
 I'll do my _____ _____.

Could never take away my _____.
 Since we're not together
 I've prayed for _____
 To hide these _____ I hope you'll never see.

Someday when my _____'s done
 I'm gonna _____ and walk _____.
 I may be a fool,
 But till then, darling, you'll never see me _____.
 I'll do my _____ _____.

Since we're not together
 I've prayed for _____
 To hide these _____ I hope you'll never see.

Someday when my _____'s done,
 I'm gonna _____ and walk _____.
 I may be a fool,
 But till then, darling, you'll
 Never see me _____.
 I'll do my _____ _____ . (3 times)

Script:

Crying in the Rain

I'll never let you see
The way my broken heart is hurting me
I've got my pride and I know how to hide
All my sorrow and pain
I'll do my crying in the rain.

If I wait for stormy skies,
You won't know the rain from the tears in my eyes
You'll never know that I still love you so,
Only heartaches remain.
I'll do my crying in the rain.

Raindrops falling from heaven
Could never take away my misery.
Since we're not together
I've prayed for stormy weather
To hide these tears I hope you'll never see.

Someday when my crying's done
I'm gonna wear a smile and walk in the sun.
I may be a fool,
But till then, darling, you'll never see me complain.
I'll do my crying in the rain.

Since we're not together
I've prayed for stormy weather
To hide these tears I hope you'll never see.

Someday when my crying's done,
I'm gonna wear a smile and walk in the sun.
I may be a fool,
But till then, darling, you'll
Never see me complain.
I'll do my crying in the rain. (3 times)

FORECASTING THE WEATHER

FORECASTING THE WEATHER: VOCABULARY

Weather forecast - a description of what the weather is expected to be like in the near future); the temperature and other conditions such as sun, rain, and wind: good/bad weather: *We go to Greece every Easter, and we usually get good weather./We should expect the weather to get bad soon.*

weather conditions/weather patterns = what the weather is usually like in a particular area.

stormy, humid, muggy, foggy, misty, frosty, rainy, damp, filthy = nasty

to go from bad to worse

to change for the better/for the worse

to stay dry, to keep fine

to see the best (worst) of today's weather (about some area)

the weather forecast for the next week (24 hours) for some area

weather sign, weather permitting = if the weather is good enough (*I'm playing tennis this afternoon - weather permitting.*)

beastly / nasty (very unpleasant), changeable (likely to change, or changing often);

spell (a period of a particular kind of weather, usually a short period e. g. *The forecasters say that any fine spells will be brief, and mainly in the South.*); a cold

spell (a period of colder than average weather, e. g. *They're forecasting a cold spell, so we put off our camping trip.*), a meteorologist/forecaster/ a (TV) weather

reporter, the weather report/forecast; to be forecast (*e.g. Heavy showers are forecast for the weekend.*), to be in for (to be guaranteed to get or have, especially a

disagreeable experience, e. g. *Northeast cities from Baltimore to New York could be in for a snowy winter, according to weather forecasters.*), to keep (to stay

in a particular state, or condition). Celsius (measurement of temperature, 0 degrees is freezing and 100 degrees is boiling, e. g. *In the summer, the average temperature here is 20 degrees Celsius (20°C).*

Fahrenheit (measurement of temperature (32°F is freezing and 212°F is boiling, e. g. *It was 100 degrees Fahrenheit (100°F) when we got to San Francisco.*)

Questions

1. Which words from the vocabulary list would you use to describe a) a wonderful day; b) a nasty day?
 2. What is the other way to say 'if the weather is good enough'?
 3. What is the difference between the weather forecast and the weather conditions?
 4. Which word is used to name a short period of some particular weather pattern?
 5. What does it mean: we are in for (some type of weather conditions)?
 6. Write five more questions of your own using the vocabulary of this section.
-
1. Practice the following dialogues. Write out all the useful expressions to talk on the topic 'Weather'. Make two or three similar dialogues.
 - a)

- Have you heard the weather forecast for today?
- Why certainly. We're going to have a clear day.
- Fine. And what about the temperature?
- Eighteen to twenty Centigrade.

b)

- What's the forecast for today?
- They said it's going to drizzle in the afternoon. But you might as well have a look out of the window.
- Well, the sky is clearing up, but there's still a strong wind blowing. The weather may change again.
- Then we'd better take our umbrellas when we go shopping, to be on the safe side.

c)

- Jane, how's the weather? It's turned to the worse, hasn't it?
- It has. It's only plus 5, damp and foggy as it was yesterday. And it is forecast the temperatures will dip below freezing tonight.
- Below freezing? This autumn is unseasonably cool, 'below freezing' is pretty chilly for September.
- You said it. The forecasters say it will keep cool all the week. And, to make things worse, some heavy showers are coming our way.
- So, we are in for nasty weather... Pity. Hopefully, the Indian summer will bring a week or so of warmth and sunshine...

d)

- Joan, Would you mind doing me a favour?
- What is it, Mary?
- Could you please look at the online weather reports for today. Should we expect rain in the afternoon? I'm asking because I'm going shopping after lunch so I'd rather not be caught in the rain without an umbrella.
- Yeah, the weather's so changeable this September. Now it's fair and sunny, now it's dull and cloudy. Well here it is, today's report for Volgograd... It reads 'You can expect some rain in the afternoon and quite strong north easterly winds'. So, Joan, your umbrella might come in handy.
- Thanks, Mary, I really appreciate your time.

2. Listen to the recording and answer the questions. Check your answers using the script.

Note: 1. Most people in America, Scotland, Ireland and the south-west of England always pronounce [r] where there's a letter r in the spelling.
2. Americans pronounce the word *worry* as [wɒrɪ] while the British as [wʌrɪ]

1. What parts of the USA is the forecast for?
2. What kind of clothes is recommended to wear in New York City and why?

3. What are other recommendations to people living in New York City?
4. Is San Francisco going to be as hot as New York?
5. What will the weather be like in San Francisco?
6. Why do the forecasters recommend to dress in layers in San Francisco?
7. Will it rain in Chicago? What are the weathermen's recommendations?

Script:

Good evening. Here's this weekend's weather forecast for some cities around the United States. New York City will be hot this weekend. Temperatures will be unusually high for this time of year. Get your t-shirts, shorts and sun hats out of the closets because you're going to need them until Sunday. Remember to drink plenty of water and don't stay in the sun for too long. A cool breeze from the Pacific Ocean will hit the San Francisco area. Weather conditions will be pleasant during the day, but much cold in the evenings. Dress in layers: t-shirts under a sweater and a jacket for the evenings will be the best choice if you're going to be out many hours. But don't worry, it won't rain before Tuesday. If you're in Chicago and planning to be out doors this weekend, plan again. Heavy rainstorms will begin by early morning, so make sure you take your umbrella and raincoat with you for the next few days.

3. Listen to the recording and fill in the missing words (more than one word may be missing).

And now here's the weather forecast for the next twenty-four hours _____ England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. Ah starting with Southern England and the Midlands, well it'll be mainly dry and sunny, but quite cold, _____. It should stay dry all day, but there'll be quite a wind, so _____.

And the west country, Wales and Northern Ireland. You can expect some rain in the morning and afternoon and _____, and the temperature will be lower than yesterday, _____. I don't think you'll see much of the sun: cloudy all day, I'm afraid. The East coast of England will see _____. It'll be warmer than yesterday, no winds, and sunshine, so quite warm for the time of year.

In Scotland and Northern Ireland, however, there'll be heavy rain and maybe some snow during the afternoon, and _____ temperatures will drop to _____, minus four or five, and on the highest spots minus ten. _____ it will be cloudy, and windy too as the cold front _____ over the Atlantic. Northern Ireland can expect the same, but the rain _____. But again, very cold, with temperatures not going _____. And that's all from me.

4. Check if you have filled in the missing words correctly using the script.

Script:

And now here's the weather forecast for the next twenty-four hours for the whole of England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. Ah starting with Southern England and the Midlands, well it'll be mainly dry and sunny, but quite cold, with temperatures around six or seven degrees Celsius. It should stay dry all day, but there'll be quite a wind, so wrap up warm.

And the west country, Wales and Northern Ireland. You can expect some rain in the morning and afternoon and quite strong north easterly winds, and the temperature will be lower than yesterday, around the three or four degrees mark. I don't think you'll see much of the sun: cloudy all day, I'm afraid. The East coast of England will see the best of today's weather. It'll be warmer than yesterday, no winds, and sunshine, so quite warm for the time of year.

In Scotland and Northern Ireland, however, there'll be heavy rain and maybe some snow during the afternoon, and on the hills temperatures will drop to below freezing, minus four or five, and on the highest spots minus ten. Over much of Scotland it will be cloudy, and windy too as the cold front moves in over the Atlantic. Northern Ireland can expect the same, but the rain will end before dark. But again, very cold, with temperatures not going above freezing. And that's all from me.

5. Listen to the text and fill in the gaps with the prepositions, conjunctions and adverbs from the box. Then check if you have filled in the missing words correctly using the script.

at least, up (x3), during, on, with, after (x2), throughout, for (x2), a bit, to
--

1. The weather 1) _____ Wednesday, October 14th. It's going to stay cloudy 2) _____ the day and there is rain 3) _____ the way. It's going to become 4) _____ and cooler – we'll need to 4) _____ warm tonight...12 degrees Celsius is the 5) _____ for today...

2. And now today's weather. 6) _____ a cold, wet and windy morning, it's going to 7) _____. Should be quite a fine warm afternoon, maybe 8) _____ windy, with 9) _____ of 17 or 18 degrees. Wind getting up 10) _____ the night, 11) _____ a chance of 12) _____ developing tomorrow morning. And that's the weather.

3. The weather check. 11)_____ a sunny morning, clouds building 12)____
13)___ 70% chance of 14) _____ later. Highs of a chilly 9 degrees
Celsius, but 15)_____ the breeze will stay quite light. Keeping some cloud tonight
16)_____ a 30% chance of 17) _____. 18) _____ of 4 degrees Celsius.

Script:

1. The weather for Wednesday, October 14th. It's going to stay cloudy throughout the day and there is rain on the way. It's going to become windier and cooler – we'll need to wrap up warm tonight...12 degrees Celsius is the high for today...

2. And now today's weather. After a cold, wet and windy morning, it's going to clear up. Should be quite a fine warm afternoon, maybe a bit windy, with highs of 17 or 18 degrees. Wind getting up during the night, with a chance of gales developing tomorrow morning. And that's the weather.

3. The weather check. After a sunny morning, clouds building up to a 70% chance of showers later. Highs of a chilly 9 degrees Celsius, but at least the breeze will stay quite light. Keeping some cloud tonight with a 30% chance of light rain. Lows of 4 degrees Celsius.

6. Listen and fill in the gaps. Then check it out using the script.

We'll begin the forecast with 1)_____. Here, I'm afraid to say, 2)_____ won't be particularly 3)_____. There's going to be some snow, and that's 4) _____ for the afternoon. To 5) _____ to the sense of cold, there'll also be strong winds blowing all day. In fact, the train company has warned that there could be 6) _____ later in the evening, particularly after ten o'clock. Turning to the 7) _____ region, things are looking a little better. However, it will be raining all day, although 8) _____. 9) _____ the maximum temperature of ten degrees in the northern region, down here in the south I think we won't see 10) _____, and hopefully it'll reach twelve. But I don't think it can 11) _____ that, because there'll be 12) _____ coming through from the west. Looking ahead to the next few days, however, there's likely to be ...

7. Mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F). Correct the false ones.

1. There'll be some snow and strong winds in the northern region.
2. The train company warned that the trains could be delayed in the southern region.
3. There'll be no rain ion the southern region.
4. The maximum temperature in the southern region may reach 12 degrees.
5. There'll be only a gentle wind in the southern region.

Script:

The Weather Report

We'll begin the forecast with the northern region. Here, I'm afraid to say, conditions won't be particularly pleasant. There's going to be some snow, and that's predicted for the afternoon. To add to the sense of cold, there'll also be strong winds blowing all day. In fact, the train company has warned that there could be delays to trains later in the evening, particularly after ten o'clock. Turning to the Southern region, things are looking a little better. However, it will be raining all day, although only gently. Unlike the maximum temperature of ten degrees in the northern region, down here in the south I think we won't see less than that, and hopefully it'll reach twelve. But I don't think it can go above that, because there'll be quite a hard wind coming through from the west. Looking ahead to the next few days, however, there's likely to be ...

8. Watch the weather forecast on an English-language TV channel (e. g. BBC World Service or CNN), or listen to one on the radio, or look at one on the Internet, e. g. at <http://www.cnn.com> Note how many words from the vocabulary list you have studied so far are used.

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

1. Read the texts and write out all the useful phrases to talk about weather in different seasons. Make sentences for translation to practice the vocabulary.

A - In my opinion the most pleasant season is (the) spring. In May the weather is finest and all nature is loveliest. The trees put forth little buds and new leaves; the meadows grow green again; the flowers begin to bloom. The nightingale, swallow, cuckoo and other birds come back from Italy or Africa and build their nests, all the while singing their merry songs. Meanwhile the new crop is shooting up, and if there are no sharp frosts during the night, nature looks full of promise, and the corn-fields are made bright by blue cornflowers and red poppies. Spring flowers! The lilacs unfold their pale hearts. There shines the wild daffodil - soft, slim, yellow; there is the starry narcissus, the hyacinth almost lost in the herbs; among them stand tulips - the red bubbles of dark wine; the yellow, more cup-like; the large party-coloured gold and red, noble and sombre.

B - I, for one, like summer, in fact, I prefer it to any other season. By the end of June, when the days become considerably warmer, summer has come. If the heat gets too oppressive, we can go and bathe in running water. And many people enjoy a game of tennis in summer. In the summer the hot sun ripens the corn and fruit, and the farmer gets ready for the harvest. There are plenty of strawberries, cherries, currants, gooseberries, raspberries, apricots, peaches, plums and blackberries,

which are ripe and afford a treat for the old and the young. And what pleasure can compare with that of watching the glorious sunrise and sunset? Clouds? Rain? Well, well, it isn't always cloudy, and there is no such thing as perpetual rain.

C - Strange as it might seem, I like (the) autumn. There are some drawbacks, I admit, - the shorter days and longer nights, for instance. The weather also leaves much to be desired. But is there anything more beautiful than an Indian summer - when we have one! We miss the songs of the birds, you say. Well, I can and do enjoy the sparrow, bluebird, crossbill and the few others that remain with us. Oh, I know what you want to say. The November fogs, and mist, and sleet are not pleasant things. But what should we do without apples, pears, walnuts, grapes, which get ripe in September and October and may be picked. I, for one, could not get along without fruits or nuts, and for the sake of those I'm willing to put up with some discomforts.

D - When autumn is over and winter sets in, I don't mind it at all. I know it is the season of snowstorms, and of ice, of frozen rivers and ponds, and of slippery streets. But think of the skating on the ice, or skiing in the country, and the sledging. In snowy weather, tobogganing is my favourite pastime. Then think of the joy of the children. At the first heavy snowfall, they are out making snowmen, building snowhuts, and pelting one another with snowballs. Of course, if the winter is severe, one must take care not to get frost-bitten. To me, winter has its own peculiar interest and beauty, and there is no reason to feel bored to death when there are interesting books, theatres and concerts, and the cinema.

2. Discuss with a partner the weather you are having at present. Choose questions and answers from the models given below.

Questions: What do you think of the weather? What's the weather outside? I wonder what the weather is going to be like. Will the weather keep? Do you think it will clear up? Do you think it is going to turn out fine? What is the weather forecast for today?

Answers: We are in for a spell of good weather. It looks like rain. The weather is turning bad. It'll change for the better. The weather is fine / nice / lovely / beautiful. The weather is nasty / wretched / awful / dull. The day is rainy / windy / bright / sunny. The weather is favourable. The sky is overcast / cloudy / clear. It's snowing / pouring / raining / drizzling. The wind is rising. It has been raining on and off for ... The fog is lifting.

3. Make up dialogues according to the suggested situations:

a) You are working on a film and have to describe the weather scene for the following clips - use your vivid imagination! a) Two cowboys are riding across the desert.

- b) It is a dark night in the middle of nowhere where strange things have been happening.
- c) The railway station, and a parting between two lovers.
- d) Guests in the Large Hotel on the coast are stranded because of a hurricane which has hit the area.

4. Work in groups and discuss with your classmates the topics you see below. Let one of you sum up what all of you have said.

- a) Would you agree that there is no reason to feel bored in autumn ? b) Account for the fact that most people are happy when winter is over and warm weather sets in.
- c) Are you sure that one should not put off the outing if one hears the forecast promising unsteady weather? d) Some people are convinced that late autumn has many advantages as compared to the other seasons. What's your opinion? e) Prove that winter is the best time for a holiday.

5. Discuss in groups which seasons of the years you like and why.

WRITING PRACTICE

Write an essay on one of the following topics.

- a) A Lot of People Like Winter (Summer) but I Hate it. b) How the Weather Can Help People in Different Situations. c) Once I Was Caught in a Rainstorm / Snowstorm. d) How the Weather Affects Me. e) I Don't Believe Weather Forecasts, I Believe Weather Lore.

Write about a special or unusual weather event that you experienced here in the area where you live.

Read the weather reports for a week. Write a similar weather report for some part of Volgograd Region using the vocabulary under study.

A. Monday: occasional drizzle, bright spells, cold. Tuesday: Scattered showers, hail and snow over high ground. Wednesday: Snow showers heavy in the North, sunny periods, cold. Thursday: Cloudy with showers of sleet or snow, rather cold. Friday: Some rain in the South at first, early fog, frost patches. Saturday: Mainly dry, some bright intervals, milder. Sunday: Rain at times, temperatures near normal.

B. Monday: Fog early, followed by dry sunny day. Tuesday: Rather cloudy with some rain, bright periods. Wednesday: Changeable with rain at times, near normal temperatures. Thursday: Rain in places, mainly dry later. Friday: Showers at first, sunny spells, little change. Saturday: Rain chiefly in the North and West, sunny intervals. Sunday: Normal temperatures, max. 20°C, sunshine.

PROJECT WORK

1. Imagine that you have time and money to travel to anywhere in the world for two weeks. Where would you go? What clothing would you need for the visit? Check the weather forecast for the months of June and December in that country. What are the high and low temperatures during those months? How much precipitation falls during those periods? Use the Internet to locate this information. Write a script for your presentation. Make a presentation in class using only the key words. Use Google Presentations.

TEXTS FOR LISTENING COMPREHENSION

TEXT 1

What are hurricanes, typhoons and tropical cyclones?

1. Listen to the text about hurricanes and explain the difference between tropical cyclones, typhoons and hurricanes
2. Read the script. Pick the vocabulary you will need to describe how the hurricanes are formed. Using the vocabulary as key words explain how the hurricanes are formed.
3. Make a presentation about any other weather phenomenon (to your choice).

Script

What are hurricanes, typhoons and tropical cyclones?

James Chubb

I've come into the studio to investigate the next weather phenomenon, hurricanes, because here in the UK we are fortunate to rarely encounter such extreme weather. Cyclones, typhoons and hurricanes are all names for severe tropical storms; some of the most destructive weather systems on the planet. Storm-force winds, torrential rain, massive pressure falls and storm surges are all produced simultaneously by this most deadly weather.

Around the Indian Ocean and the south-east Pacific these massive storms are known as cyclones. Cyclones tend to affect countries like Madagascar, India, and even parts of Australia. In the north-west Pacific, tropical storms are called typhoons, these often make the news when they batter Japan and parts of South East Asia.

However, the tropical storms we hear most about are those closer to home – hurricanes. Every year we hear about the devastation caused by hurricanes across the Caribbean and the south-eastern USA. You may remember the last really big

one, hurricane Katrina, which struck New Orleans in August 2005. This devastating hurricane was one of the most expensive natural disasters in history. But whilst hurricanes wreak their damage around the Caribbean and the

USA, most of them begin life thousands of miles away, out in the Atlantic, close to north-west Africa. Hurricanes draw their energy from warm seas, they can only begin to form where the ocean is warmer than 26 degrees Celsius or so, and can really only become a major storm when the sea is warmer than 28 degrees Celsius. That's like a warm bath, so you won't find one around the UK anytime soon!

Like a grain of sand in an oyster creating a pearl, hurricanes need an area of thunderstorms or a developing wave pattern to form around. Neither of these things occur near high pressure, where descending air keeps the atmosphere stable and the weather generally fine. Other limitations, like wind patterns in the upper atmosphere and the forces caused by the Earth's rotation, mean hurricanes are limited to an area between 8 and 20 degrees north of the equator. This may seem like a small zone, but it's exactly where the easterly trade winds converge and there is a plentiful supply of moisture. So it's a prime location for thunderstorms and wave development, it is the birthplace of the majority of hurricanes.

Everything is in place. Converging trade winds meet, the warm air heavily laden with water vapour, is forced to rise. In the cooling air, water vapour condenses into droplets. This change of state, from water vapour to liquid, releases latent heat, which further warms the atmosphere and allows it to become more and more buoyant. The air rises even more rapidly, and produces more and more violent thunder clouds.

But that's only the beginning. Trade winds, drawn in at the earth's surface arrive on a curved path caused by the Earth's rotation. Here we see the first recognisable pattern of a spinning tropical storm. As the storm grows larger more moist warm air is drawn in near the surface, more water vapour condenses into cloud droplets and more latent heat is released. This is how more energy is driven into the storm and the speed of rotation increases. This system is now a tropical storm. When the surface winds reach sustained speeds of 74 miles an hour or more, the storm is officially a Category 1 hurricane.

We've all seen pictures of hurricanes hitting land, but what is happening inside the storm?

Rising currents of warm, moist air form thunder clouds. As the air cools and becomes more dense, it falls again, and we get an alternating pattern of storm clouds and clear slots in between. This gives us the appearance of spiralling rain bands which we see in satellite pictures looking down on hurricanes from above. Hurricanes are measured on a scale from 1 to 5, depending on the wind strength. As a hurricane grows in intensity it develops a very distinctive structure with what

looks like a hole in the middle of a swirling mass of clouds. This clear zone in the centre of the storm is called 'the eye' and around it is the 'eye wall'. The eye wall is the most destructive part of the hurricane, containing the most severe thunderstorms and the very strongest winds. In a Category 5 hurricane, winds in the eye wall can exceed 155 miles an hour.

Yet in the eye itself the winds drop right away to give a short-lived, eerie calm.

As well as causing massive damage simply because of their destructive strength, hurricane force winds can have an even more devastating side effect. Have you ever blown hard across the surface of a hot drink, and spilt a little bit over the edge? In 2005, Hurricane Katrina blew a wall of seawater, known as a 'storm surge' ahead of it which was 8 metres high. It swept over

New Orleans' sea defences, engulfing most of the city.

We are getting better and better at forecasting the strength and direction of hurricanes, giving people living in their path precious time to protect themselves and their property. And we are even able to predict roughly how many storms there will be in each Atlantic hurricane season, information that is very valuable to the insurance industry. But we still have lots to learn about tropical storms, especially what the impact of climate change will be on the strength and number of these storms and where they are likely to go.

TEXT 2

A Holiday from Hell (Part I)

1. Answer the questions.
 - 1) Are you planning on going anywhere for your next vacation?
 - 2) What are the main criteria you consider when choosing a holiday place?
 - 3) Are you always satisfied with the service offered when you are on holiday?
2. Listen to Part One of 'A Holiday Experience' and explain:
 - 1) the reasons for which the married couple made up their minds to go on this holiday;
 - 2) what happened to them at Gatwick airport;
 - 3) how the bad weather influenced their plans;
 - 4) why the couple wasn't too worried they had to detour from the previously planned route.

Script:

A Holiday from Hell (Part I)

My wife and I decided to have a really good holiday – a ‘dream holiday’ in the Caribbean, because we’d always wanted to go there. So we saved out money up for months and months, and booked this holiday in a place called San Antonio. It cost over a thousand pounds each, but we wanted to do something really special so we booked it for two weeks in May, because all the brochures said that the weather’s beautiful there in May. We were flying from Gatwick Airport and the flight was over night leaving Gatwick late at night and arriving in San Antonio the next morning. Well, that was the idea, anyway. But when we arrived at the airport, they told us that because of bad weather in the Caribbean the flight was delayed until the next morning. So we had to spend the night at the airport sleeping on the floor and we finally got on the plane the next morning, twelve hours late.

But that was just the beginning. On the plane they told us that the bad weather over the Caribbean was actually a hurricane, Hurricane George, and that we couldn’t fly to San Antonio, we had to go to the capital city instead and stay in a hotel there for the night until the hurricane passed. Anyway, we weren’t too worried, we thought: “Well, it’s only one night.” And they told us that we were going to a five star hotel, next to the beach with a swimming pool, so we were quite happy at that point.

A Holiday from Hell (Part II)

Listen to Part II and do the following comprehension test.

Comprehension Test

Choose one answer (If there was no information mentioned, choose “Not mentioned”).

1. The man and his wife booked their holiday in May because ...
 - a) their friends advised them to go in May
 - b) the ocean looks beautiful in May
 - c) there was some information in booklets about the weather in San Antonio at this time of year
 - d) the weather in San Antonio is always beautiful
 - e) it wasn’t very expensive to go to that place in May
 - f) Not mentioned

2. They planned to spend in San Antonio
 - a) a month
 - b) three weeks
 - c) two weeks
 - d) one week

e) Not mentioned

3. When did they finally leave for San Antonio?

- a) In the afternoon
- b) late at night
- c) in the morning
- d) at twelve
- e) Not mentioned

4. The hurricane began

- a) at night
- b) in the morning
- c) Not mentioned

5. They learned about the hurricane

- a) at the airport
- b) on the plane
- c) in San Antonio
- d) in the capital city
- e) Not mentioned

6. During the hurricane

- a) they were not worried
- b) they were very frightened
- c) Not mentioned

The hurricane lasted for

- a) One night
- b) Six hours
- c) Two days
- d) Not mentioned

7. The hotel was

- a) far from the sea
- b) near the sea
- c) Not mentioned

8. They didn't swim in the swimming-pool because

- a) It was dirty
- b) there were frogs in it
- c) Not mentioned

9. They didn't eat at the hotel food because

- a) They disliked vegetables
- b) They were not hungry
- c) There were ants in the lettuce bowl
- d) Not mentioned

10. How did they spend their time in San Antonio?

- a) They swam in the sea all day.
- b) They swam in the pool.
- c) They had nothing to do and nowhere to go.
- d) Not mentioned

3. Look at the script of Part II and pick *the vocabulary* (words and phrases) you would use to explain:

- 1) what the hotel and its surroundings were like;
- 2) what the swimming pool was like;
- 3) what the food was like;
- 4) what the weather was like;

4. Make up a similar story about your holiday. You should mention:

- a) the reasons for which you made up your mind to go on this holiday;
- b) how the bad weather influenced your plans;
- c) why you had to detour from the previously planned route,
- d) what the place where you had to stay until the bad weather was over and its surroundings were like;
- e) what disappointed you there (what the food was like, what the weather was like etc.).

Script:

A Holiday from Hell (Part II)

Anyway, we arrived at the hotel, the Hotel Paradiso it was called, what a joke! They said it was a five-star hotel, but I wouldn't give it one star! It was just awful... I don't know how to describe it... it was an awful building, yes, it was next to the sea, but it wasn't a beach! Just a few rocks, and the sea was so dirty you couldn't swim in it. There were big ships travelling past, and the sea was all polluted and brown, it looked horrible.

So we went to look at the swimming pool, but that was no better. It wasn't a nice blue colour like you would expect, it was a sort of greeny-black colour. And as we looked at it, we could see things moving about in it and we looked more closely and we realized it was full of frogs! There were hundreds and hundreds of frogs in it. So after that obviously we didn't use it.

And then there was the food. Do you remember the food?

Oh, I'll never forget it. The first morning we went downstairs for breakfast expecting to get, you know, the usual things you get in hotels, bread, marmalade, fruit, coffee, and we were very surprised instead to see lots of different types of vegetables – carrots, peas, cabbage and a big bowl of lettuce. But, anyway, I was really really hungry, so I decided to have some of the lettuce until I saw that it was moving. The leaves of lettuce were slowly moving around the bowl. And I looked a bit more closely and saw that the lettuce bowl was full of ants, hundreds of them, and there were so many that they were actually moving the lettuce leaves. After that we didn't eat in the hotel again, we didn't want to.

The worst part, though, was when the hurricane arrived. That was really frightening. It was a fifteen-storey hotel, so you felt really terrified with all that wind and rain and the windows banging and the trees crashing outside, it was terrible.

And then they told us that because of the hurricane there were no flights to San Antonio and that we had to stay there for another three days. Three more days in that place! There was nothing to do, nowhere to go, we couldn't eat the food, it was noisy and dirty. We just couldn't believe that it could happen.

So when we finally arrived in San Antonio, we were five days late. And the worst thing was that Hurricane George had never arrived there. The weather had been perfect in San Antonio all the time.

GRAMMAR NOTES

NAMES of PARTS of the DAY

К этой группе относятся следующие существительные: *day, night, morning, evening, noon, afternoon, midnight, dawn, twilight, dusk, sunrise, sunset, daytime*.

Когда говорящий использует эти существительные, он часто подразумевает какой-то определенный день, ночь и так далее. Таким образом, эти существительные употребляются с определенным артиклем, о чем свидетельствует сама ситуация или контекст.

The night was warm and beautifully still.

He decided to spend **the afternoon** with his friends.

The weather was very cold on **the day** of his arrival.

Если данные существительные имеют абстрактное значение и выражают время суток в общем смысле, то они употребляются **без артикля**.

Night fell. **Day** broke.

It was **evening**. It was **noon**.

It was **dusk** but I could see Henry walking across the field.

Неопределенный артикль необходим, если у существительного есть описательное определение (кроме таких определений, как *early, late, real, broad, high*, с существительными в функции предикатива).

I like the dusky gold of **a fine autumn**.

It was **a cold morning**. It was **a fine day**.

Но: It was **early morning**. It was **broad day**.

It was **late autumn**. It was **high moon**.

В этом случае прилагательные *early, late, broad, high* не являются описательными, а определяют время суток более конкретно. Так, например, **morning** обозначает больший период времени, чем **early morning** или **late morning**.

Сравните: *to have an early (a late) night*.

I had **an early night** yesterday.

Определенный артикль употребляется с данными существительными, если они ясны из контекста, ситуации или же имеют лимитирующее определение.

We watched *the sunset* from the boat.

The sunrise promised good weather.

Следует обратить внимание на употребление артикля с данными существительными, когда они входят в состав некоторых **выражений с предлогами**.

Определенный артикль употребляется в выражениях: *in the morning, in the daytime, in the evening, in the afternoon*. Сравните: *early in the morning* – *in early morning*.

В выражениях с предлогами *at, by, about, past, before, after, towards, till (until)* артикль отсутствует: *at night, at dawn, by day* («днем»), *by night* («ночью»), *by noon* («к полудню»), *by midnight* («к полуночи»), *past noon, after sunset*.

By nightfall I was feeling hungry and sleepy.

Артикль не употребляется со словами *morning, day* и *dawn*, если они употребляются в функции подлежащего и за ними следуют глаголы *to break, to be at hand*; это правило распространяется и на существительные *evening, night, dusk* с последующими глаголами *to fall, to gather, to set in, to be at hand, to come*.

Day was breaking when we set out.

The sky was overcast and **dusk** fell early.

Обратите внимание на следующие предложения!

We met on Saturday night. – Мы встретились в прошлую субботу вечером.

We met on a Saturday night. – Мы встретились однажды в субботу вечером.

Артикль не употребляется также в следующих выражениях: *all day (long), all night (through)* (но: *all through **the** night, all through **the** day*), *day after day, night after night, day in day out, from morning till night, (to work) day and night, in the dead of night, late at night.*

NAMES of SEASONS

К этой группе существительных относятся: *winter, spring, summer, autumn.*

Определенный артикль употребляется с этими существительными, когда имеется в виду определенное время года в прошлом, настоящем или будущем. Чаще всего, эти существительные употребляются в функции подлежащего.

The winter was very fine that year and we were very happy.

The autumn of 1914 was very warm.

Если эти существительные употребляются с глаголами *to be over, to come, to come to an end, to set in*, то употребляется либо **определенный артикль**, либо он отсутствует совсем.

(**The**) **winter** came early and with a heavy fall of snow.

In those parts (**the**) **spring** usually sets in early.

Определенный артикль употребляется с названиями сезонов года, если последние употреблены в функции дополнения после глаголов *to hate, to love, to spend, to talk about, to wait for.*

Dave loves **the winter**.

I like **the summer** here, I think.

Неопределенный артикль употребляется в том случае, если перед существительным стоит определение.

We had **a short summer**.

It was **a frosty winter**.

Если существительные, обозначающие сезоны года, входят в состав предикатива, то они употребляются **без артикля**.

It was **summer** and it was very hot.

В сочетаниях с прилагательными *early* и *late* **артикль не употребляется**.

It was **early summer**. (the first month of summer)

It was **late autumn**. (the last month of autumn)

Определенный артикль обычно употребляется, если эти существительные употребляются с предлогами *through, for* и *during*.

GRAMMAR EXERCISES

1. Explain the use of articles in underlined words.

1. Spring is the best time to start a new life. 2. The winter was mild last year. 3. It was midsummer, the garden was full of flowers. 4. We are expecting a frosty winter this year. 5. It was late evening when the housekeeper called Tom. 6. His watch said it was nearly four o'clock in the morning. 7. On a lovely still evening my father and I went to fly a kite. 8. It all started on a Saturday evening. It was the first Saturday of September. 9. In late evening all birds fly up into trees to roost. 10. A silent night was followed by a bright dawn.

2. Fill in the blanks with articles before names of seasons if necessary. Comment on your choice of articles.

1. They looked in awe at this proof of returning life, moved too deeply for words that it should have just come this morning to remind them when ... winter lay heaviest on them that ... spring would come again and with ... spring freedom and reunion. 2. I should remember the rose-garden in ... summer, and the birds that sang at dawn. 3. The weather was wet and cold for quite a week, as it often can be in the West Country in ... early spring. 4. "During ... summer I always feel uneasy for...", he swallowed. "For it reminds me of what happened three years ago." 5. I am transported from this indifferent island to the realities of ...English spring. 6. There was a good deal of story-telling and comparing notes on ... past summer and all its doings. 7. The sun had brought the old men out from wherever they spent ... winter. 8. In ... summer of his sophomore year, when he got the job after hours and on Saturdays at Caldewood's Department Store he was quite happy. 9. The west country must be delightful in ... spring. 10. In ... spring of the year 1881 he was visiting his old schoolfellow and client G. Liversledge. 11. I'm tired to death of Europe and we can come back in ... early spring. 12. ... winter passed into ... spring and ... gardens on the Riviera were ablaze with colour. ... spring passed into ... summer. 13. He shivered. He always hated ... winter. 14. Christmas of 1862 had been a happy one for Atlanta, for the whole south. Everyone knew that when the campaign reopened in ... spring, the Yankees would be crushed for good and all. 15. And you frightened me with it, that winter when you and I were here as girls, ... winter I was engaged to Delphin. 16. Even the mists of ... autumn and the smell of the flood tide - these are the memories of Manderley that will not be denied. 17. In the evening the bars on the Croisette were thronged by a restless, chattering crowd as many-coloured as the flowers of ... spring. 18. It was ... early spring when she chanced to meet Walter Fane. 19. New York is beautiful at ground level, but

on ... fine day in ... early winter from the air, it is one of the loveliest sights a man can hope to see. 20. You know our blood gets so thick during ... winter. 21. That was ... terrible summer with the sound of milk-cans rattling in the street, rubber shod feet padding on pavements. 22. Whether in ... winter or in ... summer, ...spring or ... autumn it's always got its fun and its excitements. 23. I raked up visions of ... Wyoming spring, warm, bright. 24. ... winter settled down over the mountains and the long trip from the city to her ceased to be an adventure for Bart, and became a hardship. 25. There was a small lake nearly with two hotels that were open for ... summer, and holiday cottages owned by people who came from Cleveland.

3. Insert the articles where necessary.

1. ... day broke and everything seemed better. 2. ... night fell when we were halfway to town. 3. ... twilight was gathering. 4. In ... autumn I always feel blue. 5. The weather usually gets much worse in ... late autumn. 6. ... morning we met was surprisingly bright. 7. Last time I saw her in ... autumn of 1990. 8. It was September. It was ... early autumn. 9. The storm is over, it'll be ... lovely day tomorrow. 10. I finished the work by ... late afternoon.

4. Translate the following sentences.

1. Что вы любите больше: лето или зиму? 2. Сейчас зима. Очень холодная зима. 3. Говорят, будет ранняя весна. 4. Я родился осенью 1980 года. 5. Ночь. Приближается рассвет. 6. Он остановился, чтобы понаблюдать осенний закат. 7. Сейчас четыре часа утра, и я не могу заснуть. 8. Была теплая июльская ночь. 9. «Не волнуйся, я буду дома к вечеру», - пообещала я. 10. Вчера у нас был романтический вечер. 11. В сумерки я любила слушать рассказы моей бабушки. 12. Был пасмурный день, типичный осенний день. 13. Когда в России зима, в Бразилии – лето. 14. Ночь перед отъездом была морозной. 15. После заката всегда становится холодно. 16. Я слушаю новости рано утром. 17. Он ушел ранним утром и больше не вернулся. 18. Ночь перед Рождеством – самое чудесное время! 19. Часы показывают полночь. Пора идти спать. 20. Осенний день был сухим и ясным.

5. Translate the following sentences.

1. Было утро. Было раннее утро. Было теплое летнее утро. Он родился ранним утром. Мне трудно вставать рано по утрам. Утро было прохладное, но солнечное. Какое хорошее утро! Мы доберемся до станции к утру.
2. Наступил день. Это был туманный день, день нашего отъезда. День был дождливым. Что ты обычно делаешь в течение дня? Инцидент произошел пасмурным сентябрьским днем.
3. Был полдень. Полдень – это 12 часов. Домохозяйки стараются сделать все покупки до полудня. Посетитель появился лишь в полдень.

4. Было послеполуденное время. Мы любили пить чай после полудня. Маленькие дети обычно спят в послеполуденное время. Мы посвятили послеполуденное время чтению.

5. Был вечер. Был морозный рождественский вечер. Вечер был теплый. Был поздний вечер. Мне всегда хочется спать по вечерам. Ты пойдешь на прогулку вечером? Мы закончим все к вечеру.

6. Наступила ночь. Была ночь. Была тихая звездная ночь. Я люблю смотреть на звезды ночью. Ночь была тиха. Буря продолжалась всю ночь. Мы отправились туда в субботу вечером. У меня ночное дежурство сегодня. Его охраняют день и ночь. Я целый месяц не дожился спать рано.

7. Весна – это время года между зимой и летом. Весной становится теплее. Он уехал весной 1996 года. Париж прекрасен весной. Осень – это пора свадеб. Была ранняя весна. Была поздняя весна.

6. Read the following proverbs paying attention to the articles. Find the Russian equivalents.

1. A foul morning may turn to a fair day.
2. After dinner sit a while, after supper walk a mile.
3. Early to bed and early to rise makes a man wealthy, healthy and wise.
4. An hour in the morning is worth two in the evening.
5. A misty morning does not signify a cloudy day.
6. Red sky at night, shepherd's delight.

7. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English paying special attention to the use of articles with the names of the seasons.

1. В течение лета я часто встречал своего школьного друга. 2. “Была поздняя осень, когда она написала мне,” - сказал он. 3. Они должны были пожениться в самом начале весны. 4. Прошлым летом Сара переехала за город. 5. Лето, которое Сюзанна провела с Ларри, было самым счастливым временем в ее жизни. 6. Я думаю, ты знаешь, что Ларри пробыл в Санари всю зиму. 7. Видишь ли, осенью я собираюсь поступить на работу в дядину фирму. 8. Была ранняя весна когда они прибыли в Одессу. 9. Какое унылое лето ждет нас впереди! 10. В тот год зима была холодная. 11. В течение зимы средняя температура была минус 100. 12. За пределами госпиталя жители Берлингтона страдали от ужасно жаркого лета. 13. Но действительно, кажется довольно абсурдным, что я не увижу свою собственную работу, тем более, что осенью я собираюсь выставить ее на выставке в Париже. 14. Зима была уже на носу, а у нее не было теплой одежды, а теперь и работы. 15. Летом 1985 года она победила на соревнованиях.