ESOL Entry Level – Vocabulary – Weather

This companion document covers the same learning as the interactive session, but in a different way so as to be more accessible for learners with sight impairments. Because of this, it does not follow a slide structure.

Welcome

Welcome to this session on vocabulary - weather.

By the end of this session, you will:

* Be able to use words to describe the weather
* Know how to talk about the weather with others

Describing the weather

The weather often changes from one day to the next. Sometimes it changes from one type of weather to another in the same day.

In this session, you will learn about different types of weather, including words that you can use to talk about the weather with other people.

Cloudy – if there are a lot of clouds in the sky, you could say “it is cloudy”.

Raining – if rain is falling from the sky, you could say “it is raining”.

Windy – if the wind is blowing heavily, you could say “it is windy”.

Sunny – if the sun is bright and warm, you could say “it is sunny”.

Snowing – if snow is falling from the sky, you could say “it is snowing”.

Foggy – if a thick fog is making if hard to see, you could say “it is foggy”.

Hailing – if hail is falling from the sky, you could say “it is hailing”.

Icy – if ice covers the ground, you could say “it is icy”.

Weather and temperature

Some weather only happens when it is cold.

For example, snow, hail, ice, and sleet. Sleet is very cold rain, almost snow but more wet.

Other weather can happen when it is warm or cold, such as cloudy or windy weather.

Describing the rain

There are lots of ways that people talk about the rain in the UK. Rain is a common type of weather, so people have many ways of talking about it.

Different words can be used to describe how much rain is falling and how heavily it is falling.

For example, light rain can be referred to as drizzle.

If it is raining hard, you might say it is ‘pouring down’.

You might even hear people use phrases such as ‘it is raining cats and dogs’ to describe how much it is raining.

Talking about the weather

In the UK, people often talk about the weather. Talking about the weather is a good way to start a conversation.

You can start a conversation with some of the following sentences:

* It’s sunny today, isn’t it?
* It’s absolutely pouring down today. Did you remember your umbrella?
* Be careful out there, it’s really icy today.

Knowledge checks

Below are a few questions to test your understanding of the information presented in this session.

Question 1:

What type of weather is being talked about in the following sentence?

“Remember to put your sun cream on, it’s a hot one today!”

1. Sunny
2. Snowing
3. Hail
4. Foggy

Answer: They are talking about a **sunny** day.

Question 2:

Is the following statement true or false?

“Sleet only occurs when it is sunny.”

1. True
2. False

Answer: The correct answer is **false**.

Question 3:

What type of weather is being talked about in the following sentence?

“My scarf blew away!”

1. Sunny
2. Snowing
3. Foggy
4. Windy

Answer: They are talking about a **windy** day.

Question 4:

Is the following statement true or false?

“It needs to be cold for there to be ice.”

1. True
2. False

Answer: The correct answer is **true**.

Summary

Well done. You have completed this session on vocabulary - weather.

You should now:

* Be able to use words to describe the weather
* Know how to talk about the weather with others

If you have any questions about anything covered in this session, please speak to your tutor for more help.