Weather and Seasons

Sun, rain, wind and snow, the seasons and the months, forecasts and small talk, and the words of forecasters and scientists, from A1 to C2.

A1–C2 · English Vocabulary, Lesson 26

It's raining · sunny intervals · a storm in a teacup

The weather *A1–A2*

sunny	cloudy
rainy	windy
foggy	snowy
stormy	icy
thunder	lightning
rainbow	temperature
wet	dry

sun → sunny · fog → foggy (double letter) · rain → rainy

Hot, cold and seasons *A1–A2*

hot	warm
cool	cold
spring	summer
autumn (US fall)	winter
January	July
20 degrees	minus 2
a season	a month

in winter, in August · months need a capital letter

Precise and forecast words *B1–B2*

Rain: drizzle · a shower · a downpour · it's pouring

Wind: a breeze · a gust · a gale (force 8)

Ice: frost · sleet · hail

Temperature: humid, chilly, freezing, boiling, mild

Forecasts: changeable, bright spells, sunny intervals, scattered showers, a band of rain, highs and lows, the outlook

Idioms: come rain or shine, on cloud nine, snowed under, break the ice, the calm before the storm

*Tomorrow: **sunny intervals** and **scattered showers**, with **highs** of 14 °C.*

On a cool day it's chilly (not fresh)

Science and figures of speech *C1–C2*

Extremes: a heatwave, a drought, a cold snap

Systems: an anticyclone (a high), a depression (a low), a warm / cold front, the jet stream, blocking

Register: precipitation, prevailing winds, settled, unsettled, a microclimate, the Gulf Stream

Idioms: a storm in a teacup, it never rains but it pours, every cloud has a silver lining, a fair-weather friend, steal someone's thunder, weather the storm, take a rain check

*A **blocking** high brought a long **drought**; one **cold snap** is weather, not **climate**.*

weather = today · climate = the pattern over many years

Talking about the weather

- *What's the weather like?*
- *It's sunny. It's raining.*
- *Lovely day, isn't it?*
- *Bit chilly this morning!*

Common mistakes

- ~~It makes hot.~~ → **It's hot.**
- ~~a beautiful weather~~ → **beautiful weather**
- ~~Rains.~~ → **It's raining.** / **It rains.**
- ~~The climate is nice today.~~ → The **weather** is nice today.

Words with a past

- **autumn**: Latin; before it, *harvest*
- **centigrade**: a hundred steps
- **barometer**: Greek *baros*, weight
- **tornado**: Spanish *tronada* + *tornar*

My new words

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