# 38 Weather



#### Weather conditions

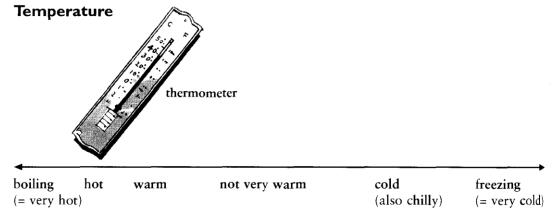
Look at this list of common weather words. Notice that it is very common to form adjectives by adding '-y'.

Noun Adjective Noun Adjective sun sunny wind windy cloud cloudy ice ic(e)y fog foggy showery shower heat hot humidity humid

*Note*: When it rains for a short period of time, we call it a **shower**, e.g. We had several showers yesterday afternoon.

When it is raining a lot we often say it's **pouring** or it's **pouring with rain.** This phrase is much more common than 'it's raining cats and dogs', which many students seem to learn.





People round the world have different ideas about temperature:

5°C (five degrees centigrade) is freezing for many Brazilians.

-10°C (minus ten degrees *or* ten degrees below zero) is very cold but quite normal in the mountains in Switzerland during the winter when it usually snows a lot.

30–35°C is boiling for England and very unusual, but it is very common in parts of Spain during the summer.



#### Wind

The first word here is very gentle; the last is more than 100 km per hour and can be very dangerous.

a breeze a wind a strong wind a gale a hurricane

It was a hot day but there was a lovely breeze.

The wind blew my hat off.

The hurricane in Florida destroyed trees and buildings.

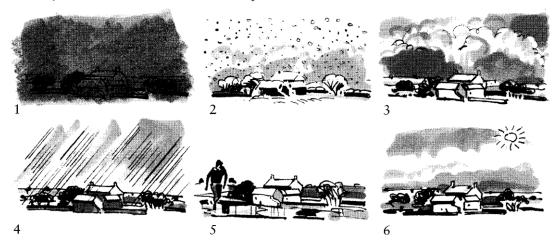


#### **Thunderstorms**

A spell (= period) of very hot weather often ends with a thunderstorm. First it becomes very humid (= hot and wet), then you get thunder and lightning, and finally, very heavy rain (= it pours with rain). Afterwards, it is usually cooler and it feels fresher.

# **Exercises**

**18.** Identify the weather conditions in these pictures.



- 18.2 True or false? If a sentence is false, write a true sentence about the weather conditions in the sentence.
  - 1 It often pours with rain in the desert.
  - 2 It gets quite chilly in the desert in the evening.
  - 3 Thunder makes a noise.
  - 4 Lightning can kill people.
  - 5 A shower is a gentle breeze.
  - 6 A spell of hot weather may end in a thunderstorm.
  - 7 If it is humid, the air will be very dry.
  - 8 Below zero, water turns to ice.
  - 9 Heavy rain means that it is pouring with rain.
  - 10 When it's foggy you need sunglasses.
- 18.3 Complete these scales.

 $\rightarrow$	wind	۱ →	stron	g wir	nd →		<b>→</b> 1	hurricar	ne
 $\rightarrow$	hot	$\rightarrow$	warm	$\rightarrow$	not very war	m →	colo	i →	

18.4 Complete this text with suitable words.

The single greatest influence on south-eastern parts receive cold dry air. Japanese weather is the wind. During Between June and mid July, there is a the summer it (1)..... from the (5) of wet weather when the Pacific, causing ② ..... and humid rice fields get the water vital for growth. weather, but in winter, the north-After that, there is less (6)..... westerly (3)..... from Siberia are rain, but the air is still ? very cold and it (4)..... heavily on Autumn, however, is drier, and usually the mountains of the north west. The very pleasant.

Write a paragraph about the weather in your own country, or a specific part of your country, e.g. your own region. Try to use as many words as possible from the opposite page.

## Study the vocabulary

# temperature-related

chilly rather cold
frigid, freezing very cold
blustery cold and windy
mild not very cold
scorching; blistering; sizzling extremely hot
heatwave (n) a period of unusually hot weather

## precipitation-related

mist having very small drops of rain in the air drizzle very light rain showers moderate rain thundershowers thunderstorm rain accompanied by thunder and lightning torrential rain extremely heavy rain flurries very light snow sleet wet, partly melted falling snow blizzard, snowstorm a very heavy snow storm thin, white, powdery layer of ice which forms when the temperature drops below freezing, esp. at night hail small pellets of ice falling from cumulonimbus clouds slush melting snow a spell of relatively warm weather, causing snow or ice to melt thaw a fall of snow snowfall

flood a large quantity of water covering an area which is usually dry

## cloud cover

overcast (n, adj.) complete cloud cover cloudless, clear free from dullness or clouds

#### wind

breeze light, pleasant wind
gust a short, sudden strong wind
gusting wind
to blow gustily
gale very heavy wind
squall a sudden violent wind, often with rain or snow
tempest a violent storm
typhoon; hurricane; cyclone; tornado storms with heavy, damaging winds

## other useful words

fog a thick mist, similar to a cloud that has touched the ground flash floods very sudden floods which often occur with little warning humidity the amount of water vapour in the air humid having a lot of water vapour in the air muggy very hot and humid monsoon a seasonal wind

rainbow an arch of different colours in the sky when the sun shines through rain

thunder the loud noise that follows the flash of lightning

lightning a flash of light caused by electrical discharge from the sky drought [draut] continuous dry weather when there is not enough water

draught [dra:ft] a flow of cool air in a room

Indian summer a period of calm dry warm weather in late autumn

earthquake - a sudden release of energy in the earth's crust or upper mantle, usually caused by

movement along a fault plane or by volcanic activity and resulting in the generation

of seismic waves which can be destructive

avalanche- a) a fall of large masses of snow and ice down a mountain b) a fall of rocks, sand, etc landslide / mudslide - the sliding of a large mass of rock material, soil, mud etc., down the side of a mountain or cliff

# **Adjectives**

widespread covering a large area

scattered far apart; widely and irregularly separated

slight small; light

moderate neither large nor small; towards the middle in degree

rough not smooth; stormy dense very thick or heavy

## Look at the following groups or pairs of words and think what the difference is between them:

- snow, sleet and hail
- a storm and a blizzard
- a breeze, a gale and a hurricane
- flooding and droughts
- mist and fog
- a shower and sunny spells
- rain and humidity
- a hurricane and a tornado

Can you match an adjective below in column A to a noun in column B so that they form strong collocations? Write them down. In some cases there will be more than one possibility.

A	В
torrential	gales
flash	humidity
severe	spells
dense	weather conditions
sunny	rain
freak	storms
violent	floods
high	fog

## Discuss the following questions with a partner.

- 1. In what ways can we predict the weather?
- 2. There are many sayings in English about the weather. For example: *Red sky at night, shepherd's delight;*

red sky in the morning, shepherd's warning.

What do you think this saying means? Are there any similar sayings in your own language? Can you translate theminto English and say what they mean?

- 3. Do you think the weather can influence our moods? If so, in what way?
- 4. Do you think the weather can influence the personalities of people living indifferent countries or regions? If so, in what way?

# Text 1.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, kiteboarding, ice-climbing and white-water 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.

# Glossary

**adrenaline** (n): a hormone produced by the body when you are frightened, angry or excited, which makes the heart beat faster and prepares the body to react to danger.

**ash (n):** a forest tree which has a smooth grey bark, small greenish flowers and seeds shaped like wings.

**blizzard** (n): a severe snow storm with strong winds.

**climate (n):** the general weather conditions usually found in a particular place.

**drought (n):** a long period when there is little or no rain.

**humid (adj):** (of air and weather conditions) containing extremely small drops of water in the air.

**hurricane** (n): a violent wind which has a circular movement, especially found in the West Atlantic Ocean.

**latitude** (n): the position north or south of the equator measured from  $0^{\circ}$  to  $90^{\circ}$ .

**oak (n):** a large tree that is common especially in northern countries, or the hard wood of this tree.

**pine cone (n):** the hard egg-shaped part of the pine tree which opens and releases seeds. **psychologist (n):** someone who studies the human mind and human emotions and behaviour, and how different situations have an effect on them.

**reflex (n):** an uncontrollable physical reaction to something.

**shepherd** (n): a person whose job is to take care of sheep and move them from one place to another.

tornado (plural tornados tornadoes) (n) (US INFORMAL ALSO twister): 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.

torrential (adj): used to refer to very heavy rain.

# Answer the following questions.

- 1. According to scientific studies, what effects can the weather have on people?
- 2. What causes changes in the weather in the British Isles?
- 3. What effect has human activity in Europeand North America had on Africa, according to some researchers?
- 4. How can pine cones and seaweed help us predict the weather?
- 5. How reliable is technology in predicting the weather?
- 6. What did a recent study by an Australian psychologist suggest?
- 7. What's the connection between weather and disease?
- 8. What are stormchasers?

#### In the news.

## Text 2.Drought and snow: Extreme US weather

It has been a week of extreme weather in the United States. The East Coast was hit by a huge snowstorm which affected 100 million Americans in more than 20 states. Meanwhile, on the West Coast, California continues to experience its worst drought in living memory. Beth McLeod reports for the BBC:

After burying the American East Coast in snow all the way from Georgia up to Maine, the storm has moved north to Canada. It has left an **icy trail** of destruction **in its wake**; hundreds of thousands of homes are still without power, mostly in southern states like the Carolinas, which are used to **milder** winter weather.

The extreme conditions are being blamed for at least 25 deaths, mostly in traffic accidents on roads that are **slick** with ice. Thirty people were injured in a multi-car **pileup** in Pennsylvania and more than 14,000 flights have been cancelled this week so far.

President Obama has left the snow in Washington for the West Coast, where he has been talking about a very different type of extreme weather; California is in the **midst** of its worst **drought** in a hundred years. He promised federal money to help deal with what he called a "very challenging situation".

#### Vocabulary

icy trail - path or route which is covered with ice and snow in its wake - left behind after something has passed through milder - (here) weather that is warmer than is normal at a particular time of year slick - smooth, shiny or slippery pileup - traffic accident where several vehicles crash into each other midst - middle drought - long period of dry weather with no rain

## **Text 3.Europe Continues to Suffer Severe Winter Weather**

Read the article and do the tasks:

(1)Severe winter weather continues to dominate in many European countries with air and road travel disrupted and gas supplies running low.

The hardest hit country is Ukraine, where temperatures as low as minus 32 degrees Celsius have left at least 122 people dead. OleksandrHeits, head of a rescue unit in Kiev, said many of the victims are homeless citizens of Ukraine's capital. "There are many homeless people coming here. It is minus 20 to minus 25 degrees Celsius outside. We're heating them up with tea. Some of them are staying for a night here. We're heating, feeding them and then they leave. (2)Some citizens are bringing clothes and food for the homeless," he said.

Snow and extremely low temperatures have also gripped the Balkans, where many people are trapped in their homes or vehicles and six have been reported dead. (3)The government of Bosnia-Herzegovina declared a state of emergency Saturday. In parts of coastal Croatia, where snow is very rare, army units were deployed to rescue trapped citizens.

Russia's gas export monopoly Gazprom says that it has been unable to satisfy gas shortages in at least eight European nations, ranging from Italy to Poland.

Further south, Rome, the Italian capital, is suffering from the heaviest snow fall in decades. Authorities have been forced to close several tourist sites, including the Colosseum and the Roman Forum.

Hundreds of people were rescued Saturday from a ferry that got stuck off Italy's Civitavecchia port, a frightening experience as described by some passengers.

"We were transferred from the ship to another, in the cold of the night, we were freezing, they made us get off the ship in conditions of a clear emergency, over planks, with the sea on our left, with the snow and the ice, without life jackets because there weren't any, not even in the cabins, among other things. I'm speechless," said one passenger.

- (4) Authorities at London's Heathrow Airport, Europe's busiest, have announced a 30 percent decrease in flights as that city braces for as much as 15 centimeters of snow predicted to fall later on Saturday.
- (5) Electricity was cut off in many snow bound places across Europe. The Siberian cold front that has much of Europe in its grip is expected to ease next week. Bitter cold kills 101 people, disrupts normal life. Sub-zero weather may last through Feb. 14.
  - 2 days ago at 00:33 | Olga Rudenko

Task 1. Find in the text the English equivalents for the following Ukrainian words:

без рятувальних жилетів безпритульні військові підрозділи розміщені влада була вимушена закрити вони заблоковані градуси електрика відключалась жертви зігрівати ми замерзали надзвичайний стан надзвичайно низькі температури найбільш постраждала країна найбільший снігопад за декілька десятиріч нестача газу очікується, що холодний фронт послабшає паром, який застряг порушене повітряне та автомобільне сполучення постачання газу рятувальний загін страшний досвід сувора погода температурні показники

Task 2. Make up 5 questions to each sentence in bold (1), (2), (3), (4), (5):

- a) general question
- b) alternative question
- c) tag question
- d) special question
- e) subject question

February 04, 2012

Text 4.Sub-zero weather may last through Feb. 14



Heavy snowstorms, dumping 41 centimeters on Kyiv from Jan. 20 through Jan. 22, ushered in a cold wave of bitter sub-zero temperatures that is expected to last through Feb. 14. KostyantynChernichkin

A severe cold snap plunged temperatures to lows of minus 30 C this week, killing at least 101 people, closing schools, delaying flights and, in general, hobbling daily life.

Officials said 101 people had died across Ukraine as of Feb. 3, including people under the influence of alcohol who slept outside, others who froze in their own homes and at least one victim who fell into a river.

The start date of this dangerous period is Jan. 26, when the low dipped to minus 23 C. While the cold weather is expected to ease slightly after Feb. 4, forecasters warn that temperatures will not rise significantly until Feb. 14.

The Emergency Situations Ministry said on its website Friday that more than 1,200 other people have been hospitalized with hypothermia and frostbite as temperatures in some parts of the country sank to minus 32 Celsius (minus 26 Fahrenheit).

Besides closing schools and colleges, authorities have set up nearly 3,000 heating and food shelters across the country.

Health officials instructed hospitals to refrain from discharging homeless patients, even after treatment is finished, to save them from the cold.

Still, experts said the high death toll reflects the country's inability to deal with the homeless. The most common reason of death from hypothermia is injuries. A person falls down breaking his leg, finds no one around to help him and freezes to death,

- MykolaBlyznyuk, deputy head of Ministry of Health's Emergency Medical Center

"Most of those who died frozen are homeless people, but not everyone," says MykolaBlyznyuk, deputy head of Ministry of Health's Emergency Medical Center. "The most

common reason of death from hypothermia is injuries. A person falls down breaking his leg, finds no one around to help him and freezes to death."

Two villagers, a 44-year-old man from Cherkassy Oblast and a 51-year-old woman from Poltava Oblast, were found dead on the doorsteps of their houses. The man was said to be an alcoholic.

Kids skating on a river in the eastern town of Zaporizhia made the gruesome discovery of an arm poking through the ice on Jan. 29. Emergency service workers took several hours to cut out a 300-kilogram ice block with a man's body in it. The middle-aged man had been missing for 10 days, and could have had an epileptic attack following alcohol drinking, local officials said. The cause of death will be announced as soon as morgue workers defrost the body and perform an autopsy.

Doctors warn that alcohol is a dangerous companion on cold days and advise everyone to follow some simple steps to survive the cold weather. One of those is dressing multi-layered clothes.

"It's better not to stay outside for a long time, but take breaks every 10-15 minutes, going inside to get warm," said GeorgiyKozynets, Ukraine's chief hypothermia and burns specialist.

Almost 1,000 people were treated in hospital for hypothermia, frostbite or chilblains.

Kozynets warned that the main sign that a cold limb is seriously injured is when pain disappears. He said it is crucial to retain blood flow to limbs.

"You just grab something in your hand and hold it tightly for five minutes, and that is enough for your fingers to get chilblained," he said.

Blyznyuk from the Emergency Situations Ministry said hospitals are still far from full but have readied extra places in case of a flood of patients.

Government forecasters said temperatures would drop to lows of minus 33 C in some parts of Ukraine on Feb. 2, before rising slightly to around 13 C. The cold snap will only end around the middle of the month, they said.

Warming brings its own dangers, including falling icicles. Local media reported that a 21-year-old Australian tourist, Catherine Rogers, was taken to hospital on Jan. 24 after a large icicle dropped on her head on one of Kyiv's central streets. Icicles are supposed to be cleaned by buildings' owners, but they rarely are. Four people were injured by falling icicles in Kyiv last week.

Kyiv Post staff writer Olga Rudenko can be reached by <a href="mailto:rudenko@kyivpost.com">rudenko@kyivpost.com</a>.

# **Text 5.Climate change.**

## Global warming IS human made

Findings from a new study released Friday proves that global warming is caused by human activity, and not by natural environmental factors. Researchers at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography have found clear evidence of human-produced warming in the world's oceans that is likely to impact water resources in regions around the globe. This finding removes much of the uncertainty associated with debates about global warming.

Many world leaders have closed their ears to this fact so they don't have to limit their economic activity or introduce expensive pollution controls. This is one of the reasons America has not signed the Kyoto Treaty on climate change. The US government prefers to believe global warming is a natural phenomenon, caused by volcanoes and solar energy. Professor Tim Barnett said, "This is perhaps the most compelling evidence yet that global warming is happening right now and it shows that we can successfully simulate its past and likely future evolution."

Barnett says the results hold implications for millions of people in the near future. In the decades immediately ahead, the changes will be felt in regional water supplies, including areas impacted by accelerated glacier melting in the South American Andes and in western China, putting millions of people at risk without adequate summertime water. Perhaps now more countries will sign up to the Kyoto Protocol.

#### Task 1.TRUE / FALSE: Say whether the statements are true or false:

- 1. Global warming is caused by human activity, not natural environmental factors. T/F
- 2. Clear evidence of human-produced warming is in the world's rivers.
- 3. Global warming is not likely to impact water resources around the globe. T/F
- 4. Many world leaders have closed their ears to global warming.
- 5. The US government doesn't want to introduce expensive pollution controls. T/F
- 6. Global warming is a natural phenomenon, caused by volcanoes and solar energy. T / F
- 7. Scientists can successfully simulate the likely future evolution of global warming. T/F
- 8. Millions of people will be at risk of having inadequate water supplies.

## **Task 2.** Rank the following outcomes of global warming - most serious at the top.

- 1. Polar bears and penguins will disappear
- 2. Winters will be 10 degrees colder.
- 3. Malaria will travel north, affecting northern Europe, North America, and northern Asia.
- 4. Cockroaches will start moving to northern Europe, North America, and northern Asia.
- 5. Africa will become hotter and suffer more droughts.
- 6. Typhoons and hurricanes will become more powerful.
- 7. Skin cancers will increase.
- 8. Many countries will have no drinking water.
- 9. Countries such as the Maldives, Holland and Bangladesh will disappear under water.
- 10. Wars will start between countries fighting over water.

## **Task 3**. Answer the questions.

#### I.

- 1. What do you think of this article are you worried?
- 2. Are you pessimistic or optimistic about the future of our climate?
- 3. Do you prefer hot or cold countries?
- 4. What do you do to conserve energy?
- 5. Do you waste a lot of electricity?
- 6. Would you say you are very environmentally aware, or do you rarely think about the environment?
- 7. Do you idle the engine of your car?
- 8. What do you think of renewable energies, such as solar, wind or wave power?
- 9. Isn't nuclear power best for the environment?
- 10. Why doesn't US president George W. Bush sign the Kyoto Protocol?
- 11. How would your life change if water became ten times more expensive?
- 12. What would you do if your winters became 20 degrees colder and your summers 20 degrees hotter?
- 13. How can we save the Maldives, Holland and Bangladesh from disappearing under water?

#### II.

- 1) Do you worry about the environment?
- 2) What stories have you read or heard recently about the environment?
- 3) What are the biggest problems facing our environment?
- 4) What would you do to save our environment?
- 5) What danger does your country pose to the global environment?
- 6) Do you think the American government cares more about its economy or the environment?
- 7) Which countries are leaders in caring about the environment?
- 8) What do you know about the history of how our environment came to be under threat?
- 9) Would you give money to or actively campaign for environmental causes?
- 10) What do you think of environmental groups like Greenpeace?

#### III.

1. What is the quality of the environment in your country?

- 2. What kind of environmental policies does your country have/need?
- 3. How important is the natural environment to you in your daily life?
- 4. Are you environmentally friendly?
- 5. Do you think our environment is beyond repair?
- 6. Do you think international meetings on the environment are useful?
- 7. What do you think our grandkids will think of the way we treated the environment?
- 8. What is your image of an environmentalist?
- 9. If the environment could speak, what would it tell us?
- 10. What is our duty as custodians of the environment?

#### Task 4.Match the following questions to the answers (A - E)about climate change.

- 1. What is climate change?
- 2. What is the 'greenhouse effect?'
- 3. What is the evidence of global warming?
- 4. How will the weather change?
- 5. What is the international community doing?
- A. Sea levels have risen by 10 20 cm. This is due to the expansion ofwarming oceans. Temperature records show that the average temperaturehas increased by about  $0.6^{\circ}$ C in the 20th century.
- B. The Kyoto Protocol (1997) commits industrialised countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. It suffered a huge set back in 2001 when the USA, responsible for a quarter of global emissions, pulled out.
- C. The planet's climate is constantly changing but now scientists believe thatthe extreme changes taking place today are a result of human activity. Thechanges we see today may affect the stability of the climate on which muchlife on the planet depends.
- D. The term refers to the role played by the layer of gases, including carbondioxide, methane and nitrous oxide, which trap the heat from the sun in theearth's atmosphere. We need the layer to keep in some of the heat but nowthe concentration of gases, especially CO2 is increasing and retaining moreheat.
- E. It is difficult to predict, but we can expect more extreme weather conditions like floods, storms and heat waves. Scientists believe there will be more rainbut also a higher risk of drought in inland areas

#### **Study the following words:**

climatic zone annual temperatures
moderate precipitation
humid falling
mild accumulation
average temperature Mediterranean -type climate

#### Fill in the gaps using the words above:

on verifiable historical records.

1.	Transcarpathian	is characterized by very warm and moderate damp climate.
2.	A	climate is one near the median of the coldest and hottest climates

3.	The results of this ongoing study will lead to a much improved map of snow
	rates in Antarctica, which will help us determine if this ice sheet is
	gaining or losing mass.
4.	is also recognized as the Dry Summer Subtropical climate as the land
	borders nearby the region of Mediterranean Sea.
5.	is the name we give any moisture that falls from the air to the ground and
	includes snow, sleet, hail, and drizzle as well as rain.
6.	is about 9 °C; in the middle and east of the country temperatures tend to be
	somewhat more extreme than in other parts of the country.

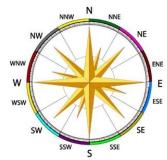
## **Answer the questions:**

- 1. What do you think is the average temperature in Ukraine?
- 2. What part of Ukraine might have Mediterranean-type climate?
- 3. What is the difference between humid and mild climate?
- 4. Do you remember from your Geography course, how many climactic zones Ukraine has?
- 5. What can you say about precipitation in your region?

# Pronounce the following words correctly:

west, east, north, south,

the Atlantic Ocean, the Carpathians, the Black Sea, the Crimea, the Mediterranean



## Study the following map. To see how well you know geography, show on the map:

The Crimea, Kyiv, the Carpathians, the Black Sea, the Dnieper River, the Sea of Azov, Russia, Poland, Odesa

# Use these structures:

\_\_\_\_\_is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Ukraine.

Ukraine borders \_\_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.

e.g.: The Dniester is in the west of Ukraine.

Poland borders Slovakia in the south.



### **Climate of Ukraine**

Ukraine lies in a temperate climatic zone influenced by moderately warm, humid air from the Atlantic Ocean. Winters in the west are considerably milder than those in the east. In summer, on the other hand, the east often experiences higher temperatures than the west. Average annual temperatures range from about 42-45 °F (5.5-7 °C) in the north to about 52-55 °F (11-13 °C) in the south. The average temperature in January, the coldest month, is about 26 °F (-3 °C) in the southwest and about 18 °F (-8 °C) in the northeast. The average in July, the hottest month, is about 73 °F (23 °C) in the southeast and about 64 °F (18 °C) in the northwest.

Precipitation is uneven, with two to three times as much falling in the warmer seasons as in the cold. Maximum precipitation generally occurs in June and July, while the minimum falls in February. Snow falls mainly in late November and early December; accumulation varies in depth from a few inches in the steppe region (in the south) to several feet in the Carpathians. Western Ukraine, notably the Carpathian Mountains area, receives the highest annual precipitation—more than 47 inches (1,200 mm). The lowlands along the Black Sea and in the Crimea, by contrast, receive less than 16 inches (400 mm) annually. The remaining areas of Ukraine receive 16 to 24 inches (400 to 600 mm) of precipitation.

In contrast to the rest of Ukraine, the southern shore of the Crimea has a warm, gentle, Mediterranean-type climate. Winters are mild and rainy, with little snow, and the average January temperature is 39  $^{\circ}$ F (4  $^{\circ}$ C). Summers are dry and hot, with an average July temperature of 75  $^{\circ}$ F (24  $^{\circ}$ C).

## **Answer the questions:**

- 1. What influences the climate of Ukraine?
- 2. How would you characterise summers in the east?
- 3. Is precipitation even in Ukraine?
- 4. Where is the highest snow accumulation?
- 5. What makes the southern coast of the Crimea different from other parts of the country?

#### Weather forecast.

## Friday's weather report (audio – www.esl.lab.com)

Well, for those of you who went out today, I don't have to tell you it was clear, but muggy for most of the state, with the high temperatures in the low to mid 90's. The city of Elkview had the high for the day of 97 degrees. And that's hot. I'm glad I'm working indoors today!

For those of you planning outdoor activities tomorrow, you can expect fair skies for most of Saturday with temperatures in the high 90's. However, things might change by Saturday evening with a storm front moving in. We can expect light scattered showers over the northern part of the state bringing slightly cooler temperatures in the 80's, but this rain should taper off by mid Sunday morning. It will be partly cloudy for most of the morning, but these clouds should move out by mid-afternoon.

Skies should be clear Sunday night for those wanting to catch a glimpse of the partial lunar eclipse. It should start at 10:47 pm. And that's all for today's weather.

What is the weather like in your hometown during different seasons of the year (temperatures, precipitation, humidity, etc.)? The Fahrenheit scale is used to calculate temperatures in the United States. Use the Internet to find out more about how to convert Fahrenheit to Celsius, and about the people who invented these scales.

HELPFUL TIP: Travelers often have a difficult time adjusting to the climate of a new area. Be sure to check weather forecasts before you go, and bring any needed personal supplies (e.g., lotion, hat, umbrella, etc.) for your personal comfort.

Choose the correct answer.

- 1. What was Friday's weather like?
- A. fair and humid
- B. warm and dry
- C. hot and partly cloudy
- 2. What were the high temperatures for Friday in the state?
- A. 85 to 90 degrees
- B. 91 to 95 degrees
- C. 96 to 99 degrees
- 3. What is Saturday evening's weather forecast for the state?
- A. light rain over the entire state
- B. heavy showers over the northern part
- C. some rain in parts of the state
- 4. About what time should skies clear on Sunday?
- A. around 10:00 AM
- B. around 3:00 PM
- C. around 6:00 PM
- 5. What event will occur on Sunday evening?
- A. The earth's shadow will cover the moon.
- B. Colorful lights will appear in the sky.
- C. Shooting stars will be visible.

#### **Translate:**

1. На вулиці дуже холодно і похмуро тому, що вчора був поривчастий вітер з дощем. І прогноз невтішний – така погода протримається до кінця місяця.

- Деякі люди намагаються втекти від сильної спеки до моря або річки. Дійсно, важко витримати температуру вище 30 градусів за Цельсієм.
- 2. А мене рятує кондиціонер. Я майже не виходжу з дому у період сильної спеки.
- 3. На заході зими не такі суворі як на сході, але і тут можна побачити снігопади та сильні хуртовини.
- 4. Ми називаємо атмосферними опадами будь-яку вологість, що падає з повітря на землю, яка може бути у формі снігу, мокрого снігу, граду, мряки або дощу.
- 5. Я сегодня слышал прогноз погоды по телевизору. Завтра похолодает и погода ухудшится. Пойдет мокрый снег, будут заносы на дорогах. Власти просят водителей не выезжать без необходимости на личных автомобилях и не создавать пробки на дорогах.
- 6. Сегодня 5 градусов ниже нуля. Сосульки блестят на солнце. Легкий ветерок поднимает снежинки в воздух. Не холодно. Это моя любимая погода зимой.
- 7. Я не советую выходить из дома без зонтика сегодня. Погода такая переменчивая в это врем года. Утром еще светит солнце, а вечером моросит или льет как из ведра. Если ты промочишь ноги, завтра проснешься с насморком. Не понимаю, как некоторым нравится такая погода.
- 8. По правде говоря, я не люблю раннюю весну. Солнце еще холодное, дует ветер, все тает, под ногами слякоть. А вот в мае погода прекрасная. Все вокруг зеленеет, тепло. Это время пикников и поездок за город. В мае я не могу думать про учебу и с трудом заставлю себя открыть учебник.
- 9. Вчора вранці я подивився у вікно. Небо було вкрито хмарами. Дощу не було, але земля була мокрою. Я знав прогноз погоди, тому здивувався, що день був такий похмурий.
- 10. Сьогодні чудова ясна погода. Чому б нам не піти до парку?
- 11. Бабине літо триває не довго, але так приємно прогулятися серед дерев з жовтим листям та відчути легкий вітерець, теплий і ніжний.
- 12. Тепла погода скоро зміниться на холоднечу, листопад принесе дощ та мряку. Дні стануть коротше, і багато людей відчують вплив поганої погоди на своє здоров'я. Ти занадто вже песимістична. Є прислів'я: «Немає поганої погоди, є поганий одяг».