

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

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Extreme weather, climate patterns, local scenery, and seasonal impacts

Activity 1: Weather and nature around you

Discuss these questions with a partner:

1. What is your favorite season of the year, and what do you enjoy doing during it?
2. Has the weather in your home city or region changed over the last ten years? How?
3. Have you ever experienced extreme weather (e.g., heatwaves, heavy storms, floods)?
4. How does the weather affect your daily mood, energy levels, or plans?
5. What natural scenery (mountains, beaches, forests, rivers) is near your town?
6. Do you prefer spending time outdoors in nature or staying indoors? Why?

Activity 2: Weather & climate vocabulary — Sentence upgrades

Improve each sentence by replacing the underlined phrase with a more precise term from the box.

heatwave • severe weather • climate • forecast • drought • natural surroundings • flood • humidity

1. "The **typical long-term weather pattern** in this area is mild and rainy."
   → The local _____ is mild and rainy.
2. "A long period with **extremely high temperatures for several days** caused energy blackouts."
   → A summer _____ caused energy blackouts.
3. "Farmers lost their crops because there was **no rainfall for six consecutive months**."
   → Farmers lost their crops due to a severe _____.
4. "I always check the **weather prediction report** on my phone before planning a hike."
   → I always check the weather _____ on my phone.
5. "Heavy rain caused the local river to overflow, leading to a huge **overflow of water in the streets**."
   → *Heavy rain caused a major _____ in the streets.*
6. "I love sitting on my balcony and enjoying the beautiful **trees, plants, and countryside around me**."
   → *I love enjoying the beautiful _____.*
7. "The airport canceled several flights due to **dangerous and extreme storm conditions**."
   → Flights were canceled due to _____.
8. "The high **amount of moisture in the hot air** makes it feel much warmer than it actually is."
   → The high _____ makes it feel much warmer.

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Activity 3: Cause and effect statements

Work with a partner. Connect the causes on the left with their effects on the right. Express cause and effect using phrases like *due to*, *leads to*, or *results in*.

Cause	Effect
1. Prolonged periods of drought...	A. ...leads to disruption in travel and power outages.
2. Rising global temperatures...	B. ...causes soil to dry out and increases wildfire risk.
3. Heavy, sudden rainfall in cities...	C. ...results in melting glaciers and higher sea levels.
4. Severe winter blizzards...	D. ...often leads to urban flooding due to poor drainage.

Discussion: Choose one cause-and-effect pair above and discuss how your local community prepares for such events.

Activity 4: Local environmental report

Imagine a travel writer is visiting your region. Complete the mini-profile below describing your local environment and weather patterns:

1. **Typical weather in summer:** _____
2. **Typical weather in winter:** _____
3. Best natural spot to visit locally: _____
4. An environmental challenge in my region: _____

Share your profile with a partner. Compare how your local weather and natural spots differ if you come from different places or neighborhoods.

REAL ENGLISH BOX

Useful expressions for talking about weather & climate:

- **Raining cats and dogs** — It was raining cats and dogs, so we stayed indoors.
- **To beat the heat** — We went to the air-conditioned mall to beat the heat.
- **Under the weather** — I'm feeling a bit under the weather today.
- **In the middle of nowhere** — The cabin was surrounded by forest, right in the middle of nowhere.
- **Come rain or shine** — I go for a daily morning walk, come rain or shine.
- **A breath of fresh air** — Spending the weekend in the mountains was a breath of fresh air.

Activity 5: Outdoor activity planning role-play

Work with a partner.

- **Student A:** You are planning a weekend camping trip or outdoor hike with Student B. However, the weather forecast predicts unexpected heavy rain and high wind.
- **Student B:** You hear the severe weather report and want to convince Student A to change the plan to an indoor activity or reschedule.

Discuss options, negotiate, and decide on a final plan using expressions from the ENGLISH BOX.

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Teacher's Key

Activity 2:

1. climate
2. heatwave
3. drought
4. forecast
5. flood
6. natural surroundings
7. severe weather
8. humidity

Activity 3:

1–B, 2–C, 3–D, 4–A.

Activities 1, 4 and 5:

Answers will vary.

Encourage students to practice cause-and-effect connectors (*due to, leads to, as a result*).

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