

Weather and environment

Hungary has a continental climate, and as a result, winters are usually cold, _____ (**wind**) and very humid with snowfall. The average temperature is 0 to -15 degrees Celsius. In spring the weather is really unpredictable and _____ (**change**), sometimes very warm and _____ (**sun**), sometimes cool and windy with a lot of rain. Summers are dry and hot, with a lot of sunshine. The average daytime temperature in the summer is 23-27 degrees Celsius, sometimes even _____ (**high**), 30 degrees Celsius or more. Autumns are usually cool, _____ (**fog**) and rainy, but there are some weeks at the beginning of autumn when the weather is very _____ (**please**), with a lot of sunshine and warm breezes. The average _____ (**year**) rainfall is approximately 600 millimetres. November is one of the _____ (**rain**) months.

My _____ (**favour**) season is spring. First of all, I was born in spring. Secondly, the cold and dark winter days are finally over and we have longer sunny days. I always become very happy when the first spring flowers start to blossom. The weather is not too cold, not too hot, it's just right. I think the weather in spring is _____ (**idea**) for hiking, walking or just sitting in the garden and I really like doing these things. This is why spring is the _____ (**good**) season for me!

There are several ways to get _____ (**inform**) about the weather: on TV, there's a weather forecast after every news programme or you can listen to the weather forecast every hour on the radio. You can also visit different websites to check the weather. I think it's _____ (**import**) to check the weather for the next day because you can plan what to wear or what kind of programmes to have. But quite often I just look out of the window and that's all.

I think weather patterns are changing. We are definitely losing our 4 distinct seasons. Winters are not so cold anymore, there is less snowfall, and in May we often have 23-27 degrees, which we used to have only in summer. They say the main reason is global _____ (**warm**) and climate change. The Earth is getting warmer and warmer. Because of global _____ (**warm**), the polar caps are _____ (**melt**) and the sea-level is _____ (**rise**). This is caused by an increase in the greenhouse effect. The greenhouse effect keeps the Earth warm enough for humans to live there. More greenhouse gases could make the Earth warmer than usual, which may cause problems for humans, animals and plants.

What can we do to protect the environment?

- use less energy: switch off the lights and the TV if you don't use them
- use less water: turn off the tap while brushing your teeth
- it is also a good idea to walk or ride a bike instead of taking the bus or driving a car
- if that's not possible, buy unleaded petrol for your car
- another thing we can do is to buy recycled or environmentally friendly products like energy-saving lightbulbs
- use alternative energy sources like solar power
- sort your rubbish, that is, collect separately plastic, paper and green waste (put them into different containers)

What can cities do to protect the environment?

- plant more trees and build new parks
- reduce air pollution by improving the public transport system
- they should also build new cycle lanes
- cars should also be banned from the city centre
- industries and factories which damage the environment should pay special taxes

