THE CHANGING WEATHER:



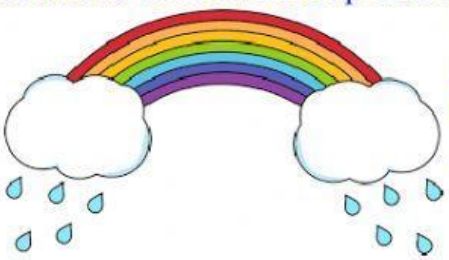
I remember once we went on a trip to Australia and we toured in the desert. The first morning we got up to clear skies though the temperature was a bit chilly and dry. Nevertheless the weather forecast predicted a storm. We could feel the no so mild breeze on our faces and we thought the weather man was going to be wrong in his predictions. Therefore we got on the van and set out towards the interior of the desert.



As the day went by the temperature increased and by noon it was more than boiling hot. There was not a shade where to hide and it was an unbearable scorching day. Then all of the sudden there the sky was overcast and it was pouring. It started to rain cats and dogs. There were loud thunders and bright lightnings. The nearby river flooded and we had to stop in the middle of the road. We were terribly scared. The severe heatwave and the drought that the desert had been suffering for so long came to and end in a few minutes. There was a sheer drop of temperature and with light clothes we felt freezing cold. It was a very unpleasant situation. We thought it would last the whole day, but we were wrong again in the next hour the sky started to clear up and the rain totally stopped.



We didn't want to venture farther in the desert though and we decided to go back to the nearest town where we didn't mind to feel the muggy sticky weather after all. Once there we started to think about our home back in Canada where we have many cold spells and blizzards in the winter up in the north. We learned that we can't take the weather for granted.



It's wild and we can't tame it. The only thing we can do is adapt ourselves to it rather than try to change it to our convenience. We must adapt our holidays and events to the weather.



Exercises:

Questions about the text:

1. How is the temperature in Australia?
2. How is the temperature in Canada?
3. Why is the Australian desert dangerous?
4. What do we have to bare in mind when we set off on holidays?
5. Can we change the weather?
6. Can we accurately predict the weather?
7. What is the difference between weather and climate?
8. Which place holds the best weather conditions for a holiday?

Find words with the same meaning as:

1. Domesticated
2. Adhesive
3. Warm
4. Raised
5. Obscurity
6. Oppresive
7. Clouded
8. Absolute

Find the opposite of:

1. Wet
2. Freezing
3. Low
4. Dull
5. Mild
6. Cold spell
7. Dark

Use the words to fill in the sentences:

Freezing, lightning, muggy, breeze, drought, flooded, sheer, tame, forecast, chilly.

1. She's keeping a .....tiger as a pet at home.
2. Lying on the beach is perfect to cool down on a ..... day.
3. I'd better put on a cardigan, it's a bit.....
4. There was a mild .....blowing gently.
5. Our house got .....during the storm.
6. The tower was struck by a .....
7. We couldn't go any farther. There was a ..... cliff in front of us.
8. They ..... more snow for tomorrow in the TV news.
9. It's absolutely .....outside. Put on a warm jacket.
10. A severe ..... ruined all his crops last year.

Complete the sentences using your own words:

1. There was a blizzard.....
2. Most of us take for granted .....
3. He don't venture outside .....
4. Did you hear the storm.....
5. In the desert there isn't.....
6. It was a scorching day.....
7. When the thunder strikes.....
8. It has been the worst drought.....
9. In the muggy afternoon,.....
10. The weather forecast predicted.....