

7 Weather

A

Weather conditions

Notice that it is very common to form adjectives by adding -y.

noun	adjective	noun	adjective	verb
fog	foggy	sun	sunny	the sun is shining
cloud	cloudy	wind	windy	the wind is blowing
the cold	cold	snow	snowy	it's snowing
ice	icy	rain	wet	it's raining

There are common word partners to describe weather conditions:

It was very cloudy this morning, but the **sun came out** after lunch. [appeared]

The accident happened in **thick fog** [bad fog].

We had some **heavy rain** at the weekend. [a lot of rain; *opp* **light rain**]

There was a **strong wind** when we were on the boat. [a lot of wind]

The **wind** has **blown** all the apples off the tree.

It rained in the morning, but the **sky** was **clear** by lunchtime. [no clouds]

It's been **extremely cold** today. [very; also **extremely hot/windy**]

B

Rain and storms

For heavy rain we often use the verb **pour**, e.g. **pour with rain**. For short periods of light or heavy rain, we use the noun **shower**. A **storm** is heavy rain with strong winds.

It **poured with rain** this afternoon.

Look, it's really **pouring (with rain)** now.

We had a couple of **heavy/light showers** this morning.

A period of hot weather sometimes ends with a **thunderstorm**.

First it becomes very **humid** [the air feels very warm and wet], then you hear **thunder** and see **lightning**, and it's followed by heavy rain.

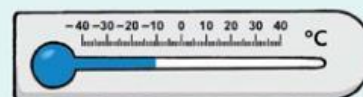


C

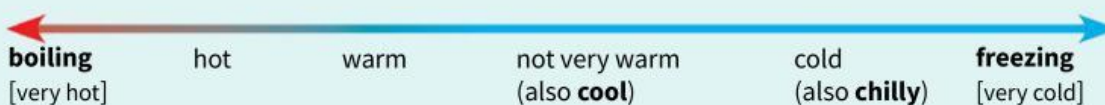
Temperature*



40 degrees Celsius



10 degrees below zero



* how hot or cold it is

Language help

Cool can either mean slightly cold in a negative way, e.g. *We've had a cool summer*; or slightly cold in a pleasant way, e.g. *The water in the pool was lovely and cool*.

Mild is often used in a positive way to describe weather that is not as cold as usual, e.g. *It's been a mild winter*.

Exercises

7.1 Match the words on the left with the words on the right.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 a sunny | ☒ | a with rain |
| 2 heavy | ☐ | b fog |
| 3 a strong | ☐ | c sky |
| 4 a clear | ☐ | d and lightning |
| 5 pour | ☐ | e day |
| 6 thick | ☐ | f rain |
| 7 thunder | ☐ | g wind |

7.2 Write short sentences to describe the weather conditions in each picture.



1 *It's foggy.*



3



5



2



4



6

7.3 True or false? If a sentence is false, change it to make it true.

- When it's foggy, you need sunglasses. *False. When it's foggy you can't see very well.*
- It's nice to sit outside when it's freezing.
- If you're boiling, you might enjoy a swim.
- A shower is a type of wind.
- If it's chilly, you may want to put on a coat.
- If it's humid, the air will be very dry.
- A mild winter means it is colder than usual.
- If it rains, the road will be wet.

7.4 Complete the sentences.

- We had really thick *fog* this morning.
- I don't mind wet weather if it stays quite mild. I just hate the
- We had a heavy this morning, but it only lasted a few minutes.
- It was with rain when we left the house.
- It was minus ten in New York yesterday. It is often below here in winter. It's cold!
- It's getting very humid. We might have a later.
- It was cloudy and grey this morning, but when the sun out it was quite hot.
- What's the today? It feels much colder than yesterday.
- It was hot sitting in the sun, but under the beach umbrella it was nice and

7.5 Over to you

Do you have these weather conditions in your country? When do you have them?

humid weather
thick fog

storms and thunderstorms
temperatures below zero

strong winds
showers