



TALKING ABOUT WEATHER

Situation: Ann and Mary talk while walking to their next class.

- If you want to talk about weather, here is a sample conversation. You can try it with your friends.
- Also go through the **weather idioms** and surprisingly, so many of them we use almost every day!

Ann: Oh, it feels so cold this morning.
Mary: It sure is. Early this morning my car's windshield was covered with frost. I had to spray it with water before I could head to school.
Ann: Who would have thought it could be this cold in early December, especially in California.
Mary: I know. The temperature was 35 degrees Fahrenheit when I woke up this morning. I was freezing as soon as I got out of bed. The cold weather just hit me by surprise.
Ann: I cannot remember when it was this cold in early December.
Mary: Brace yourself for the rain this afternoon. Cold and wet, Yuck!
Ann: It is going to rain this afternoon?
Mary: Not only this afternoon, but also the rest of the week.
Ann: Oh, it is going to be miserable. I have a full class schedule today and tomorrow. To walk from class to class, I will have to juggle my books and my umbrella trying not to get wet.
Mary: You carry too many books. Why don't you leave some of them in your locker?
Ann: My locker is a long way from my English classes. This is the reason why I carry all my books with me. Is it going to rain hard or just drizzle?
Mary: The news said that it would start to drizzle around noon, and then it would rain really hard by three o'clock.
Ann: No hope for better weather this week?
Mary: There is a slim chance of sunshine by Saturday. However, it will be foggy, windy, and rainy before the sun comes out this weekend.
Ann: I am glad that it rains even though I do not like rainy weather. We have a very dry season so far this year.
Mary: Yes, I can hardly remember when it rained last time. Well, as long as there is no thunder or lightning, I can bear it.

Ann: We rarely have thunder or lightning in California.
Mary: We are very lucky that California has one of the best weather conditions in America. When it is hot, it is not humid; when it rains, there is no thunder or lightning, and the cold weather during the winter season is quite mild compared to the weather of the other states.
Ann: Yes, we are lucky. However, sometimes when I look at the Christmas pictures, I just wish we had some snow. It looks so pretty when everything is covered by a blanket of pure white snow.
Mary: Living in southern California all my life, I have never seen snow. I would not mind playing in the snow once in a while.
Ann: Yes, it would be fun to make a snowman or go skiing.
Mary: We have never seen snow; we have never made a snowman, and we have never gone skiing. We better do something about this.
Ann: Maybe we should plan a trip to Aspen, Colorado during winter break. I heard that the skiing season is fantastic up there.
Mary: I don't think we can afford a trip to Aspen. It is very expensive up there.
Ann: I am just wishing. I know what I will be doing during winter break. I will be working very hard to save money for a new car.
Mary: With the cars that we drive, it is better that we live in a place where there is no snow.
Ann: You are right, we are better off with no snow. Ok, I have class right now; see you later in the library.
Mary: See you later.



Snow
Ice

Examples:
1. She is totally snowed under at work.
2. We're snowed under at work because two members of staff are on holiday.
break the ice - to break the ice is to do or say something that makes people feel less shy, nervous or embarrassed, and more relaxed, in a social setting.
put on ice - to put something on ice is delay or postpone it.
Examples:
1. We've put the project on ice until we have enough money to pay for it.
the tip of the iceberg - if something is the tip of the iceberg it is only a small, easily visible, part of a problem - there is much more to the problem than is immediately obvious.
Example:
I've tidied the kitchen but it's just the tip of the iceberg - the rest of the house is a mess.

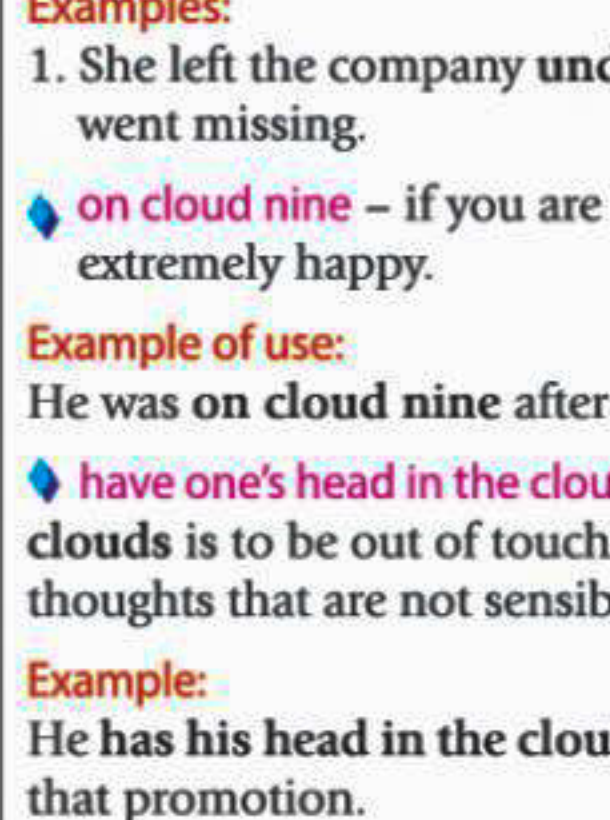


Sun

Example: News headline: New research is a ray of hope for cancer treatment.

Examples:
1. We played party games to help break the ice!
2. He broke the ice by telling a funny story about his dog.
put on ice - to put something on ice is delay or postpone it.
Examples:
1. We've put the project on ice until we have enough money to pay for it.
the tip of the iceberg - if something is the tip of the iceberg it is only a small, easily visible, part of a problem - there is much more to the problem than is immediately obvious.
Example:
I've tidied the kitchen but it's just the tip of the iceberg - the rest of the house is a mess.

Examples:
1. We played party games to help break the ice!
2. He broke the ice by telling a funny story about his dog.



Clouds

Examples:
1. She left the company under a cloud after some money went missing.
on cloud nine - if you are on cloud nine you are extremely happy.
Example of use:
He was on cloud nine after she agreed to marry him.
have one's head in the clouds - to have one's head in the clouds is to be out of touch with reality: to have ideas and thoughts that are not sensible or practical.
Example:
He has his head in the clouds if he thinks he's going to get that promotion.
every cloud has a silver lining - the proverb every cloud has a silver lining means that something good always comes from something bad, and there is always a reason to hope, even in the worst situations. People often use this expression to try and cheer up someone who is having a difficult time.
Example of use:
I lost my job last week, but every cloud has a silver lining and now I have time to visit my family in Australia!
a cloud on the horizon - a cloud on the horizon is a problem that is likely to happen in the future
Example:
The only cloud on the horizon is my English exam!



Fog

Examples:
1. I haven't the foggiest idea what you're talking about.
2. They haven't the foggiest idea what it's like to be poor.

Examples:
1. He had an operation on his back last month; but he's as right as rain now.
2. I don't feel well but I'm sure I'll be as right as rain for tomorrow's meeting.
3. She tucked her son up in bed and told him he'd feel as right as rain in the morning.
raining cats and dogs - if it is raining cats and dogs it is raining very heavily.
Example:
Don't forget your umbrella: it's raining cats and dogs!
come rain or shine - come rain or shine means whatever happens or whatever the weather.
Examples:
1. I'll be there for you, come rain or shine.
2. I take my dog for a walk every day, come rain or shine. (I take my dog for a walk every day, whatever the weather)
3. Come rain or shine I'm going to pass my English exam. (No matter what happens I'm going to pass my English exam)

Examples:
1. He sailed close to the wind with his jokes about his mother-in-law.
put the wind up someone - to put the wind up someone is to worry or frighten someone.
To get the wind up is to become worried or frightened.
UK and Australian informal English.
Examples:
1. Put the wind up him and tell him you'll take him to court if he doesn't pay you the money he owes you.
get wind of - to get wind of something is to find out about something, usually accidentally or from a confidential source.
Examples:
1. Residents got wind of plans for a new mobile phone mast in their street.
there's something in the wind - if there's something in the wind, it means one suspects that something important or significant is about to happen.
Example:
They've been having private meetings and secret phone calls all week. There's something in the wind.
windfall - a windfall is a sum of money that you win or receive from someone unexpectedly.
A windfall is also a fruit blown down from a tree by the wind.
Example:
Our football club received a £5000 windfall from a local business woman.
windbag - a windbag is someone who talks a lot but says nothing of any importance.
Example:
Your neighbour is a total windbag - doesn't he ever stop talking?!

Examples:
1. He sailed close to the wind with his jokes about his mother-in-law.
put the wind up someone - to put the wind up someone is to worry or frighten someone.
To get the wind up is to become worried or frightened.
UK and Australian informal English.
Examples:
1. Put the wind up him and tell him you'll take him to court if he doesn't pay you the money he owes you.
get wind of - to get wind of something is to find out about something, usually accidentally or from a confidential source.
Examples:
1. Residents got wind of plans for a new mobile phone mast in their street.
there's something in the wind - if there's something in the wind, it means one suspects that something important or significant is about to happen.
Example:
They've been having private meetings and secret phone calls all week. There's something in the wind.
windfall - a windfall is a sum of money that you win or receive from someone unexpectedly.
A windfall is also a fruit blown down from a tree by the wind.
Example:
Our football club received a £5000 windfall from a local business woman.
windbag - a windbag is someone who talks a lot but says nothing of any importance.
Example:
Your neighbour is a total windbag - doesn't he ever stop talking?!

Examples:
1. The father of the bride's speech was so long-winded I nearly fell asleep!
the calm before the storm - the calm before the storm is a quiet or peaceful period just before a period of great activity, excitement or arguments.
Example:
She sat down with a cup of tea before the children came home from school, and enjoyed the calm before the storm.
a storm in a teacup is a big fuss made about something of little importance.
Example:
They had a big argument yesterday, but it was just a storm in a teacup and everything is OK now.
have a face like thunder - to have a face like thunder is to look very angry.
Example:
My father had a face like thunder when he saw the broken window.
like greased lightning or like a streak of lightning - extremely fast.
Informal English.
Usain Bolt ran around the track like a streak of lightning. I've never seen anyone run so fast!

Examples:
1. The father of the bride's speech was so long-winded I nearly fell asleep!
the calm before the storm - the calm before the storm is a quiet or peaceful period just before a period of great activity, excitement or arguments.
Example:
She sat down with a cup of tea before the children came home from school, and enjoyed the calm before the storm.
a storm in a teacup is a big fuss made about something of little importance.
Example:
They had a big argument yesterday, but it was just a storm in a teacup and everything is OK now.
have a face like thunder - to have a face like thunder is to look very angry.
Example:
My father had a face like thunder when he saw the broken window.
like greased lightning or like a streak of lightning - extremely fast.
Informal English.
Usain Bolt ran around the track like a streak of lightning. I've never seen anyone run so fast!

Examples:
1. The father of the bride's speech was so long-winded I nearly fell asleep!
the calm before the storm - the calm before the storm is a quiet or peaceful period just before a period of great activity, excitement or arguments.
Example:
She sat down with a cup of tea before the children came home from school, and enjoyed the calm before the storm.
a storm in a teacup is a big fuss made about something of little importance.
Example:
They had a big argument yesterday, but it was just a storm in a teacup and everything is OK now.
have a face like thunder - to have a face like thunder is to look very angry.
Example:
My father had a face like thunder when he saw the broken window.
like greased lightning or like a streak of lightning - extremely fast.
Informal English.
Usain Bolt ran around the track like a streak of lightning. I've never seen anyone run so fast!

Examples:
1. The father of the bride's speech was so long-winded I nearly fell asleep!
the calm before the storm - the calm before the storm is a quiet or peaceful period just before a period of great activity, excitement or arguments.
Example:
She sat down with a cup of tea before the children came home from school, and enjoyed the calm before the storm.
a storm in a teacup is a big fuss made about something of little importance.
Example:
They had a big argument yesterday, but it was just a storm in a teacup and everything is OK now.
have a face like thunder - to have a face like thunder is to look very angry.
Example:
My father had a face like thunder when he saw the broken window.
like greased lightning or like a streak of lightning - extremely fast.
Informal English.
Usain Bolt ran around the track like a streak of lightning. I've never seen anyone run so fast!

Examples:
1. The father of the bride's speech was so long-winded I nearly fell asleep!
the calm before the storm - the calm before the storm is a quiet or peaceful period just before a period of great activity, excitement or arguments.
Example:
She sat down with a cup of tea before the children came home from school, and enjoyed the calm before the storm.
a storm in a teacup is a big fuss made about something of little importance.
Example:
They had a big argument yesterday, but it was just a storm in a teacup and everything is OK now.
have a face like thunder - to have a face like thunder is to look very angry.
Example:
My father had a face like thunder when he saw the broken window.
like greased lightning or like a streak of lightning - extremely fast.
Informal English.
Usain Bolt ran around the track like a streak of lightning. I've never seen anyone run so fast!

Examples:
1. The father of the bride's speech was so long-winded I nearly fell asleep!
the calm before the storm - the calm before the storm is a quiet or peaceful period just before a period of great activity, excitement or arguments.
Example:
She sat down with a cup of tea before the children came home from school, and enjoyed the calm before the storm.
a storm in a teacup is a big fuss made about something of little importance.
Example:
They had a big argument yesterday, but it was just a storm in a teacup and everything is OK now.
have a face like thunder - to have a face like thunder is to look very angry.
Example:
My father had a face like thunder when he saw the broken window.
like greased lightning or like a streak of lightning - extremely fast.
Informal English.
Usain Bolt ran around the track like a streak of lightning. I've never seen anyone run so fast!

Examples:
1. The father of the bride's speech was so long-winded I nearly fell asleep!
the calm before the storm - the calm before the storm is a quiet or peaceful period just before a period of great activity, excitement or arguments.
Example:
She sat down with a cup of tea before the children came home from school, and enjoyed the calm before the storm.
a storm in a teacup is a big fuss made about something of little importance.
Example:
They had a big argument yesterday, but it was just a storm in a teacup and everything is OK now.
have a face like thunder - to have a face like thunder is to look very angry.
Example:
My father had a face like thunder when he saw the broken window.
like greased lightning or like a streak of lightning - extremely fast.
Informal English.
Usain Bolt ran around the track like a streak of lightning. I've never seen anyone run so fast!

Did You Know These Weather Idioms ?



under the weather - to be or feel under the weather is to be or feel ill.
Examples:
1. Paul has gone to bed because he's feeling a bit under the weather.
2. I'm feeling under the weather - I think I've caught John's cold.
fair-weather friend - a fair-weather friend is someone who is your friend when things are going well for you, and who stops being your friend when you are having problems.
Example:
When I lost my job and my home he didn't want to see me: he was a fair-weather friend.

as right as rain - to feel as right as rain is to feel completely well again. This expression is often used as a reassurance.
Examples:
1. He had an operation on his back last month; but he's as right as rain now.
2. I don't feel well but I'm sure I'll be as right as rain for tomorrow's meeting.
3. She tucked her son up in bed and told him he'd feel as right as rain in the morning.
raining cats and dogs - if it is raining cats and dogs it is raining very heavily.
Example:
Don't forget your umbrella: it's raining cats and dogs!
come rain or shine - come rain or shine means whatever happens or whatever the weather.
Examples:
1. I'll be there for you, come rain or shine.
2. I take my dog for a walk every day, come rain or shine. (I take my dog for a walk every day, whatever the weather)
3. Come rain or shine I'm going to pass my English exam. (No matter what happens I'm going to pass my English exam)



Rain

Examples:
1. He had an operation on his back last month; but he's as right as rain now.
2. I don't feel well but I'm sure I'll be as right as rain for tomorrow's meeting.
3. She tucked her son up in bed and told him he'd feel as right as rain in the morning.
raining cats and dogs - if it is raining cats and dogs it is raining very heavily.
Example:
Don't forget your umbrella: it's raining cats and dogs!
come rain or shine - come rain or shine means whatever happens or whatever the weather.
Examples:
1. I'll be there for you, come rain or shine.
2. I take my dog for a walk every day, come rain or shine. (I take my dog for a walk every day, whatever the weather)
3. Come rain or shine I'm going to pass my English exam. (No matter what happens I'm going to pass my English exam)



bucket down (phrasal verb) - to bucket down is to rain very heavily.
Informal UK English.
Example:
It's bucketing down; don't forget your umbrella.
take a rain check (on something) - if you take a rain check on something you postpone it until another time.
Informal English.
Examples:
1. Can I take a rain check?
2. Can I take a rain check on our dinner date? I have to work late tonight.
save for a rainy day - to save for a rainy day is to save something (especially money) for a time in the future when it might be needed unexpectedly.
Examples:
1. I'm saving £50 a month for a rainy day.
2. News headline: Fewer people are saving for a rainy day.
it never rains but it pours - this proverb means that when one bad thing happens, other bad things will inevitably happen at the same time or quickly one after the other.
Example:
I've had a horrible week. First I locked myself out of my house, then my car broke down, and today I fell over on my way to work. It never rains but it pours!

Examples:
1. Can I take a rain check?
2. Can I take a rain check on our dinner date? I have to work late tonight.
save for a rainy day - to save for a rainy day is to save something (especially money) for a time in the future when it might be needed unexpectedly.
Examples:
1. I'm saving £50 a month for a rainy day.
2. News headline: Fewer people are saving for a rainy day.
it never rains but it pours - this proverb means that when one bad thing happens, other bad things will inevitably happen at the same time or quickly one after the other.
Example:
I've had a horrible week. First I locked myself out of my house, then my car broke down, and today I fell over on my way to work. It never rains but it pours!

Examples:
1. Can I take a rain check?
2. Can I take a rain check on our dinner date? I have to work late tonight.
save for a rainy day - to save for a rainy day is to save something (especially money) for a time in the future when it might be needed unexpectedly.
Examples:
1. I'm saving £50 a month for a rainy day.
2. News headline: Fewer people are saving for a rainy day.
it never rains but it pours - this proverb means that when one bad thing happens, other bad things will inevitably happen at the same time or quickly one after the other.
Example:
I've had a horrible week. First I locked myself out of my house, then my car broke down, and today I fell over on my way to work. It never rains but it pours!

Examples:
1. Can I take a rain check?
2. Can I take a rain check on our dinner date? I have to work late tonight.
save for a rainy day - to save for a rainy day is to save something (especially money) for a time in the future when it might be needed unexpectedly.
Examples:
1. I'm saving £50 a month for a rainy day.
2. News headline: Fewer people are saving for a rainy day.
it never rains but it pours - this proverb means that when one bad thing happens, other bad things will inevitably happen at the same time or quickly one after the other.
Example:
I've had a horrible week. First I locked myself out of my house, then my car broke down, and today I fell over on my way to work. It never rains but it pours!

Examples:
1. Can I take a rain check?
2. Can I take a rain check on our dinner date? I have to work late tonight.
save for a rainy day - to save for a rainy day is to save something (especially money) for a time in the future when it might be needed unexpectedly.
Examples:
1. I'm saving £50 a month for a rainy day.
2. News headline: Fewer people are saving for a rainy day.
it never rains but it pours - this proverb means that when one bad thing happens, other bad things will inevitably happen at the same time or quickly one after the other.
Example:
I've had a horrible week. First I locked myself out of my house, then my car broke down, and today I fell over on my way to work. It never rains but it pours!

No exercise. No KEYS.

ANSWER KEY TO THE LAST EIS PAGE ACTIVITIES (DATED NOVEMBER 7, 2016)
KEY 1 : 1 Hong Kong Museum of Art 2 Stanley Market 3 Victoria Peak 4 view the world's largest reef aquarium, walk amongst the sea jellies, and watch the dolphins and sea lions perform 5 Lantau Island
KEY 2 : 1c 2b 3c 4a 5a
KEY 3 : 1c 2b 3a 4b 5b
KEY 4 : 1beautiful 2heavy / healthily 3calm / softly
KEY 5 : 1his 2themselves 3your 4their 5ourselves
KEY 6 : 1. The first 7-Eleven started operating in Texas, USA in 1927. 2. 7-Eleven has been operating in Hong Kong for nearly 30 years. 3. 7-Eleven has been in Hong Kong since 1981. 4. There are more than 950 7-Eleven convenience stores in Hong Kong. 5. 7-Eleven has not yet got an outlet in France.
KEY 7 : 1received 2has happened 3went 4never had 5even learnt 6happened 7lost 8fell 9landed 10destroyed 11did not hurt 12have sent 13Have you got 14will start 15come
KEY 8 : 1will 2will 3will 4will 5will 6will 7shall 8will 9will 10will
KEY 9 : 1holiday 2airport 3Airport Express 4check-in-counter 5suitcase 6passport 7ticket 8boarding pass 9seat 10x-ray machine
KEY 10 : 1toaster 2opener 3blender 4theatre 5play-ground