

plus

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CLIMATE AND THE WEATHER

Floods, droughts, hurricanes and other effects of climate change have been much in the news lately. Even under normal conditions, however, hardly a day goes by when we don't talk about the weather.

1. EXTREME CONDITIONS

Match the nouns on the right to their definitions on the left.

- a) a long period of no rain
- b) a flash of light caused by electricity
- c) a loud noise you hear during a storm
- d) hard balls of ice that fall from the sky
- e) a period of unusually hot weather
- f) cloudy air that makes it difficult to see

- 1. heatwave
- 2. hail
- 3. fog
- 4. thunder
- 5. lightning
- 6. drought

2. SNOWED UNDER

Complete the weather idioms below using the words in the box.

cloud • frosty • mists • storm • sunny • wind

- a) The management's plans were greeted with a _____ of protest.
- b) We had planned a surprise party for Tony's birthday, but he got _____ of it.
- c) Jane's not a bad teacher. You shouldn't let your personal feelings _____ your judgement.
- d) Nobody knows why Stonehenge was built. Its origins are lost in the _____ of time.
- e) The architect's proposal for the new stadium met with a _____ reception.
- f) After a decade of recession, prospects are _____ again for the country's economy.

3. COME RAIN OR SHINE

Match the sentence halves to create five common weather sayings.

- a) It never rains
- b) Lightning never strikes twice
- c) Red sky at night
- d) One swallow
- e) Make hay

- 1. in the same place.
- 2. while the sun shines.
- 3. does not make a summer.
- 4. but it pours.
- 5. (is the) shepherd's delight.

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Wet and wild

4. STORMY WEATHER

A gentle breeze, or a disastrous hurricane? Reorder the letters to find some more words for wind conditions.

- a) A storm with strong winds and lots of snow is a **ZAZBLIRD**. _____
- b) A twisting mass of air that causes a lot of damage is a **RONTODA**. _____
- c) A very strong wind, often accompanied by rain, is a **LEAG**. _____
- d) A violent storm in the Pacific Ocean is a **PHOTONY**. _____

5. WHAT A SCORCHER!

We often use informal language to chat about the weather. Choose the suitable word in colour to respond to the following statements.

- a) It's sweltering! – Yes, it's **hot/chilly**, isn't it?
- b) Look! It's chucking it down! – My goodness! What a **downpour/shower**!
- c) Bit nippy today, isn't it? – Yes. It's much too **cold/mild** for May.
- d) It's horribly muggy outside. – Mmm, it **is** rather **humid/overcast**.
- e) Isn't it blowy? – Yes, a bit too **windy/foggy** for my taste.