Weather

Tutor Resources for the AMEP

Environment

Intermediate

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Theme:	Environment
Topic:	Weather

Task	Language focus	Learning activities	Resources
1. Can talk about the weather Can understand weather reports Can understand some common idioms	**Vocabulary** average, extreme conditions, lifestyle, economy, forecast, drought, floods, frost, patchy fog, gale force, isolated showers, light, moderate, precipitate, drizzle, snow flurries, idiom, context, depressed **Structure** Have you ever experienced ___?	Discuss questions about weather Answer questions about a weather forecast Locate words that describe the types of wind Locate words that describe the type of precipitation Discuss authentic weather map Match idioms to meanings Complete sentences with idioms	Worksheet 1: Talking about the weather Worksheet 2: Weather forecast An authentic weather map for your state (from a newspaper) An authentic weather map for Australia (from The Australian newspaper) Worksheet 3: Weather idioms

Theme:	**Environment**
Topic:	**Weather**

Weather report

Task 1:	Can talk about the weather
	Can understand weather reports
	Can understand some common idioms
Vocabulary:	average, extreme conditions, lifestyle, economy, forecast, drought, floods, frost, patchy fog, gale force, isolated showers, light, moderate, precipitate, drizzle, snow flurries, idiom, context, depressed
Language structure:	Have you ever experienced ___?

Preparation

Find a weather map from a newspaper for your state and one for Australia and bring to the session.

Activity instructions

Discuss questions about weather

- ☐ Worksheet 1: Talking about the weather
  Read the questions together and discuss.
  Encourage learner to look up the meanings of any unfamiliar words in their dictionary.

Answer questions about a weather forecast

- ☐ Worksheet 2: Weather forecast
- A. Learner reads the text.
  Encourage learner to underline any unfamiliar words and look up the meanings in their dictionary.

- B. Learner reads the questions and answers.
  Answers
  1 – Darwin, 2 – Hobart, 3 – Darwin, 4 – Canberra, 5 – Perth and Brisbane, 6 – Adelaide,
  7 – Melbourne

Locate words that describe the types of wind

- ☐ Worksheet 2: Weather forecast
- C. Learner reads the text again.
  Learner finds the words that describe the type of winds and orders them from weakest to strongest.
  Answers
  1 – breeze, 2 – light winds, 3 – moderate winds, 4 – gutsy winds, 5 – strong winds,
  6 – gale force winds

Locate words that describe the type of precipitation

- ☐ Worksheet 2: Weather forecast
- D. Learner reads the text again.
  Learner finds the words that describe the type of precipitation.
  Answers
  1 – drizzle, 2 – showers, 3 – rain, 4 – hail, 5 – snow flurries

Discuss authentic weather map
- An authentic weather map for your state (from a newspaper)
  Look at the map together and discuss.
  Ask questions: What's the weather like in ____ (Melbourne, Ballarat etc)?
  What's the temperature?

  Direct learner's attention to the weather symbols for the weather types.
  Learner identifies the weather symbols against each town.
  Learner reads the temperatures of the towns.

- An authentic weather map for Australia (from The Australian newspaper)
  Learner reads the weather symbols and temperatures of each capital city.
  Ask questions: Which city is the warmest?
  Which city is the coldest?
  Which city or area had the lowest overnight temperature?
  Which city or area had the highest overnight temperature?
  Ask learner to compare the weather for two places, e.g. Perth is warmer than Brisbane. Canberra and Hobart have the same temperature today.

  Look at the extended forecast.
  Ask questions: What will the weather be like in ____ (Canberra, Sydney etc) on ____ (Wednesday, Thursday etc)?
  Encourage learner to answer in a sentence or write the sentence and the learner can fill in the appropriate information, e.g. Tomorrow will be ____ in ____ (Adelaide, Sydney etc) with an expected top temperature of ____ degrees after an overnight low of ____ degrees.

Match idioms to meanings
- Worksheet 3: Weather idioms
- A. Learner reads the dialogues.
     Learner guesses the meanings of the idioms from reading in context.

- B. Learner reads the idioms and matches them with their meanings.
     Answers
     2 – h, 3 – a, 4 – l, 5 – n, 6 – m, 7 – j, 8 – c, 9 – b, 10 – d, 11 – f, 12 – g, 13 – k, 14 – i

Complete sentences with idioms
- Worksheet 3: Weather idioms
- C. Learner reads and completes the sentences with idioms from part B.
     Answers
     1 – under the weather, 2 – a face like thunder, 3 – a breeze, 4 – snowed under, 5 – a snowball's chance, 6 – on cloud nine, 7 – take a rain check, 8 –in the doldrums

Acknowledgement of image source

Worksheet 1: Talking about the weather

1. What's the weather like today?

2. What was the weather like yesterday?

3. What kind of weather do you like? Why?

4. What seasons do we have in Australia?
    What is the weather like for each season here?

5. What seasons do you have in your country?
    What is the weather like for each season there?

6. What is your favourite season?

7. In your country, are there any special traditions associated with the different seasons?

8. In summer, what's the average temperature in your country?

9. In winter, what's the average temperature?

10. What is the hottest temperature you have experienced?

11. What is the coldest temperature you have experienced?

12. Have you ever experienced flooding in your country? When and where?

13. Have you ever experienced drought? When and where?

14. Has Australia ever experienced flooding or drought? When and where?

15. In your country, do you get any extreme weather conditions?
    If so, describe these weather conditions.

16. How can extreme weather conditions affect the economy and social life in countries?

17. Do you think weather patterns are changing?

18. How does different weather affect you?

19. How does the weather affect your lifestyle?

20. Do you watch the weather forecasts on TV in Australia??

21. Is it so important to know the weather conditions in advance? Why?

22. Have you ever changed your plans after checking the weather report? When and what plans?

23. Did you watch or listen to the weather forecasts in your country? Why? Why not?

24. What do you think of your city's weather?

Worksheet 2: Weather forecast

In Canberra today, there will be frost and patchy fog early in the morning, becoming fine and sunny with light winds later in the day. The top temperature will be 15 degrees with an overnight low of minus three degrees.

Sydney will be sunny with light westerly winds. An expected top of 20 degrees after an overnight temperature of 7 degrees. Gale force winds are expected in the coastal areas north of Sydney. Dangerous surf conditions, hazardous for coastal activities such as swimming, surfing and rock fishing are expected in the early morning.

In Queensland today, there will be isolated showers along the east coast extending inland in the afternoon. In Brisbane possible showers with light to moderate southwest winds. The expected top is 24 degrees.

In Adelaide, it will be cold at first with frost patches then a fine, cool to mild and mostly sunny day. The expected top will be 19 degrees.

In Western Australia today, heavy rain is expected in the afternoon easing in the evening. Perth will have a shower or two in the early morning then becoming sunny and warm with a temperature of 24 degrees.

In Victoria, it will be mostly cloudy with drizzle patches near the coast. Melbourne will be cold with rain and hail at times and a maximum temperature of 14 degrees.

In Hobart, it will fine and partly cloudy. Winds will be gusty and there may be snow flurries in mountain regions later in the evening. The top temperature will be 9 with an overnight low of 2 degrees.

In Darwin, it will be sunny, dry and very warm. There will be a late afternoon sea breeze with winds becoming strong in the evening. The maximum for today is 31 degrees and an overnight temperature of 20 degrees.

1.   Which city has the highest expected temperature?   _____

2.   Which city has the lowest expected temperature?   _____

3.   Which city has the highest overnight temperature?   _____

4.   Which city has the lowest overnight temperature?   _____

5.   Which two cities have the same maximum temperature?

_____

6.   Which city has the better weather, Melbourne or Adelaide? _____

7.   Which city has the worst predicted weather? _____

8.   Which city has the best weather? Why? _____

_____

9.   Looking at the weather forecast where would you like to be? Why?

_____

_____

10.   Why is it not advisable to go rock fishing north of Sydney?

_____

C. Find the words in the text (part A) that describe the types of winds.
Write these words in order of wind strength starting at the weakest.

1.   breeze _____

2.   _____

3.   _____

4.   _____

5.   _____

6.   _____

D. Find the words in the text (part A) that are used to name the different types of
precipitation.

1.   _____

2.   _____

3.   _____

4.   _____

5.   _____

Worksheet 3: Weather idioms

1. **Ali:**   Hi Peter, are you going to Ella's party tonight?

    Peter: No, I can't make it. I'm **snowed under** with homework.

    Ali: Well, Lilly, are you going?

    Lilly: I don't think I will make it either. I'm feeling a bit **under the weather** at the moment, so I think I'll be in bed early.

    Ali: What about you Paulo?

    Paulo: Yeah, I'll be there **come rain or shine.**

2. **Anna:**   I'm going to wear this to Ella's party. It's new. What do you think?

    Lilly: Wow! You'll **steal her thunder** if you wear that dress!

3. **Ali:**   Did you study over the weekend?

    Bill: No, I didn't. I had to work, so I have **a snowball's chance** of passing the exam.

4. **Anne:**   What's the matter with Marco today? He's got **a face like thunder**. And he seems to be **in the doldrums.**

    Bill: Yeah, he's not happy. I think it's because he didn't pass his exam yesterday.

    Anne: Really? I thought the exam was **a breeze**.

5. **Anne:**   Now the exams are finished do you want to go to the movies tonight?

    Bill: Sorry, I'm really tired. Can I **take a rain check** on it?

    Anne: Well, what about you Ali?

    Ali: Sorry I can't. I don't want to spend the money. I'm saving it up for **a rainy day**.

6. **Peter:**   Hi Ella, how are you?

    Ella: I'm **on cloud nine.** I passed all my exams and my boyfriend loves me.

7. **Ella:** Hi Marco, how are you?

Marco: Well, I failed my exams, my boss let me go so I haven't got a job and the rent on my flat has gone up! **It never rains but it pours.**

Ella: Wow, you've **hit rough weather!** Never mind, you will **weather the storm.**

B. Match the idioms with their meanings.

Idiom	Meaning
1. snowed under	a. nothing will stop you
2. under the weather	b. postpone
3. come rain or shine	c. easy
4. steal her thunder	d. save money for the time when you need it
5. a snowball's chance	e. very busy
6. a face like thunder	f. extremely happy
7. in the doldrums	g. when things go wrong, they go very wrong
8. a breeze	h. sick
9. take a rain check	i. survive a difficult time
10. save for a rainy day	j. depressed
11. on cloud nine	k. experiencing difficulties or problems
12. it never rains but it pours	l. to do something that takes attention away from someone
13. hit rough weather	m. looks very angry
14. weather the storm	n. very little chance

C. Complete the sentences with idioms from part B.

1. I've been feeling _____ lately and have lost my appetite.

2. What's up with him today? He has _____.

3. She has musical talent so learning to play the piano is _____ for her.

4. I can't go to the footy today because I'm _____ with work.

5. My mum bought a ticket in the lottery. She thinks she is going to win but she has _____ of winning.

6. My mum is _____ because she won a small prize in the lottery.

7. I really don't want to go out for dinner tonight. Can we _____ on it?

8. Poor Mary. She has been _____ ever since her cat died.