

## FUMC ESL 9-20-2010 Talking About the Weather

Match these weather words with their definitions.

sleet	storm with lightning
chilly	balls of ice that fall like rain
flash flood	frozen rain
drizzle	loud noise made by lightning
electrical storm	pleasant weather
mild	a light wind
fog	very cool
hail	so hot it burns
breeze	sudden flooding
thunder	light rain
cold front	a period of temperatures much below freezing
scorching	clouds on the ground
hard freeze	ice crystals that appear on things left outside after a cold night
clear	no clouds
frost	a line of cold air moving in from the north

### Conversations:

Jo: How do you like the weather here in Austin?

Cal: I am not used to a hot climate. It is very cold where I am from. I can't get used to this heat.

Jo: It will cool off soon.

Cal: I hope so.

"I am used to" means accustomed to. If you are used to something, it is something that has become part of your life. Examples: I am used to going to bed early. I am used to hot weather so it doesn't bother me. Mother is used to cooking three meals a day.

Finish these sentences.

I am used to ...

I am not used to...

When I moved to Austin, I got used to...

When it "cools off" temperatures go down. EX: When the cold front arrives, it will cool off. Jump into the swimming pool and cool off. If you put this cold wrap on your neck, you will cool off fast.

What do you do to cool off during the hot Austin summer?

Alex: It's breezy today. My papers are blowing away.  
Avery: I like the breeze. It makes me cooler.  
Alex: We are supposed to have a cold front on Wednesday.  
Avery: Good. I am ready for some cool weather.

"supposed to" means it is predicted or planned. Examples: I was supposed to ride the bus home, but I missed it. My teacher is supposed to return our tests on Monday. This winter is supposed to be a mild one.

Finish these sentences.  
Yesterday, I was supposed to...  
I am not supposed to...

Blair: It looks like it's raining outside.  
Cam: It just drizzling. I think we can still walk to school if we take an umbrella.  
Blair: I don't mind walking in the drizzle, but I am scared to walk outside when it is lightning.  
Cam: We don't have to worry about lightning. The storm has passed through.

When Cam said the storm had "passed through", it means that it has come and gone. It has passed through your area. You can also say it passed on, but you have to be careful. If you say a person has passed on, it means they died.

Casey: What a thunderstorm! The lightning was beautiful. We got over 2 inches of rainfall.  
Carey: We had flash flooding in my area. All the creeks were swollen with rain. I stayed home until the storm passed through.  
Casey: I heard that some neighborhoods had hail.  
Carey: My mother said there was golf ball sized hail downtown.

Have you ever been in a hail storm?

When something swells, it gets bigger. The "creeks were swollen" means they were very full. Other examples: My ankle is swollen. When the bee bit me on the finger, my hand swelled. My elbow always swells after I play tennis.

## Weather idioms

It's pouring: It's raining  
It's raining cats and dogs: It's raining a lot  
come rain or shine - something you will do no matter what might prevent you  
calm before the storm: period of calm before a period of high activity  
dry spell: period without something (literally without rain) but people use it to mean a period without making much money  
fair weather friend: a person who is only your friend in good times  
under the weather: not feeling well  
weather a storm: survive a hard time

## Discussion Questions

Talk about weather in your country. How does it compare with weather here?  
Which is your favorite season: spring, summer, fall, winter  
What kind of weather disasters do you have in your country?  
Do you like hot weather or cold weather better.  
Do you have tornadoes where you are from?  
Does it snow where you are from?  
Is there a season when most people get married?  
Does weather affect the way you feel?  
Do you listen to daily weather forecasts?