
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute Vocabulary

Weather words



BBC
LEARNING
ENGLISH

NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript

Rob

Hello and welcome to 6 Minute Vocabulary. I'm Rob...

Catherine

And I'm Catherine. And our topic today is weather. Now Rob, apparently, British people love to talk about the weather. Do you think that's true?

Rob

Absolutely, you know me, I'm talking about it all the time. And in today's programme, we'll look at some key weather vocabulary and show you how to use it in different types of sentences.

Catherine

There'll be a quiz...

Rob

And we'll give you a top tip to help you learn vocabulary more effectively.

Catherine

So, on with the show! We'll start by listening to Harvey, talking about the weather where he lives. And we have a question for you at home.

Rob

The question is: what is the weather like for Harvey in spring?

INSERT

Harvey

I live in the north. I love it here, but the weather isn't too good. There's a lot of **rain** in the autumn and winter. In fact, **it's raining** right now. Sometimes it **snows** in the winter. In the spring the weather's usually quite **windy**. But it's lovely and **sunny** in summer.

STING

Rob

So, that's Harvey. And we asked you about the weather in spring. What's it like?

Catherine

Harvey said that the weather gets quite **windy** in spring.

Rob

Well done if you got that right. And we'll talk more about windy weather later. First, let's talk about the rain! Listen to this clip:

INSERT

There's a lot of **rain** in the autumn and winter.

Catherine

In this sentence, **rain** is a noun, so in a sentence, we can say **there is a lot of rain**, or we can add a main verb, for example: **I like rain**. Rob - how do you feel about rain?

Rob

I hate rain because I like to do a lot of cycling and when it rains I get wet. But the word **rain** can also be a verb. For example: **it rains a lot** here in London; in fact, look out the window: **it's raining now!**

Catherine

It's always raining in London! And can add a letter 'y' to the end of rain to make the adjective **rainy**. Rob, do you use an umbrella on **rainy** days?

Rob

No I don't, I wear a coat – more practical.

Catherine

More 'blokey'!

Rob

More 'blokey', yes. So that's the noun – rain; the verb – rain; and the adjective – rainy. The word **snow** works in the same way. Listen to this another clip.

INSERT

Sometimes it **snows** in the winter.

Catherine

Sometimes it snows in winter. The word **snow** there is a verb.

Rob

As a noun, we can say: **sometimes there is snow**.

Catherine

Or we can add the letter 'y' to make an adjective. **Sometimes it's snowy.**

Rob

Good. Now for another clip. Here's Harvey talking about the weather in Spring.

INSERT

In the spring the weather's usually quite **windy**.

Catherine

In the spring the weather's usually quite **windy**. In this sentence, **windy** is an adjective.

Rob

We can also use the word **wind** as a noun. **Is there much wind today** Catherine?

Catherine

There's quite a lot actually, I got quite blown around. So that's **wind** as a noun and **windy** as an adjective, but we can't use **wind** as a verb. You have to use a different verb like **blow**. The wind is blowing very hard today...

Rob

Right. And the word **sun** is the same. It's a noun:

Catherine

The sun is hot...

Rob

It can make an adjective:

Catherine

It's lovely and sunny...

Rob

But it isn't a verb. You need a different word for that.

Catherine

The sun is shining, even though it isn't!

IDENT

6 Minute Vocabulary from BBC Learning English.

Rob

And we're looking at weather words. Ok, it's quiz time! Are these sentences correct or wrong? Number one. **It's sunning today.**

Catherine

That's wrong. You can't say **it's sunning**, because sun isn't a verb. Instead, say **it's sunny** or **the sun is shining**.

Rob

Number two. **There was a lot of snow last week.**

Catherine

And that's correct.

Rob

Here comes the last one. **I don't like windy.**

Catherine

And that's also wrong. **Windy** is an adjective, so we need to add a noun here. Say: **I don't like windy weather.** Or, use **wind** as a noun and say: **I don't like wind.**

Rob

And that's the end of the quiz. Well done if you got those right. And we've just got time for a top tip for learning vocabulary.

Catherine

We have Rob, and this is it: when you learn a new word for the first time, you'll learn it more effectively if you use it a few times in the first 24 hours. So, if you learn a new word in the morning Rob, look it up again in the evening before you go to sleep.

Rob

I'll do that. Thank you! There's more about this at bbclearningenglish.com. Join us again soon for more 6 Minute Vocabulary.

Both

Bye!

Vocabulary points to take away:

noun	verb	adjective
rain There is a lot of rain .	rain It rains a lot.	rainy It's very rainy .
snow There is a bit of snow .	snow It snows in winter.	snowy It's a bit snowy .
wind I don't like wind .	blow The wind blew the trees over.	windy It's always windy .
sun The sun is hot today.	shine I wear sunglasses when the sun shines .	sunny It's sunny today.