

UNIT ONE

Weather and Climate



LISTENING



READING



SPEAKING



WRITING



LISTENING

A You will hear five short conversations twice. For each question, choose the best from the choices marked A, B or C.

1. How's the weather today?

A. Cold.

B. Mild.

C. Snowy.

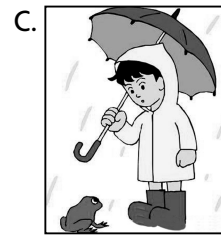
2. What's the weather like in the man's country?

A. Colder.

B. Just as cold.

C. Warmer.

3. What's the weather like this day?



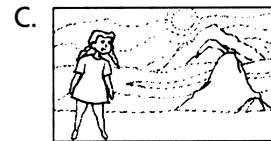
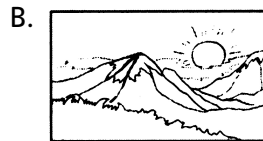
4. How's the weather today in Tokyo?

A. Windy.

B. Cold.

C. Sunny.

5. What's the weather forecast for tomorrow morning?



B You will hear a passage. It will be read twice. Listen carefully and choose the right answer to complete each sentence.

1. There will be snow with strong winds in _____.

A. the east

B. London

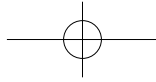
C. the north of Scotland

2. It will be cold in the morning and then it will get warmer in _____.

A. the east

B. the west

C. the north of Scotland



3. The day will start fine both in the South and in the East. In which part will get rainy and cooler?

- A. In the south.
- B. In the east.
- C. Neither.

4. In Wales, it will be _____ in the morning.

- A. rainy
- B. sunny
- C. foggy

5. In London, the weather will be _____.

- A. fine and warm
- B. windy
- C. rainy

C You will hear five sentences which will be read three times. Listen, repeat and write down what you hear.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.
4. _____.
5. _____.

D Listen to the dialogue twice and supply the missing words.

Woman: Where do you come from?

Man: I come from England.

Woman: What's the _____ like in your country?

Man: It's generally rather _____.

Woman: _____ the weather like in spring?

Man: It's often _____ in March, and always _____ in April and May, but _____ sometimes.

Woman: What's it like in summer?

Man: It's _____ in June, July and August.

Woman: Is it cold or warm in autumn?

Man: It's always warm in _____ and it's often _____ in November. It rains sometimes.

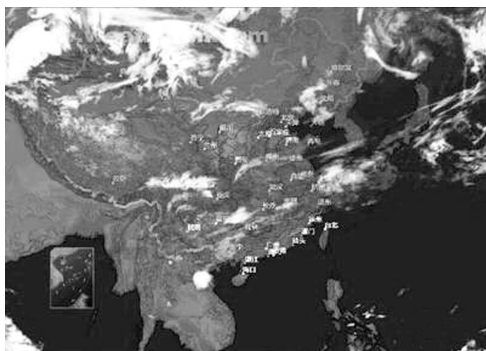
Woman: Is it very cold in winter?

Man: It's often cold in December, _____. It snows sometimes.



READING

Using Weather Information

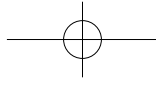


We all use weather information of one kind or another, **mostly** to make decisions. It might be a simple decision to take a raincoat when going to school or to **delay** the start of a football match, or it might be a more important one to **divert** an **airliner** to a fog-free airport. Millions of decisions like these are made every day, and to help decision

makers the weatherman can provide information about the past or the future. For the past they have **compiled** a great **mass** of **statistical** and **climatological data** on which they can draw to answer all sorts of **inquiries**; for the future they prepare forecasts.

Below are just a few of the activities for which **specialized** weather services are provided. Nowadays most **aircraft** fly high, well above the clouds and weather, but their **crews** are still **vitaly** interested in landing conditions at their **destination**, i.e. the cloud base and **visibility** there. If bad weather is expected the forecaster must be able to suggest another airport within the range of the aircraft where the weather will be suitable for landing.

Ships, whether large or small, are often at the **mercy** of the winds and the waves. The large ones can usually ride out the biggest storms, but smaller ones may have to take **avoiding** action to prevent loss or damage. The weather services help by warning the coming strong winds and by **predicting** their movement.



Many long-range **lorry** operators plan their journeys on the basis of special weather forecast; and things such as the degree of **refrigeration** required for **perishable** goods during transportation can be **determined** from temperature forecasts.

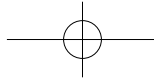
Trains can be held up by frozen points, the **icing** of electric **conductor** rails and fog, so warnings are provided by weatherman in time for **precautionary measures** to be taken.

Farmers have always had a particular interest in the weather because it affects their work and the products of their work at all **stages**. They like just the right amount of sunshine, all coming at the right time. Perfect weather is not normally provided and the farmer has to make the best of what he gets, so to plan his operations he **relies** on the weatherman.

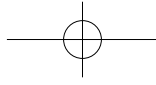


New Words and Expressions

mostly /'mɔ:stli/ <i>adv.</i>	for the greatest part, mainly 大部分, 主要地; generally, usually 普遍地, 通常地
delay /dɪ'leɪ/ <i>v.</i>	to act or move slowly; put off an action or a decision 延期, 延缓, 推迟 (行动或决定)
<i>n.</i>	the act of delaying; postponement 拖延, 延期
divert /daɪ'vɜ:t/ <i>v.</i>	to turn aside from a course or direction (使) 转向
airliner /'eəlaɪnə(r)/ <i>n.</i>	an airplane operated by an airline for carrying passengers 客机, 班机
compile /kəm'paɪl/ <i>vt.</i>	to gather into a single book 编辑, 汇编成一本书
mass /mæs/ <i>n.</i>	a unified body of matter with no specific shape 团, 块, 堆 a grouping of individual parts or elements that compose a unified body 集合
statistical /stə'tɪstɪkəl/ <i>adj.</i>	relating to the science of using numbers to present facts 统计的, 与统计学有关的



climatological /klaɪmətə'lɒdʒɪkəl/ <i>adj.</i>	relating to the scientific study of climate 与气候学有关的
datum /'deɪtəm/ <i>n.</i> (<i>pl.</i> data /'deɪtə/)	a fact used to draw a conclusion or make a decision 数据, 资料
inquire /ɪn'kwaɪə(r)/ <i>v.</i>	to seek information by asking a question 打听, 问
specialize /'speʃəlaɪz/ <i>v.</i>	to pursue a special activity, occupation, or field of study 专门研究, 在某一特殊活动、职业或研究领域内探索
aircraft /'eəkrɑ:ft/ <i>n.</i> (<i>pl.</i> aircraft)	any vehicle that can fly and carry goods or passengers 飞机, 航空器
crew /kru:/ <i>n.</i>	all the people who are working on a ship, plane, etc. (轮船, 飞机等上面的) 全体工作人员 (不包括乘客)
vitality /'vaɪtəli/ <i>adv.</i>	in an extremely important way 极其, 绝对
destination /,destɪ'neɪʃən/ <i>n.</i>	the place where somebody or something is going 目的地
visibility /,vɪzɪ'bɪlɪti/ <i>n.</i>	how far or well you can see 能见度
mercy /'mɜ:sɪ/ <i>n.</i>	a kind or forgiving attitude towards somebody 仁慈, 宽恕, 怜悯
avoid /ə'vɔɪd/ <i>vt.</i>	to choose not to do something 避免, 消除
predict /prɪ'dɪkt/ <i>v.</i>	to tell about, or make known in advance 预测, 预告
lorry /'lɒri/ <i>n.</i>	a motor truck 卡车, 货车
refrigeration /rɪ'frɪdʒə'reɪʃən/ <i>n.</i>	making food, etc. cold in order to keep it fresh 冷藏
perishable /'perɪʃəbəl/ <i>adj.</i>	being likely to decay or go bad quickly 容易腐烂的
determine /dɪ'tɜ:mɪn/ <i>vt.</i>	to discover the facts about something; calculate something exactly 查明; 测定, 确定
icing /'aɪsɪŋ/ <i>n.</i>	frost 霜冻, 结冰
conductor /kən'dʌktə(r)/ <i>n.</i>	a substance or medium that conducts heat, light, sound, or especially an electric charge 导体
precautionary /prɪ'kɔ:ʃənəri/ <i>adj.</i>	done or used for protection against possible harm or trouble 预防的
measure /'meʒə(r)/ <i>n.</i>	action; step 措施
stage /steɪdʒ/ <i>n.</i>	a point in the course of an action or series of events 阶段



rely /rɪ'laɪ/ v.	to be dependent for support, help, or supply 依赖, 信赖
draw on	to make use of a supply 利用, 靠, 凭
be suitable for	be right for a particular purpose 适于, 适用于
at the mercy of	in a situation controlled by somebody or something with the power to harm you 任……处置; 对……无能为力
ride out	to overcome a difficult or dangerous period or situation without any serious problem 度过难关
hold up	to delay or block the movement or progress of somebody/something 延迟, 阻碍
take measures	to take actions to achieve or deal with something 采取措施
rely on	to depend on; trust 依靠; 信赖
make the best of	to accept the bad or difficult situation and try to deal with it as well as you can 尽力而为

Notes

1. a fog-free airport 无雾机场

fog-free 是一个复合形容词, 其中 free 表示“无……的”, “免除……的”。

例如: an ice-free harbour 不冻港

a nuclear-weapon-free zone 无核武器区

an interest-free loan 无息贷款

tax-free 免税的



2. For the past they have compiled a great mass of statistical and climatological data on which they can draw to answer all sorts of inquiries.

他们已经汇编了大量的统计数字和气候学资料, 以便回答有关过去的气象信息的询问。

其中, draw on 的意思是“利用”, “靠”, “凭借”。

on which they can draw to answer all sorts of inquiries 为 data 的定语从句。

如果 which 在定语从句中作介词的宾语, 那么这个介词可以提到从句前, 构成介词 +

which(whom) 引出的定语从句。又如课文中的下一句:

Below are just a few of the activities for which specialized weather services are provided. 以下只是一些需要为之提供特殊气象服务的例子。

从句 for which specialized weather services are provided 作 activities 的定语。又如:
Ocean currents affect the climates of the lands near which they flow. 海流影响其附近陆地的气候。

The girl to whom you spoke is my sister. 跟你说话的那个女孩是我妹妹。

这种句子中的关系代词有时也可省略。关系代词省略之后, 介词应放在定语从句的句尾。

口语中这种句型很常用。如:

The girl you spoke to is my sister. 跟你说话的那个女孩是我妹妹。

3. Ships, whether large or small, are often at the mercy of the winds and the waves.

船只无论大小, 其命运常受风浪摆布。

at the mercy of 任……处置; 对……无能为力

例如: The day will certainly come when peasants will no longer be at the mercy of the weather for good harvest. 农民不再靠天吃饭, 这一天肯定会来到。

4. The large ones can usually ride out the biggest storms, ...

大船通常能安然渡过大风暴, ……

ride out 渡过难关; 经受住

例如: We hope to ride out this recession better than last time. 我们希望这一次能更顺利地渡过经济衰退期。

5. Things such as the degree of refrigeration required for perishable goods during transportation can be determined from temperature forecasts.

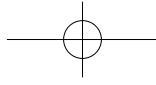
类似运输易腐食品所需的冷藏温度问题也可以根据气温预报来确定。

6. Trains can be held up by frozen points, the icing of electric conductor rails and fog, ...

结冰的道岔、导电轨上的冰冻以及雾都会使火车停驶, ……

points 在此处指铁轨上的“道岔”。用于此义时常用复数。

electric conductor rail 导电轨, 接触轨(与路轨平行的轨道, 可供机车导入电流)



Exercises

I. According to the text, are the following sentences Right or Wrong? If there is not enough information to decide, choose “Doesn’t say”.

1. Weathermen’s job is to prepare information about the future and make a broadcast.
A. Right. B. Wrong. C. Doesn’t say.
2. Crews on an aircraft have a particular interest in landing conditions at their destination.
A. Right. B. Wrong. C. Doesn’t say.
3. Ships, whether large or small, can’t ride out the biggest storms on the ocean.
A. Right. B. Wrong. C. Doesn’t say.
4. Trains can be held up by unexpected events as well as bad weather.
A. Right. B. Wrong. C. Doesn’t say.
5. Weathermen usually instruct farmers how to plan their operations at all stages.
A. Right. B. Wrong. C. Doesn’t say.

II. Choose the best ending from the box below to complete each of the sentences.

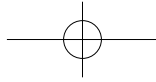
- A. to divert an airliner to a fog-free airport
- B. to prevent loss or damage
- C. on the basis of special weather forecast
- D. to answer all sorts of inquiries
- E. have to make the best of what they gets
- F. land in another airport where the weather will be suitable
- G. to make decisions
- H. have to plan the operations

1. The weathermen compile information about the past on which they can draw _____.
2. If bad weather is expected, an aircraft may _____.
3. Before the storm is coming, smaller ships may take precautionary measures _____.
4. Many long-range operators plan their journey _____.
5. Farmers can't expect perfect weather and _____.

III. Fill in the blanks with the words or expressions given below. Change the form where necessary.

specialize mostly prevent...from divert delay
 statistical rely on at the mercy of mass datum

1. The audience consisted _____ of women.
2. The letter was _____ three days by the train accident.
3. Nothing would _____ him _____ speaking out against injustice.
4. The government is planning to _____ the river to supply water to the town.
5. The latest product is aimed at the _____ market.
6. The difference between the two samples was not _____ significant.
7. These _____ show that most cancers are detected as a result of clinical follow-up.
8. After she qualified as a lawyer, she decided to _____ in contract law.
9. The museum _____ voluntary donations (捐贈) to keep open.
10. I'm not going to put myself _____ the bank.

**IV. Match each word in Column A with a similar meaning in Column B.**

A	B
1. crew	a. to ask someone for information
2. stage	b. to be dependent for support, help, or supply
3. divert	c. be likely to decay or go bad quickly
4. perishable	d. all the people who are working on a ship, plane, etc.
5. enquire	e. period or step in development
6. rely	f. to postpone until a later time
7. prevent	g. a fact used to draw a conclusion or make a decision
8. mercy	h. to turn aside from a course or direction
9. datum	i. a kind or forgiving attitude towards somebody
10. delay	j. to keep from happening

V. Fill in the blanks with the proper form of the words given in the brackets.

1. He delayed (tell) _____ her news, waiting for the right moment.
2. Traffic was ordered (divert) _____ to another road because of the repair of the main road.
3. We are (compile) _____ an English dictionary for students.
4. Don't give me any more. I've eaten (mass) _____.
5. According to official (statistic) _____ the disease killed over 500 people.
6. His (special) _____ is biology, mine is physiology.
7. He was taken to hospital for a (precaution) _____ examination.
8. We are looking for someone who is (rely) _____ and hardworking.
9. Education is (vital) _____ important for the country's future.
10. The advertisements were to increase the company's (visible) _____ in the marketplace.

VI. Translate the following sentences into Chinese.

1. Weather and climate have a profound influence on life on the earth. The weather is the fluctuating state of the atmosphere around us. The climate is the “average weather”.
2. The ocean acts as a heat sink to delay climate change.
3. The atmosphere, land observations and data from below the surface of the oceans have all shown the warming trend on the earth.
4. Human activities, through the generation and release of greenhouse gases, have been a significant contributory factor in the global temperature rise.
5. Understanding what aspects of the weather and climate will change most rapidly is important.

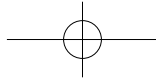
VII. Cloze.

To control weather over large areas of the world would seem, at this time, to be impossible.

However, man has been highly successful in _____ 1 _____ attempts (尝试) to modify (调节) the weather on a very small scale (规模). He has developed microclimates inside and outside homes and offices.

Micro _____ 2 _____ small, and microclimate refers to the climate conditions over a small area. There are many things _____ 3 _____ might _____ 4 _____ the climate in a small area to be different from the general climate of the region (地区) in which it _____ 5 _____.

For example, within cities there might be smaller areas where the climate is different. The microclimate in the yard (院子) of one house may be _____ 6 _____ different from the one in the yard across the street. It is _____ 7 _____ of trees and their position in a yard that _____ 8 _____ the microclimate. One could _____ 9 _____ name many other things that would change the microclimate of a yard.



Heaters and air-conditioners now in houses and automobiles are good examples of the methods man uses to control microclimates. A completely air-conditioned house is one 10 the microclimate can be controlled to bring man comfort.

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. A. its | B. his | C. their |
| 2. A. refers | B. calls | C. means |
| 3. A. that | B. whose | C. where |
| 4. A. make | B. let | C. cause |
| 5. A. is located | B. locates | C. is there |
| 6. A. quiet | B. quite | C. much |
| 7. A. the amount | B. the number | C. numbers |
| 8. A. afford | B. effect | C. affect |
| 9. A. possible | B. likely | C. probably |
| 10. A. in where | B. in that | C. in which |

VIII. Reading comprehension.

What is the name of the science that deals with the study of weather? It's meteorology (气象学). Therefore, a person whose job is to think and talk about what is going on high in the air is a meteorologist. We usually call him a weatherman.

Meteorologists study the movement of air over our country and around the world. They can't be expected always to know what goes on outside your window. Your local area may have special reasons for being hotter, colder, wetter or drier





a great deal of actual truth.

Take, for example, this rhyme (民谣) that you may have heard:

Rainbow at night,
 Traveler's delight;
 Rainbow in the morning,
 Travelers take warning.

Why is there truth in this rhyme?

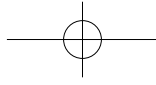
In the Temperate Zone (温带), the winds usually blow from west to east. So rain clouds are blown from west to east. What causes a rainbow in the east when the sun is setting in the west? The sunlight is reflected by moisture in the air.

The rainbow shows that the rain clouds have moved away from you—to the east. They should continue to move in that direction. If rain has been falling, it is all over for that day. On the other hand, as the sun rises in the east it can cause a rainbow only by lighting up water droplets (小水滴) in the western sky. This means that the rain clouds are probably moving in your direction. You can expect that rain will soon come.

Long ago, sailors and farmers knew nothing about refraction (折射). But they used their eyes and felt things in their bones (凭直觉). If you, too, lift up your eyes to look at what's happening overhead, you may be able to add a few observations of your own. You aren't likely to become a famous weather prophet (预言家). But you will grow in awareness of the world around you.

than the daily weather forecast promises.

Meteorologists tell us that almost anyone who observes the weather carefully can at times make accurate forecasts. They admit (承认) also that many old folk sayings have truth in them,



Choose the best answer.

1. From the text, we know that meteorologists make weather forecast by _____.
 - A. studying the world map
 - B. collecting a lot of folk sayings
 - C. studying rainbows
 - D. studying air movements
2. We can infer from the text that many old folk sayings about weather are remarkably accurate because they are based on _____.
 - A. careful and accurate observations
 - B. scientific data
 - C. the wisdom of some prophets
 - D. historic facts
3. The rhyme is mentioned in the text to _____.
 - A. explain how rainbows are formed
 - B. explain what refraction is
 - C. explain what rainbows are
 - D. show that some old folk sayings about weather contain some truth
4. According to the text, in the Temperate Zone, winds usually move from _____.
 - A. east to west
 - B. west to east
 - C. south to north
 - D. north to east
5. From the text, a rainbow may be only _____.
 - A. sunlight
 - B. droplets
 - C. the effect of light shining on raindrops
 - D. moisture in the air





SPEAKING

1. Useful sentence patterns

- 1) My family is going to a picnic. I wonder what the weather will be like.
- 2) I heard the weather forecast over the radio. It will begin fine and dry, though with clouds increasing during the afternoon.
- 3) When the western sky is especially clear, there is often a red sunset. As the saying goes: "Red sky at night, sailor's delight."
- 4) It's going to be another cool day.
- 5) What is the weather like in your hometown?
- 6) What will the weather be like tomorrow?
- 7) Do you like this kind of weather?
- 8) It's really warm. And it's supposed to get warmer.
- 9) I'm always a little sorry to see winter go.
- 10) The temperature will rise to 25 degrees by midday and then fall off slightly too about 23 degrees.

2. Talking about the weather

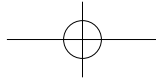
1) Pair work

Read the following directions. Make up a dialogue and then act it out.

- You meet Mr Smith in the supermarket. After greeting each other, you say a few words about the weather.

2) Group work

- Individually, fill in the form about the weather in your hometown.



Climate: _____

Spring: _____

Autumn: _____

Rain: _____

Snow: _____

Summer: _____

Winter: _____

Wind: _____

- Ask some classmates in your group about the weather in their hometown.
- Then report your findings to the class.

3) Discussion

Do you think that there is truth in some old folk sayings? Why?



WRITING

1. Read the text again and answer the following questions in no more than 60 words.

- Write an answer to each question. Each answer must be a complete sentence.
- Your answers to the questions must follow each other so that all your sentences will form a complete paragraph.
- Use the joining words where necessary.

- 1) What information can the weathermen provide?
- 2) Why are crews interested in landing conditions at their destination?
- 3) How does weather service help ships?
- 4) What do long-range lorry operators plan before their journey?
- 5) Why are farmers interested in the weather?

2. Practical writing

Note

便条是一种简单的书信。特点是内容简短，用于临时性的询问、留言、通知、要求等。与正规书信比，便条的语言更加口语化，语言的省略现象也较为常见，但无论哪种便条都必须包括日期、称呼、正文、署名四个部分。结尾时无需结尾礼词，只需写上写便条者的姓名。如果是关系比较近的人，写姓或名即可。

便条的日期通常写在右上角，一般只要写星期几或上午或下午，也可写上具体时间。日常应用中，写上某月某日的也比较普遍，但一般不写年份，因为便条的内容多半是当日或近几日要办的事情，而且大多采用手写。便条不邮寄，也无需信封。

Samples

Sample 1

May 8

Dear Manager,

A Mr Smith from Solar Software Company has just rung up, saying that he will come to see you at ten tomorrow morning for a talk about our cooperation in promotion of our software. Please wait for him in the office, or ring him back if the time doesn't suit.

Paul

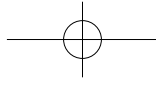
Sample 2

10:20 am

Dear Xiao Zhang,

Just a line to tell you that Professor Lin came to see you and wanted to have a word with you about his programs in the following semester. But you were not in. He wants you to give him a call.

Zhang Ke



3. Task

假设你是林深。10月5日，你到方芳家找她，但家里没人。现在你给方芳留一张便条，内容如下：

你们的好朋友小丁出差来北京了，现住在北京宾馆。

- 1) 大家决定好好聚一聚，一起去长城游览。
- 2) 周六上午 8:30 在宾馆大厅碰头，不见不散。

