

4A Eco-guilt

1 READING & SPEAKING

- Look at the title of the lesson. What do you think it means?
- Read the introduction to the article and check. Then do the questionnaire and add up your score.
- Now compare your answers with a partner. Explain why you do or don't do these things. See what your score means. Do you agree with it?

How ECO-GUILTY are you?

I committed a crime last Tuesday, which just happened to be Earth Day*, a day that invites people to think about their eco-sins. I turned on the shower, intending to get straight in even though the water takes a while to warm up. But then I decided to brush my teeth, and suddenly the water had been running for over two minutes. By the time I got in, I was drowning in eco-guilt! I had wasted water...

Should you feel eco-guilty, too? Take the test.

SHOPPING BAGS

- I have a reusable shopping bag made of recyclable materials, which I always use when I'm shopping. ♻️♻️♻️♻️ (+4 eco-points)
- I own several reusable shopping bags, but I often forget to bring them with me. ♻️♻️♻️ (-3 eco-points)
- I always ask for plastic bags because they're convenient. They can be recycled, can't they? ♻️♻️♻️♻️ (-4)

WASHING TOWELS

- I wash my towels immediately after I use them. ♻️♻️♻️♻️♻️ (-5)
- I use a towel for several days before I put it in the washing machine. ♻️ (+1)
- That reminds me, I must wash my towels! ♻️♻️♻️ (+3)

RUNNING WATER

- I never leave the water running when I brush my teeth, nor before getting into the shower. ♻️♻️ (+2)
- I'm allergic to cold water, so I have to leave the shower to run for a while before I get in. ♻️♻️ (-2)
- I hate showers. I need a hot bath every day to relax. ♻️♻️♻️ (-3)

BUYING FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

- I never buy fruit and vegetables at supermarkets. I buy organic fruit and vegetables in markets or small shops. ♻️♻️♻️ (+3)
- I buy some fruit and vegetables in a market, but the supermarket is more convenient. ♻️♻️ (-2)
- I shop at the cheapest places – who cares about eco-guilt, I feel guiltier if I spend too much money on food! ♻️♻️♻️♻️♻️ (-5)

***Earth Day** an annual day (22nd April) on which events are held worldwide to increase awareness and appreciation of the environment

RECYCLING

- I throw everything in the same bin. ♻️♻️♻️♻️♻️♻️ (-6)
- I sometimes recycle glass bottles, especially after a party! But that's probably all. ♻️♻️♻️♻️ (-4)
- I recycle all my newspapers, bottles, and plastic containers. ♻️♻️♻️♻️♻️ (+5)

GETTING AROUND

- I walk, use public transport or cycle because cars pollute the planet. ♻️♻️♻️♻️♻️ (+5)
- I walk, use public transport or cycle because I can't afford to buy a car. ♻️ (-1)
- Vroom vroom here I come! ♻️♻️♻️♻️♻️ (-5)

So how guilty should you feel?

Below 0: You should feel very guilty.

0–12 points: You should feel quite guilty.

Above 10: You are too good to be true!

2 GRAMMAR future perfect and future continuous

- a Read some predictions that have been made about the next 20 years. Which ones do you think...?
- 1 are already happening
 - 2 are likely to happen
 - 3 probably won't happen

How we will be living in 20 years' time... (or will we?)

At home

Most people **will have installed** solar panels or wind turbines on their houses or blocks of flats to generate their electricity.

People **will be recycling** nearly 100% of their waste (and those who don't will have to pay a fine).

Transport

Cars that use a lot of petrol (e.g. four-by-four cars) **will have been banned** and many people **will be driving** electric cars.

Low-cost airlines **will have disappeared** and flights will be much more expensive.

The environment

Paper books will no longer be produced to save trees from being cut down, and all books will be electronic.

Fresh water **will be running out** in many parts of the world and we **will be getting** much of our water from the sea (through desalination plants).

The weather

Temperatures worldwide **will have risen** even further. Many ski resorts **will have closed** because of a lack of winter snow and some beaches and holiday resorts **will have disappeared** completely.

We **will be having** even more extreme weather, and heatwaves, hurricanes, floods, etc. will be frequent occurrences.

- b Read the predictions again. Which two would you most and least like to come true?

- c Look at the **highlighted** verbs in the predictions. Which ones refer to...?
- a an action or situation that will be finished in the future
 - b an action or situation which will be in progress in the future
- d ► **p.138 Grammar Bank 4A.** Learn more about the future perfect and the continuous, and practise them.
- e Talk to a partner and say if you think the following predictions will happen. Explain why (not).

IN TWENTY YEARS' TIME...

- Most people in office jobs will be working from home.
- All private swimming pools and golf courses will have been banned.
- Most people will be using public transport or bikes to get to work.
- People will be having more holidays in their own country and fewer abroad.
- People will be retiring at 70 or even later.
- The teaching of handwriting will have disappeared from the school curriculum because students will only be writing on tablets or laptops.

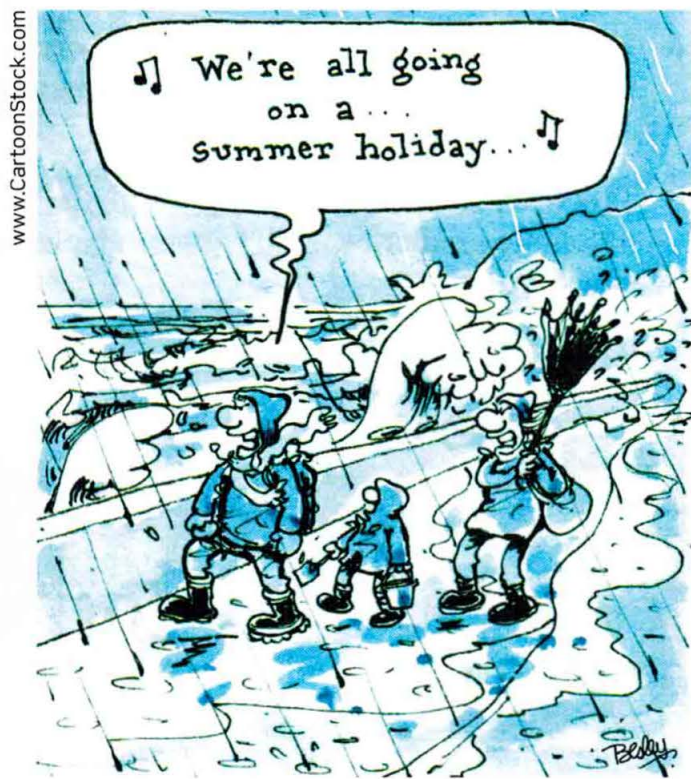
definitely, probably, and likely / unlikely
We often use *definitely, probably, and likely / unlikely* when talking about the future, especially when we are making predictions.
*I think it'll definitely happen / it definitely won't happen.
it'll probably happen / it probably won't happen.
it's (very) likely (to happen) / it's (very) unlikely (to happen).*



3 READING & VOCABULARY

the weather

- a Look at the cartoon. What does it say about British weather? Would it be true about your country?



- b Read the article once. At what time of year was the article written? What is an Indian summer?
- c Read the article again and mark the sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false). Underline the sentence or part of the article that gives you the answer.
- 1 British people talk about the weather more than they used to.
 - 2 People had mixed feelings about the hot weather.
 - 3 Some weather experts said that the warm weather was not an Indian summer because it happened in September.
 - 4 The older English term for Indian summers is still used in some parts of the UK.
 - 5 Kate Fox says that the British talk about the weather because they are shy.
 - 6 Sir John Mortimer believes that the British talk about the weather to avoid saying what they really think.
- d Look at the **highlighted** phrases related to the weather. With a partner, say what you think they mean.
- e ➤ **p.156 Vocabulary Bank Weather.**
- f Do you have an expression for Indian summer in your language? Do people in your country often talk about the weather? Why (not)?

Don't know what to say? Talk about the weather!

1 'It is commonly observed,' wrote Dr Johnson in 1758, 'that when two Englishmen meet, their first talk is of the weather; they are in haste to tell each other, what each must already know, that it is hot or cold, bright or cloudy, windy or calm.' Not much has

5 changed. A survey published earlier this year found that the average British person mentions the weather at least once every six hours, and that 70 per cent of us check the **weather forecast** every day, even when nothing unusual is happening.

Last week, as **temperatures soared** to 29°C – the highest recorded

10 end-of-September temperature for 116 years – there was a sense of both delight (at the lovely hot weather) and worry (about the threat of global warming). On television and in the newspapers, experts argued earnestly over what such extreme weather meant, and if there was even a term for it. While many called it an Indian summer, the

15 Met Office ruled that it couldn't be properly called an Indian summer, which only occurs 'as **a warm spell** in autumn, especially in October and November'. The BBC's main weatherman also agreed that **the heat** had arrived a bit too early to be described as an Indian summer.

Indian summer has different names across the globe. In Britain, until

20 around the end of the First World War, late **heatwaves** were known as 'St Martin's summers' – the feast of St Martin falling on 11th November – and in much of Europe they still are. Other countries have their own names – in Russia it's an 'Old Ladies' summer'; in Bulgaria a 'Gipsy summer'; and in China a 'Tiger autumn'.

25 But the big difference between the British and other nationalities is that they talk about Indian summers much more. 'Britons need weather-talk to help us overcome our reserve,' explains Kate Fox, author of *Watching the English*. 'We talk about it a lot, but not because it is an intrinsically interesting topic. People use weather-talk to

30 facilitate social interaction.'

The writer Sir John Mortimer saw a deeper reason for Britain's peculiar obsession with the weather. 'There's nothing personal about it,' he wrote. 'It gives away no secrets. Talking to our next-door neighbours over the fence, we, as a nation, are reluctant to make

35 such uncomfortable confessions as 'I can't stand your children', or 'I'm passionately in love with your wife'. It's far easier to say, 'I think we'll be having rain over the weekend'.'



Glossary
Dr Johnson a very influential 18th century writer and editor
the Met Office the UK's national weather service

4 PRONUNCIATION

vowel sounds

🔍 Spelling and pronunciation

Most vowels, or combinations of vowels, can be pronounced in more than one way. If you are unsure what the vowel sound is in a new word, check with your dictionary.

a Look at the groups of words below and **circle** the word you think is different.

1 **blow** snow showers below

2 weather sweat **heavy** heat

3 drizzle blizzard chilly **mild**

4 **hard** warm dark garden

5 flood cool soon loose

6 **fought** ought drought brought

7 thunder sunny hurricane humid

8 scorching world **tornado** storm

b 2 34))) Listen and check.

c 2 35))) Listen and write five sentences. Then practise saying them.

d Talk to a partner.

- What kind of weather do you associate with the different seasons where you live?
- What's the weather like today? Have you heard the forecast for tomorrow / next weekend?
- What's your favourite weather? Does the weather affect your mood? What do you like doing when the weather is bad?
- What kind of weather do you think is the best and the worst for...?
 - camping
 - going for a walk in the mountains
 - driving
 - running a marathon
 - shopping
 - sightseeing
- Do you think global warming is affecting the climate? In what ways has climate change affected the weather in your country?

5 LISTENING & SPEAKING



a 2 36))) You're going to listen to three people talking about their experiences of extreme weather in the UK. Listen once. Which speaker...?

- was both frightened and excited by the weather
- got quite stressed because of the weather
- really enjoyed themselves in spite of the bad weather

b Listen again and make notes in the chart.

	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3
When did it happen?			
Where were they at the time?			
What kind of weather was it?			
What happened as a result?			

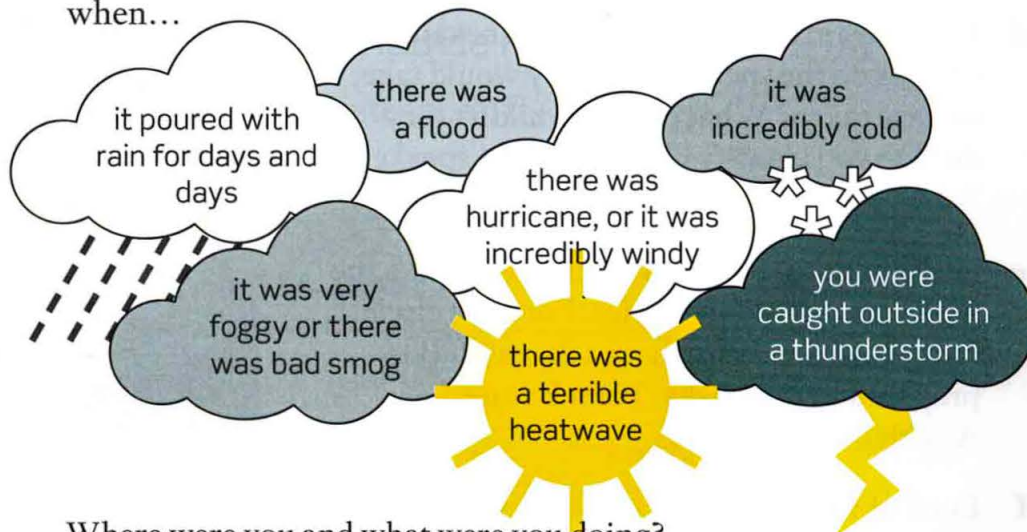
🔍 Modifiers with strong adjectives

When you are talking about extreme situations, e.g. very bad weather you can use:

- Normal adjectives with a modifier (*very, really, extremely, incredibly, unbelievably*), e.g. *It was incredibly cold, extremely hot, unbelievably windy, etc.*
- Strong adjectives, e.g. *It's boiling here - 40 degrees, It's freezing today, etc.*
- Strong adjectives with *absolutely*, e.g. *It was absolutely freezing. The midday heat was absolutely scorching.*

Remember that we often use *a bit* or *rather* + adjective to express a negative idea, e.g. *It's a bit too hot. It's rather chilly today.*

c In small groups, talk about a time when you were somewhere when...



Where were you and what were you doing?

What did you do to protect yourself from the weather?

Did you ever feel scared or in danger?

6 2 37))) SONG Heatwave 🎵