

LESSON | What is weather?

19

We probably talk about weather more often than anything else. How often have you started talking to people by saying, "Wow, look at that rain!" or "This heat is too much!"? Weather affects us in many ways. We dress according to the weather. We make plans hoping for fair weather.

Weather is very, very important to everyone. But, what exactly is **weather**?

Weather is the day-to-day conditions of the atmosphere. It is different from place to place, and weather is always changing.

Several things make up weather. They are:

- air temperature
- air pressure
- appearance of the sky (clear or cloudy)
- wind speed
- wind direction
- humidity (amount of water in the air)
- precipitation [prih-sip-uh-TAY-shun] (rain, snow, sleet, hail)

You will learn more about weather in the next Lessons. You also will learn how to read a weather map. In fact, you will learn to make your own weather map. It's easy — and it's fun.

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HOW WEATHER AFFECTS US

Weather affects the lives and jobs of many people. For example, it affects how, or even if, we get from place to place.

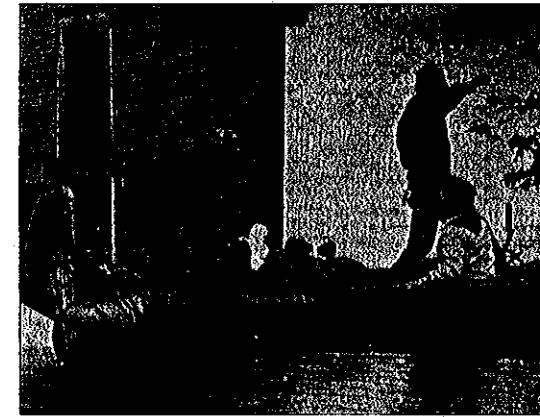


Figure A



Figure B

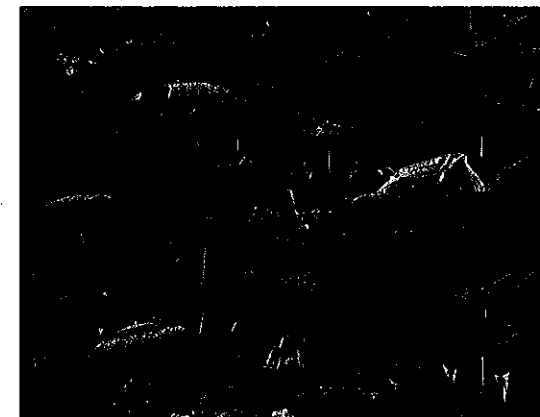


Figure C

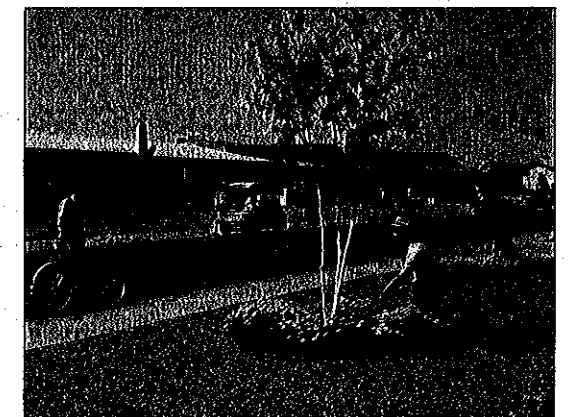


Figure D



Figure E

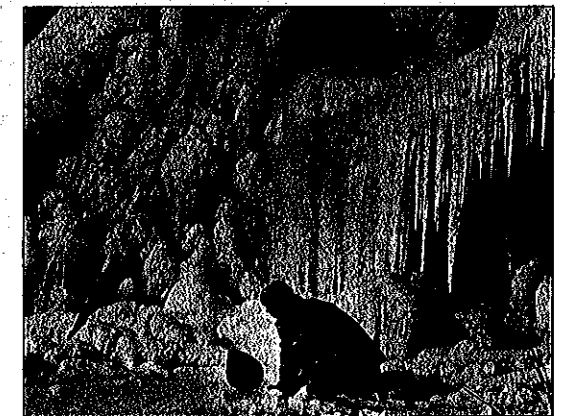


Figure F

Weather also affects how we play.



Figure G

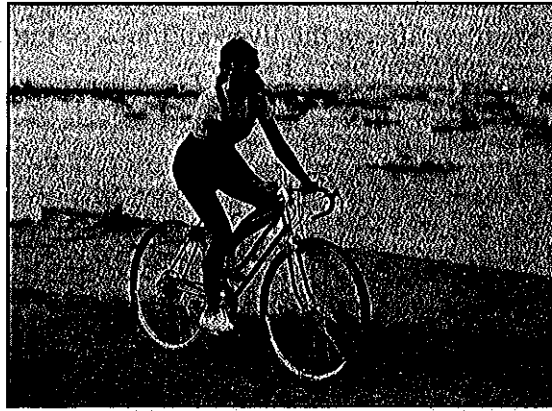


Figure H

1. Can you think of other ways in which we are affected by the weather? _____

2. Name a kind of job that is affected by the weather. _____

WHAT DO THE PICTURES SHOW?

Look at each picture. Each of the pictures below hints at some part of weather. On the line under each picture, write the part of weather you think it shows. Choose from the list below.

humidity
air pressure

appearance of sky
wind speed and direction

precipitation
temperature



Figure I

1. _____



Figure J

2. _____

Weather also affects how we play.



Figure G



Figure H

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2. Name a kind of job that is affected by the weather. _____

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- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| humidity | appearance of sky | precipitation |
| air pressure | wind speed and direction | temperature |



Figure I

1. _____



Figure J

2. _____

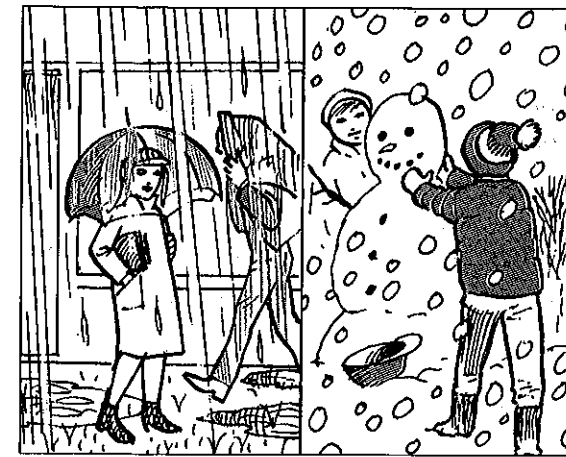


Figure K

3. _____

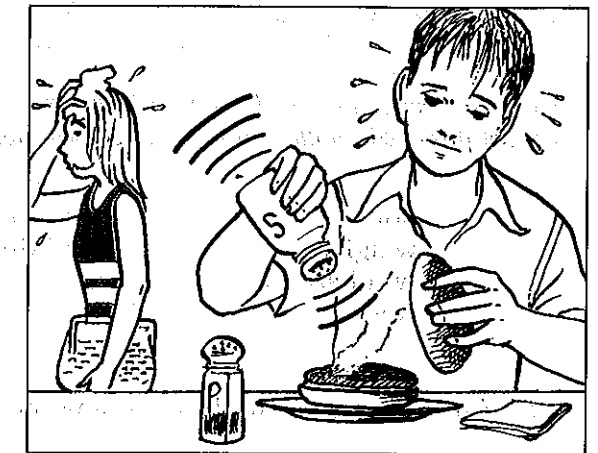


Figure L

4. _____

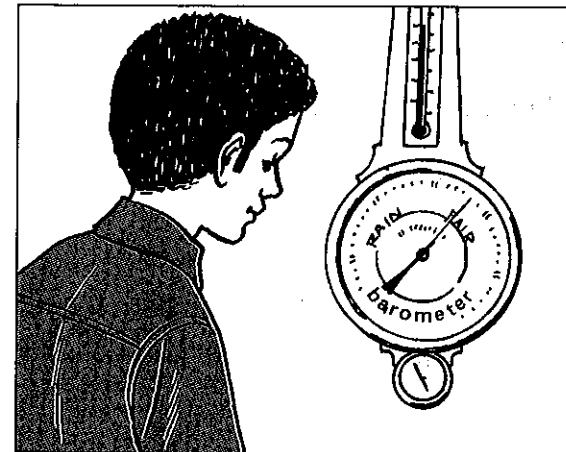


Figure M

5. _____



Figure N

6. _____

TRUE OR FALSE

In the space provided, write "true" if the sentence is true. Write "false" if the sentence is false.

- _____ 1. Air pressure is part of the weather.
- _____ 2. Weather takes place in the troposphere. (Look back to Lesson 11 if you have to.)
- _____ 3. Weather is the same everywhere.
- _____ 4. Weather can change quickly.
- _____ 5. Water is always a liquid.

FILL IN THE BLANK

Complete each statement using a term or terms from the list below. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Some words may be used more than once.

hot
weighs
wind speed
cold

how something looks
wind direction
gas

water vapor
clouds
precipitation

1. Air pressure has to do with how much the air _____.
2. Temperature tells us how _____ or _____ the air is.
3. Rain, snow, hail, sleet, and drizzle are examples of _____.
4. Precipitation is made up of liquid or frozen _____.
5. "Appearance" means _____.
6. The appearance of the sky can be changed by _____.
7. "20 kilometers per hour" can describe _____.
8. "Northwest" can describe _____.
9. Humidity is the amount of _____ in the air.
10. Water vapor is water in the _____ form.

REACHING OUT

How can the weather affect the price of food?

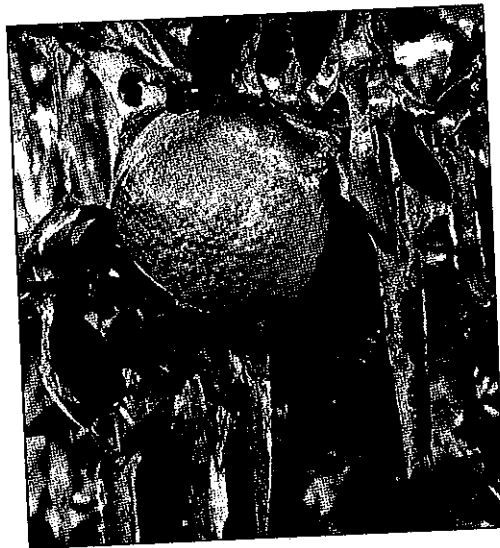


Figure O