

## Task 4 – Extended writing: The weather in my area

**Level:** ISE Foundation

**Focus:** Task 4 – Extended writing

**Aims:** To plan and write a short essay entitled 'The weather in my area'

**Objectives:** To enable learners to discuss, plan and write a factual essay about the weather where they live

**Skill:** Organising a text in sequence, writing an introduction, including specific details and writing a conclusion

**Subject area:** Weather

**Language functions:** Expressing likes and dislikes, and describing people, objects and places

**Lexis:** Weather conditions, seasons, effect on the environment and opinions related to weather conditions

**Materials needed:** Images of local weather conditions (12-15) – these can be presented on PowerPoint or via any other visual methods (pictures could show local seasons, effects on the environment, flooding, drought, storms, heavy snow), student worksheet (one per student) and model answer. For a further support activity, use 6-9 images of main weather conditions to practise with students.

**Timing:** 80 minutes

### Preparation

1. Prepare 12-15 pictures of weather conditions in your local area, such as flooding, drought, snowfall, windy and stormy.
2. Prepare vocabulary to describe the characteristics of the weather conditions/seasons/effects on your local area and local people's opinions.
3. Print or copy one worksheet for each learner.

### In class

1. Introduce the topic – 'The weather in my area'. Explain that the aim of the lesson is to write a paragraph about the weather in the local area as they may be asked to write something similar in task 3 of the writing exam.
2. Ask the students questions about the weather in their local area, for example, '*What is the weather like in winter? What is the weather like in summer?*'
3. Using pictures and words, teach the students the pre-prepared vocabulary about weather, seasons, effects on local areas and opinions.
4. Practise the meaning and pronunciation of the vocabulary using choral, group and individual repetition.
5. Give each student a worksheet. Tell the students that they are going to complete task A. Draw the students' attention to the example of how to complete the task. Ask students to complete task A individually and then check their answers in class. Write up the answers if necessary.
6. Now ask the students to focus on task B. Ask the students to check their answers with a partner. Then check their answers in open class.
7. Ask the students to now focus on task C. Explain how to construct sentences using the vocabulary, structures and opinions.
8. Ask the students to complete task C. Students could check what they have written with their partner. Give feedback in open class. Elicit more ideas from the class to add to the table.
9. Set the writing task (task D) under timed conditions. Once the students have completed the task, give the class some general feedback on how well they have completed the task and how they could improve their writing. Write up any common errors on the board and ask students to correct them.

## Preparation activities for ISE Foundation Reading & Writing

### **Extension activity**

Students who finish early can write six more sentences about the weather in their area using dictionaries to help them.

### **Further support activity**

If some students are finding the activity difficult, you can ask them to label 4-6 pictures of different types of weather using key structures and words.

### **Homework**

Students can research the weather conditions in another country and write a paragraph of 70-100 words. They should try to include some pictures.



## Student worksheet: The weather in my area

### Task A

Complete the sentences with the correct words from the box. The first one has been done for you.

~~snows~~ enjoy pleasant garden ~~cause~~ fall bloom fun ~~like~~  
can rains floods often dangerous play

*Example* In winter, it usually snows a lot. This can cause problems on the roads and I do not like it.

1. In spring, it is usually very ..... I like spring because the flowers .....
2. In summer, it ..... be very hot and dry. It is ..... in the summer because we can go out and ..... ourselves.
3. In the wet season, it ..... all the time. It can cause ..... I do not like it because it damages the .....
4. In autumn it is ..... very windy. It can make the roads very ..... when the leaves ..... I like to ..... football in the autumn.

### Task B

Complete this paragraph with the correct words from the box. There are more words than you need.

hot cold seasons windy fall snows  
pleasant not summer months picnics bloom

I live in a small town in England. There are four (1.) ..... which are called spring, (2.) ....., autumn and winter. In spring, the weather is (3.) ..... but sometimes it rains. I like spring because the flowers (4.) ..... and look pretty. In summer, it can be quite (5.) ..... and we can go on (6.) .....  
In autumn the leaves (7.) ..... because it can be windy and quite (8.) ....., but I like to play football. In winter, it sometimes (9.) ..... which can be dangerous for drivers. I do (10.) ..... like winter because it is too cold.

## Preparation activities for ISE Foundation Reading & Writing

### Task C

Write five sentences about the weather in your area using the phrases in the box to help you. You should say what the weather is like, the effect on your area and give your opinion.

Type of weather	Effect on area	Opinion
<i>It is usually hot and dry in the summer.</i>	<i>Sometimes there is not enough water for everyone.</i>	<i>I do not like the heat as it makes me ill.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ It often rains in the wet season.</li> <li>▶ It sometimes snows in winter.</li> <li>▶ It is usually hot and humid in the summer.</li> <li>▶ It is often cold and windy in the autumn.</li> <li>▶ It is usually very pleasant in the spring.</li> <li>▶ It can be very warm in the summer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ It can cause flooding and damage to the fields.</li> <li>▶ It is good for the rice fields and the fish lakes.</li> <li>▶ It can be dangerous for drivers.</li> <li>▶ It can be too heavy and cause problems.</li> <li>▶ It can make people ill.</li> <li>▶ It makes the flowers bloom.</li> <li>▶ A lot of tourists come to the area.</li> <li>▶ We can go to the beach.</li> <li>▶ We can go on picnics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ I do not like too much rain as it damages our garden.</li> <li>▶ I love the rain because it makes everything cooler.</li> <li>▶ I love the snow because it is fun and the school is closed.</li> <li>▶ I do not like the snow because we cannot go out.</li> <li>▶ I do not like the hot and humid weather because I get tired.</li> <li>▶ I like to play football in the autumn.</li> <li>▶ Spring makes me feel happy.</li> <li>▶ It is fun in the summer because we can go out and enjoy ourselves.</li> </ul>

<b>Example:</b>	<i>In the city of Karachi, it is usually hot and dry in the summer and sometimes there is not enough water for everyone. I do not like the heat as it makes me ill.</i>
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	





## Answers: The weather in my area

### Task A

1. pleasant, bloom
2. can, fun, enjoy
3. rains, floods, garden
4. often, dangerous, fall, play

### Task B

1. seasons
2. summer
3. pleasant
4. bloom
5. hot
6. picnics
7. fall
8. cold
9. snows
10. not

### Task C

There are no prescribed answers but the sentences should be logical and make sense.

### Task D – model essay

In London, we have four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter. In spring and summer, it can be quite warm but it can also be cold and wet. In autumn and winter it is often wet and windy. Sometimes it snows in winter but not very much. I love the summer months because you can spend time outside and enjoy the sunshine. The warm weather makes me feel happy. It is my favourite season. I like the winter when it's very cold and there's snow.