

## Activity 3: Times of day, seasons and weather (CEFR A1)

**Level:**  
CEFR A1

**Time:**  
45 minutes

**Resources:**  
✓ Pictures of seasons  
✓ Handout

**Aims:**

- ✓ To develop skills and knowledge in speaking and listening at Entry 1
- ✓ To develop ability to talk about times of day, seasons and weather
- ✓ To practise expressing likes and dislikes
- ✓ To practise greetings and leave-taking

**Exam task focus:** Component 1 Task 2

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**Procedure:**

1. Elicit and write up the months of the year in a list or across the board in order.
2. Correct pronunciation and ask a few questions to elicit in +month (eg *When is Christmas? When does Ramadan start? When does this course finish?*).
3. Divide class into four making sure each group has at least one Student with literacy and give each group a season.
4. Ask Students (SS) to decide which months (or part of a month) goes into their season in the UK.
5. Check whole class.
6. Distribute Handout 1.
7. SS choose statements from the handout to match their season.
8. Take whole class feedback and check understanding of vocabulary.
9. Introduce *I like spring but I don't like winter*. Pause and ask *Why?* (to elicit it is cold or the days are short).
10. Encourage SS to make their own statements, eg *Do you like summer in England?*
11. Ask SS about seasons in their own countries.
12. Teach the word *changeable* about English weather. Explain English people like talking about the weather.
13. Elicit from SS things English say about the weather and then scribe, model and drill some examples.
14. Elicit onto the board *in the morning/ in the afternoon/in the evening/ at night* and elicit approximate boundaries.

15. Ask SS *What do you do in the morning/in the evening? What's your favourite time of day?* Etc.
16. Tell SS *It's 8.00 in the morning. It is raining! You are walking to the shops. Greet your neighbours. Say something about the weather.* Elicit ideas from class.
17. Do three more scenarios as a whole class and then students practise in pairs using the same scenarios.

### **Notes on cultural awareness and appropriacy**

People new to the UK can find us aloof and standoffish. Equally when we live abroad we find some customs rather tricky. It is much safer for the students to learn to talk about the weather as a neutral and non-threatening topic.

Greeting and leave taking suggestions:

- ✓ Greeting - Good evening/Hello.
- ✓ Leave taking - Good night/Bye.

## Handout Activity: Seasons in the UK

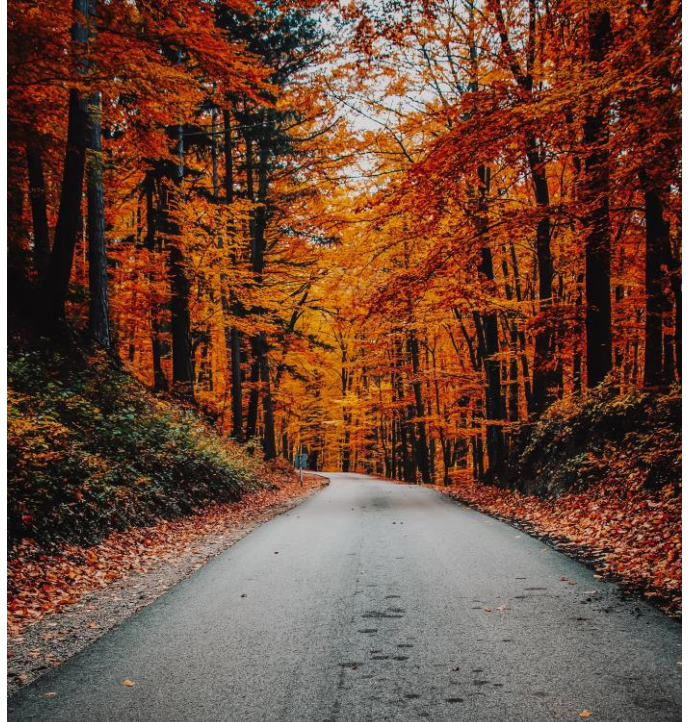
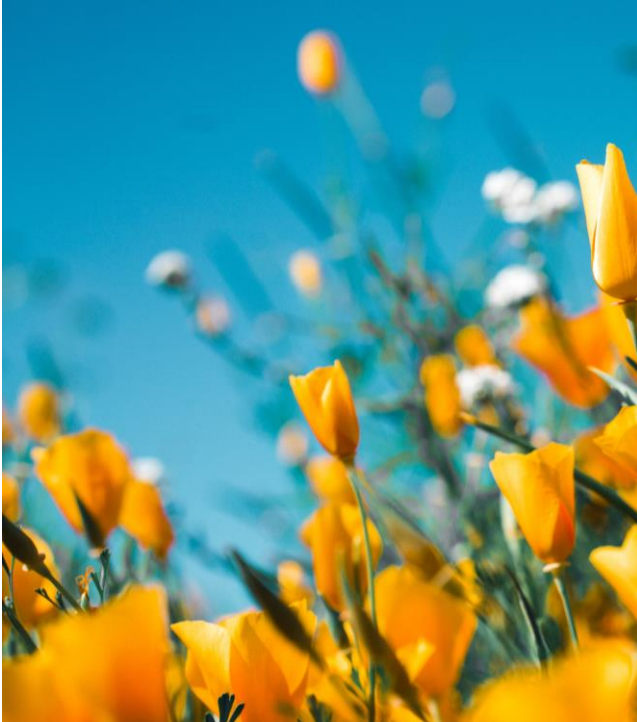
**Find the statements which describe the season in your picture and copy them in your notebook.**

- Flowers start to grow in this season. ....
- The days get longer .....
- The sun rises early and sets late .....
- It can be very cold .....
- The clocks go forward one hour .....
- The trees start to lose their leaves .....
- We celebrate both Diwali and Guy Fawkes night in this season .....
- Many farm animals are born in this season .....
- In Europe people celebrate Christmas in this season .....
- You can see special lights in town and city centres .....
- Apples are good to eat in this season. ....
- The days start to get shorter .....
- The leaves on some trees change colour .....
- We sometimes have snow .....
- It can be hot and sunny .....
- Children have a long holiday from school in this season .....
- People enjoy going to the beach in this season .....

**Now mark each statement with SP/ SU/ AU/ WI**

|    |        |
|----|--------|
| SP | Spring |
| SU | Summer |
| AU | Autumn |
| WI | Winter |

**Photos of the seasons**



Images: [www.unsplash.com](https://www.unsplash.com)