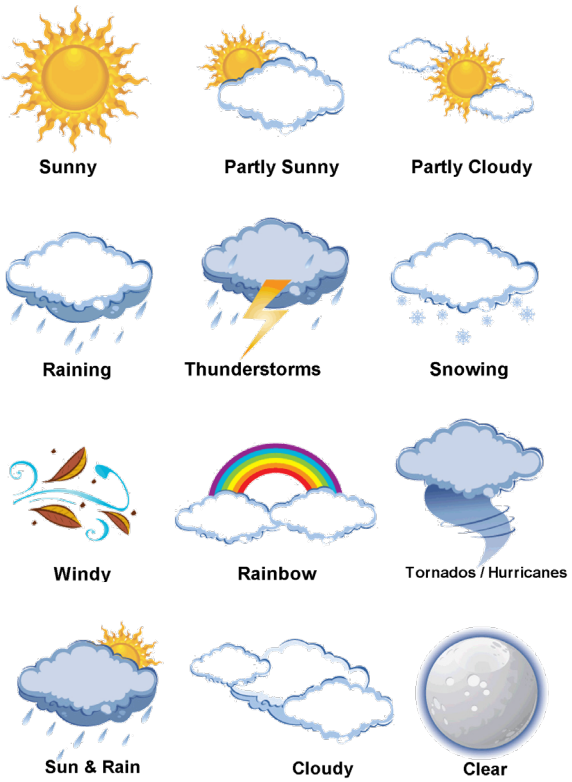
Weather vocabulary

In English, to talk about the weather, use:
It is (or different tenses) **+ adjective** = A description of the weather
It is sunny today.
or
It is + verb-ing = This type of weather is happening now.
Take an umbrella, it's raining.



A BIT OF USEFUL VOCABULARY

People commonly ask about the weather by saying:

- *What's it like out(side)?*
- *How's the weather?*
- *What's the weather like?*
- *What's the temperature?*
- *What's the weather forecast?*

ABOUT THE SKY AND TEMPERATURE

Bright: (adjective) full of light; when the sun is shining strongly
Sunny: (adjective) the sun is shining and there are no clouds
Clear: (adjective) without clouds
Cloudy: (adjective) with many clouds in the sky
Overcast: (adjective) covered with clouds; dull
Gloomy: (adjective) with dark clouds and dull light
Fog (noun) / *foggy* (adjective): with thick clouds close to land
Mist (noun) / *misty* (adjective): light fog, often on the sea or caused by drizzle
Haze (noun) / *hazy* (adjective): light mist, usually caused by heat
Chilly (adjective): uncomfortably cold
Frosty (adjective): freezing, very cold
Boiling (adjective): very hot
Damp (adjective): hot and humid
Muggy (adjective): warm and damp in an unpleasant way
Scorching (adjective): extremely hot, burning
Stifling (adjective): hot and suffocating



ABOUT PRECIPITATIONS AND WIND

Hail (verb): small balls of ice (hailstones) falling from the sky like rain.
Snowflake (noun): one of the small crystals in which snow falls
Sleet (noun/verb): snow or hail mixed with rain (often with some wind)
Blizzard (noun): severe snowstorm with strong winds
Damp (adjective): slightly wet (often after the rain has stopped)
Drizzle (verb/noun): to rain lightly with very fine drops
Downpour (noun): heavy rain, shower
It's raining cats and dogs (Idiom): to rain heavily
Torrential rain (noun): very heavy rain
Flood (verb/noun): to become covered in water usually due to excessive rain
Breeze (noun): a gentle wind (often nice or refreshing)
Gale (noun): a very strong wind
Gust (verb/noun): a sudden strong blast of wind

The Green Planet - Copyright © EDISCO Editrice - Vietata la vendita e la diffusione

1 Translate these words into English.

1. Raffica .....
2. Foschia .....
3. Afoso .....
4. Torrido .....
5. Nebbiolina .....
6. Cupo .....
7. Pioggerellina .....
8. Tormenta .....
9. Acquazzone .....
10. Burrasca .....
11. Grandine .....
12. Fosco/Coperto .....
13. Inondazione .....
14. Nuvoloso .....

2 Fill in the text with a suitable word for each blank space. There are two extra words you do not need to use.

blizzard • breeze • damp • drizzle • flood • frosty • gale • gusts • hail • hailstones • muggy • overcast • snowflakes • stifling

1. It is usually chilly and ..... in autumn, sometimes with rain or ..... .
2. Fortunately, there is a ..... right now, otherwise it would be very hot.
3. It is so ..... that I've had to change my shirt twice this afternoon.
4. I think some flights will be delayed because of violent ..... of wind forecast for tomorrow.
5. Take gloves and hat because it's ..... today.
6. Those large ..... left dents in my car.
7. There has been a ..... warning so it's not safe to go out sailing.
8. We cannot see the solar eclipse because it's ..... .
9. Countries from around the world have been sending relief to the ..... victims.
10. The ..... at the end of spring destroyed my grandpa's vineyard.
11. The hot temperature is so ..... that it is pulling all the energy out of my body.

3 Match the right definition to these idioms.

1. As right as rain ☐
2. Break the ice ☐
3. Calm before the storm ☐
4. Have your head in the clouds ☐
5. It never rains but it pours ☐
6. It's raining cats and dogs ☐
7. Storm in a teacup ☐

a. To be unrealistic or living in a fantasy world.
b. It's raining very hard.
c. To say or do something to make someone feel relaxed or at ease in a social setting.
d. When things don't just go wrong but very wrong and other bad things happen too.
e. When someone makes a small problem larger than it really is.
f. To feel fine and healthy.
g. The quiet, peaceful period before a moment of great activity or chaos.

The Green Planet - Copyright © EDISCO Editrice - Vietata la vendita e la diffusione