

Topic: Winter Moods and Modes

Let's get started... Did you see snow for the first time this winter? Did you enjoy the snow? Explain.

Story:

One of the **modes** of winter (types of weather) is snow. When there is lots of snow, the roads and sidewalks are slippery.

But, what's my **mood**? How does snow affect how I feel? Here are some examples:



"I'm happy. I'm making snowmen, throwing snowballs and sledding. Snow is beautiful on the trees."



"I'm frustrated. I'm snowed-in! I can't go to the store because the buses aren't running. It's hard to walk on sidewalks with 10-12 inches of snow on them! **I'm tired** of staying home. "



"I'm worried. I can't get to work. I slipped on the ice. Go away snow!"



In pairs, draw pictures and talk about them:

Draw a picture of yourself or someone else this winter during the snow. It could be inside, outside, walking, driving, falling, playing, working or anything. Talk about your picture with your partner. How does snow affect how **you** feel?

Change partners and talk about your pictures again.

Discussion Questions - talk in pairs or small groups:

Winter weather modes are rain, storm, wind, clear skies with sub-freezing temperatures or warm weather. What other weather modes are there? What weather modes do you like or dislike? Why?

In your native country . . .

is winter weather different in different parts of the country? Explain.

what weather modes are normal for winter?

does the weather change a lot from day to day? Explain.

are weather patterns changing? Explain.

How does weather affect . . .

. . . . work?

. . . . play (recreation)?

. . . . transportation?

. . . . family?

. . . . health?

. . . . the economy?

. . . . other things?

Some people need sun very much. These people are very sad when the skies are cloudy or the days are short in winter. Does the amount of sun affect you? Are you sad or depressed when it's cloudy or dark? Explain.

Do your moods change often? What makes your mood change? We use the word "moody" for a person who changes mood from happy to sad often or quickly. Do you know any moody people? Describe them.

Work with a partner to describe yourself and your moods by completing these sentences:

I'm sad when . . .

I'm excited when . . .

I'm calm when . . .

I'm angry when . . .

I'm worried when . . .

I'm silly when . . .

Extra Challenge - Choose a mode of weather as a symbol of your personality. Why did you choose this?

Just for Fun - Have a "snowball fight" Make a pretend snowball from a piece of paper and throw it at your group (but not at their heads!)

New vocabulary: mode, mood, affect, happy, sad, frustrated, worried, afraid, depressed, calm, excited, moody, angry, silly.

Keep talking about it this week: Ask friends "how do you feel in winter?" Write down their answers and be ready to share with the group.