

**Topic: Weather**

**Let's get started . . .** tell the person next to you about bad weather you've experienced.

**Story:**

Let's suppose a woman named Jane is checking out at Fred Meyer. She starts a conversation about the weather. Here are some examples of how the sales clerk might respond:

Example 1 - Jane says, "The weather is so cold!" The sales clerk says, "I like it. I wish it would snow. But, I'm from Minnesota, so this is nothing!"

Example 2 - Jane says, "The weather is so cold!" The sales clerk says, "It sure is. But, at least it's sunny."

Example 3 - Jane says, "The weather is so cold!" The sales clerk says, "It sure is. They're forecasting possible snow for Saturday night. I hope it doesn't snow. People in Seattle, don't know how to drive in the snow."



**Do people talk about the weather in your native country? How often?**



**In pairs, talk about the weather.**






1. Do you prefer really **cold** weather to really **hot** weather? Or do you prefer really **hot** weather to really **cold** weather? Why?



2. Do kids feel differently about weather than adults do? Explain. Compare how you felt about weather when you were a child and how you feel about it as an adult.

**Share with the larger group something you learned.**

**Interview** 3 people about the weather. Write their names in the far left column. Say, "In your native country, do you have a lot of \_\_\_\_\_?" and then ask them to explain.

Name	Strong Wind 	Ice 	Hot Sun 	Floods 	Tornados 

**Discussion Questions - talk in pairs or small groups.**

What kinds of natural disasters occur in your native country? What are some things your family, community or national government does to prepare for severe weather?

Compare the weather in your native country with the weather in the U.S.

Have you ever called 911 or asked a neighbor for help in an emergency? Explain. Would you feel comfortable asking neighbors for help if there were a natural disaster in the U.S.? Why or why not?

**Here are some possible topics. Students ask each other questions about their stories.**

Tell a story about . . . .

- . . . when the power went out
- . . . . . when there was too much smog
- . . . . . an earthquake
- . . . . . a tsunami
- . . . . . a heat wave



**Think about different scenarios and talk about what you will do.**

**Scenario 1:** Your kids are at school. It suddenly starts to snow at 11am.

The roads are quickly covered with snow and it's hard to drive. How will your kids get home from school?

**Scenario 2:** You are studying at school until 9pm. A wind storm blows down power lines everywhere and trees fall over the road. How will you get home? What will you do?

**Dialogue (Conversation) - Practice one of the conversations. Write a new one if you want.**

**Bill is at work. Snow is getting heavy outside. Bill asks the boss if he can go home early.**

<i>Harder</i>	<i>Easier</i>
Bill: Have you seen the snow piling up? I'm worried about getting home. Boss: Good point. Let's tell everyone to go home . Do you think you can get home? Bill: I hope so. Sometimes the bus won't go up my street when there's snow. Boss: I've got 4-wheel drive. I can take you home. Bill: Thanks. That would be great. I'm going to call my wife and tell her.	Bill: Look at the snow! Boss: Yes, go home now. Bill: Maybe there's no bus. Boss: I'll take you home. Bill: Thanks. I'll call my wife.

**New vocabulary:** "Let's suppose," experienced, respond, wish, "this is nothing", "at least", forecast, prefer, flood, tornado, natural disaster, occur, scenario, covered, blows down, power lines, "piling up", "clear out", 4-wheel drive

**Keep talking about it this week:** Ask a coworker or friend: "Tell me about some bad weather you have experienced." Write down their answers and share at Talk Time next week.

**More on weather:** find the weather forecast at <http://www.wunderground.com/>