

1.4 Speaking and writing

GOALS ■ Talk about the weather ■ Talk about your likes and dislikes ■ Write a web post

Speaking & Vocabulary talking about the weather; talking about likes and dislikes

1 Work with a partner and describe the weather in the photos.



- b Replace the words in *italics* with a **bold** word from exercise 2a.
- If it's a *nice* evening, we can eat outside.
 - I hate this *warm, wet and uncomfortable* weather.
 - The air's *cold and a bit wet* this morning.
 - There are going to be some *short periods of rain* later.
 - Yesterday it was really cold, but today it's *not too cold*.
 - Did you hear the *heavy rain, thunder and lightning* last night?

3 Work with a partner and describe today's weather. Do you think it's typical for the time of year?

4 1.7))) Listen to Faisal from Dubai, Marek from Alberta and Gina from Rio de Janeiro talking about their favourite season. Who talks about these topics? Write F, M or G.

- an exciting celebration
- eating outside
- enjoying the colours of nature

5a 1.7))) Listen again and complete the sentences.

- I'm not keen on _____ in the sea in the summer.
- My favourite winter activity is _____.
- I really love catching fish in the _____.
- I'm really interested in _____.
- I'm really into watching _____.
- I don't mind _____ weather.
- I prefer _____ weather to summer weather.
- I quite like watching _____.
- I can't stand large _____.

b 1.8))) Listen and check your answers.

c 1.9))) Listen and repeat the sentences.

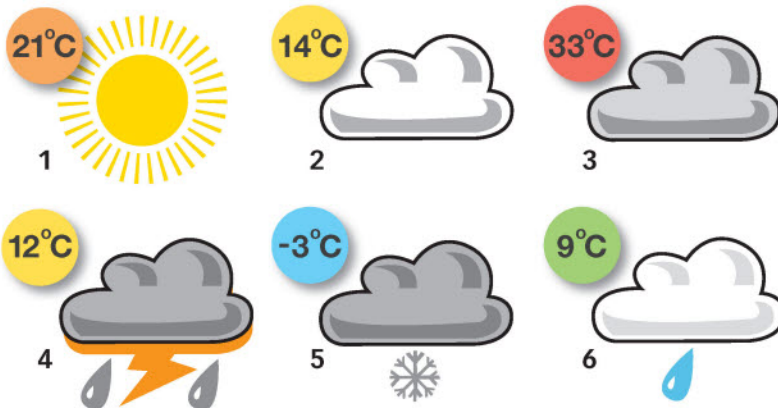
d Which of the expressions in exercise 5a mean the following?

- you don't like something
- you hate something
- you like something a lot
- something isn't a problem for you
- you like one thing more than another thing
- you like something, but not a lot

6 Complete these sentences so they are true for you.

- I really love ...
- My favourite summer activity is ...
- I don't mind ...
- I can't stand ...

2a Match the symbols and temperatures to the weather headlines.



- hot, cloudy and **humid**
- cloudy and **mild**
- sunny, dry and **pleasant**
- cold and **damp** with a few **showers**
- heavy rain, a **thunderstorm**
- light snow, temperature below zero

7a TASK You are going to do a short presentation about your likes and dislikes. Turn to page 126 and choose one of the three options. Make some notes. Use the Language for speaking box to help you.

b Work in groups and take turns to give your presentations. Ask each other questions to find out more.

LANGUAGE FOR SPEAKING talking about likes and dislikes

*I'm not keen on ... My favourite ... is ...
I really love ... I'm really interested in ...
I'm really into ... I don't mind ...
I prefer ... I quite like ...
I can't stand ...*


We generally use a noun or a verb + *-ing* after the likes and dislikes phrases.

I like swimming in the sea.

Reading & Writing a web post about the best time to visit your country

8 Read these two posts on a travel forum and answer the questions.

- 1 Where does Jean-Luc want to go?
- 2 What is Varsha's answer to his question?
- 3 What does she say about **a**) the weather, **b**) the crowds, and **c**) the facilities (shops, etc.) at this time of year?



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Yesterday 15:23

Jean-Luc My wife and I would like to go on holiday to southern India next year, to Goa. When is the best time to go?

Today 09:17

Varsha The most popular time to come to Goa is November to March. This is our winter season. In these months, the weather is very pleasant. It's not too hot or too rainy and the sea is nice and calm. But there are a lot of tourists at this time. The beaches are very crowded and the prices are high. So I think the best time is October. Then you can have good weather and avoid the crowds, and the hotels are not too expensive. The only problem is that some of the shops and restaurants are not open.

I hope that helps.

Enjoy your trip!

9a Read the Language for writing box about linking ideas.

LANGUAGE FOR WRITING linking ideas with *and*, *but* and *so*

- We can join sentences using the linkers *and*, *but* or *so*.
The weather is good. There aren't too many people. → The weather is good and there aren't too many people.
- In informal writing, e.g. web posts and informal emails, we often use these linkers at the beginning of the sentence.
... the sea is nice and calm. But there are a lot of tourists at this time.

b Rewrite the sentences below. Make each neutral (= not formal or informal) pair of sentences into one sentence, using *and*, *but* or *so*. For each informal pair, begin the second sentence with *And*, *But* or *So*.

- 1 It rains every day. It's not heavy rain. (neutral)
- 2 The restaurants are great. They're not too expensive. (neutral)
- 3 It's a very interesting street. It can be a bit dangerous at night. (informal)
- 4 The temperature reaches 40°C. People go to the mountains where it's cooler. (neutral)
- 5 All the children are on holiday at this time of year. The beaches get crowded. (informal)
- 6 There's an excellent museum. It's free to enter. (neutral)

10a TASK Write a post for a travel forum about the best time to visit your country or town. Choose two or three topics from the box to write about or use your own ideas. Use the phrases below.

The best/most popular time to ...

... too expensive/hot/rainy/crowded

The only problem is ...

the weather crowds special festivals prices facilities

b Swap your post with a partner. If you are from the same place, do you agree with the post? If you are from a different place, ask questions to find out more.

