

WEATHER IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING AT HOME

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The topic "Weather" is studied almost at every level, at schools or at the universities, but teaching it, different weather proverbs and sayings and different methods of predicting which exist in the English language are not mentioned. That is why I'd like to introduce this material. I really hope that it will be useful and necessary for teachers and students who want to learn English with success.

We are affected by the weather – whether we are teachers, pilots, sailors, sportsmen or even if we just go to work. Our plans or our life can be at stake, based on the observations we can make about ever changing weather patterns. I hope you have heard a wise saying concerning the weather in Great Britain: "Other countries have a climate, in England we have weather."

If you live in Great Britain you should take an umbrella with you almost every day and it is very important to know exact weather forecast. Why? The weather in Great Britain is very changeable and unpredictable. The mountains, the Atlantic Ocean and the warm waters of the Gulf Stream influence the climate of this country. It is true that a fine morning can change into a wet afternoon and evening or the reverse.

That's why there are several rain and wind proverbs and sayings in Great Britain. Here are some of them. Sometimes it is very difficult to find a literary translation for them.

- Rain before seven, fine before eleven (rain before seven, clear by eleven). – Семь пятниц на неделе.

- It never rains but it pours. – Пришла беда, растворяй ворота.
- If there were no clouds, we should not enjoy the sun. – Нет худа без добра.
- The wind can't be caught in a net. – Воду в решете носить.
- Any port in a storm. – В любви все средства хороши.
- Hoist your sail when the wind is fair. – Куй железо пока горячо.
- Oaks may fall when reeds withstand the storm. – Мал, да удал.
- A quiet conscience sleeps in thunder. – С чистой совестью и в грозу хорошо спишь.
- Save it for a rainy day. – Отложить на черный день.
- After a storm comes the calm. – Слезы, что гроза: потекут, да и обсохнут.
- After rain comes fair weather. – Не все ненастье, будет и красное солнышко.
- The morning sun never lasts a day. – Ничто не вечно под луной, все проходит.
- It is an ill wind that blows no good. – Нет худа без добра.
- Sow the wind and reap the whirlwind. – Что посеешь, то и пожнешь.

People have been forecasting the weather for centuries. Long ago, before weather forecasts existed, sailors and shepherds relied on clues from the sky and nature to predict oncoming storms or mild weather. By observing the clouds, sun, moon, plants and animals, they learned to detect and understand atmospheric pressure changes that affected weather patterns.

In this modern age, we've come to rely on television and radio forecasts, and meteorologists with sophisticated equipment for up-to-date weather information. We've forgotten the simple methods our ancestors used to assess weather stability, some of which

are still relied upon by farmers, sailors, campers, and outdoors people alike. Nowadays, people use different methods and systems for monitoring atmospheric conditions. These are Earth Observing System, Aerospace Technology Enterprise, RB99 forecast system and other. For example, Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) uses the power of computers to make a forecast. Complex computer programs, also known as forecast models, run on supercomputers and provide predictions on many atmospheric variables such as temperature, pressure, wind, and rainfall.

In Great Britain the Government Meteorological-Office, The BBC Weather Centre, the National Weather Service and several other weather agencies publish a lot of information every day. It is used by professional forecasters to predict weather conditions even for the local neighborhood. But how was it two or three centuries ago? Have you ever thought of it? One of the traditional ways of forecasting the weather used pine cones and seaweed. When the air has a high level of humidity there is a higher chance of rain, when the humidity is low, there is more chance of fine weather. Pine cones and seaweed react to changes in humidity - pines cones open, and seaweed feels dry when the humidity is low, while high humidity has the opposite effect.

Another way is to observe animals. They are more likely to react to changes in air pressure than we are. Even grass may help us. Check it for dew at sunrise. If the grass is dry, this indicates clouds or strong breezes, which can mean rain. If there's dew, it probably won't rain that day.

While folk wisdom can still provide a guide to help forecast weather, today's methods of prediction increasingly rely on technology. Satellites, balloons, ships, aircraft and weather centers with sensitive monitoring equipment, send data to computers. The data is then processed, and the weather forecast. However, even this system cannot predict weather for longer than about a week. Ken Ring, an English writer, thinks that the Moon helped people forecast because it cause weather.

Of course people used different information and made their notes which are called weather proverbs now. Such expressions are usually based on someone's observations and not on scientific studies. Because climates and weather patterns differ throughout the world, a weather proverb based on observations in one location may not be valid in another location. Some proverbs arose simply from coincidence, not weather patterns, and therefore may seldom hold true. But under certain circumstances, some proverbs do hold up to science. There are over 600 folk sayings and weather proverbs will help us to predict the weather. Most of them are quite modern, but here are some of the oldest.

- Clear moon, frost soon. – Чистая луна – скоро мороз.
- Clouds going in different directions – bad weather coming, probably hail. – Облака бродят в различном направлении – плохая погода предшествует, возможен град.
- Flies will swarm before a storm. Перед штормом мухи будут толпиться.
- Halo around the sun or moon, rain or snow coming soon. – Сияние вокруг солнца или луны – вскоре будет дождь или снег.
- Rainbow in the morning gives you fair warning. – Радуга утром – отличный показатель.
- When the stars begin to huddle, the earth will soon become a puddle. – Когда звезды собираются в кучу – вскоре будут осадки.
- Geese fly higher in fair weather than in foul. – Гуси летают высоко в ясную погоду, чем в грязную.
- The higher the clouds, the better the weather. – Высокие облака – улучшение погоды.

- Sun or moon halos indicate a coming rain: the larger the halo, the nearer the precipitation. – Сияние солнца или луны указывает на то, что будет дождь: большие галлы – в ближайшее время осадки.

- When smoke descends, good weather ends. – Когда дым опускается – хорошая погода заканчивается.

It goes without saying these proverbs and sayings helped the English people in predicting weather. Maybe they can be used nowadays.