

Week 5: Weather and Climate

1. Introduction and Learning Objectives

This lecture introduces students to the concepts of **weather** and **climate**, two essential aspects of physical geography. These elements are crucial for understanding environmental conditions, planning land use, and studying human-environment interactions.

By the end of the lecture, students will be able to:

- Differentiate between weather and climate.
- Use accurate English vocabulary to describe both.
- Apply appropriate adjectives and verbs to describe atmospheric phenomena.
- Practice forming descriptive sentences using the **present simple** and **adverbs of frequency**.

2. Key Vocabulary and Dual Definitions

Weather



- **Definition 1:** “The condition of the atmosphere at a particular place and time, including temperature, humidity, wind, and precipitation.”

— *Cambridge Dictionary of Geography*, 2021

- **Definition 2:** “The short-term state of the atmosphere described by variables like sun, cloud, wind, and rain.”
— *National Geographic Glossary*, 2020

Examples:

- *The weather today is sunny and dry.*
- *Weather can change quickly, especially in mountainous regions.*

Climate



- **Definition 1:** “The average weather conditions of a region over a long period, typically 30 years or more.”
— *World Meteorological Organization (WMO)*
- **Definition 2:** “The long-term pattern of temperature, precipitation, humidity, wind, and seasons in a specific area.”
— *Oxford Dictionary of Geography*, 2022

Examples:

- *Algeria has a Mediterranean climate in the north and a desert climate in the south.*
- *Climate affects agriculture and water resources.*

Wind

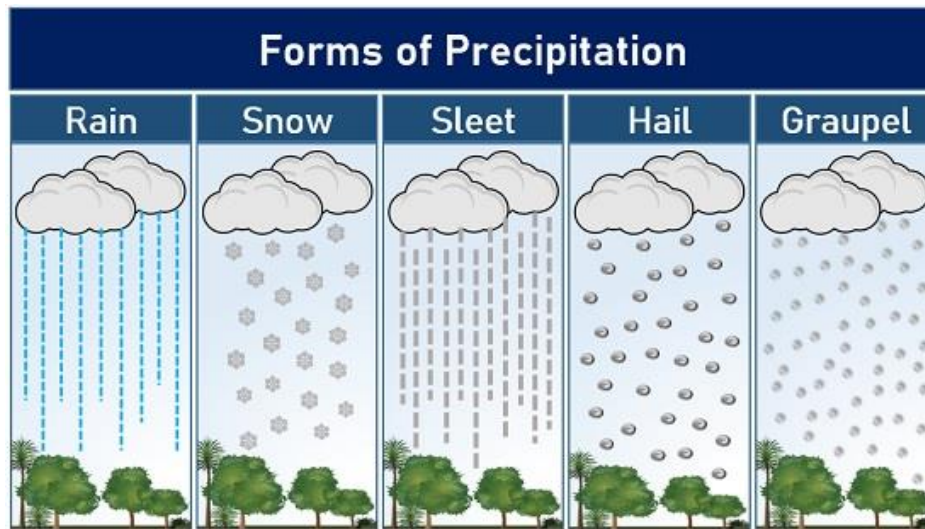


- **Definition 1:** “The movement of air from areas of high pressure to areas of low pressure.”
— *Physical Geography Textbook*, Pearson, 2019
- **Definition 2:** “Air in motion caused by the uneven heating of the Earth’s surface.”
— *Geography for Today*, Longman, 2018

Examples:

- *Strong winds often accompany thunderstorms.*
- *The trade winds blow from east to west near the equator.*

Precipitation



- **Definition 1:** “Any form of water - liquid or solid - falling from the atmosphere to the Earth’s surface.”
— *National Weather Service (USA)*
- **Definition 2:** “The process by which water vapor condenses and falls as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.”
— *Environmental Geography Handbook, 2020*

Examples:

- *Annual precipitation in the Sahara is less than 50 mm.*
- *Heavy precipitation can cause flooding in urban areas.*

3. Grammar Focus: Adverbs of Frequency + Present Simple

Adverbs of Frequency:

- always – usually – often – sometimes – rarely – never

Examples in Use:

- *It usually rains in spring.*
- *The wind often blows from the north.*
- *Deserts rarely receive heavy rainfall.*
- *It never snows in the Sahara.*

Grammar Rule:

Place adverbs **before the main verb** (except with “to be,” where the adverb comes after).

Example:

- People **often** watch the weather forecast.
- The sky **is usually** cloudy in winter.

Grammar References:

- Murphy, R. (2012). *English Grammar in Use*. CUP
- Eastwood, J. (2002). *Oxford Practice Grammar*. OUP

4. Language Practice Task

Task 1: Fill in the blanks with appropriate adverbs of frequency.

Task 2: Describe today’s weather and compare it to the climate of your region.

5. Homework Assignment

Write a paragraph (8–10 sentences) comparing the weather in two Algerian cities (e.g., Constantine vs. Tamanrasset).

Use:

- At least 4 vocabulary words from the lecture
- 3 adverbs of frequency
- 3 present simple verbs

6. References

- Oxford Dictionary of Geography (2022)
- National Geographic Glossary (2020)
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- Murphy, R. (2012). *English Grammar in Use*. CUP
- Environmental Geography Handbook, Pearson (2020)
- Cambridge Dictionary of Geography (2021)