

Photocopiable activity 1A**Are you a grammar buff?**

Sentences	Right R	Wrong W	How certain are we?	Points lost (-)	Points gained (+)
				Points lost (-)	Points gained (+)
1 It's the most exciting place he has ever been visiting and he's making the most of every day he spends there.	[]	[]	—	—	—
2 We are pleased to announce that a new version of the program is currently being devised.	[]	[]	—	—	—
3 A large number of people is taking part in the fun run this year.	[]	[]	—	—	—
4 We had been driving around for an hour looking for the place before we decided to call it a day and go home.	[]	[]	—	—	—
5 Can you know me when you'll have finished writing that report?	[]	[]	—	—	—
6 They've been saving for quite a few years now, so are hoping they'll be able to buy a home soon.	[]	[]	—	—	—
7 He was always of the opinion that if it can be done, it will be done.	[]	[]	—	—	—
8 Although it seems a bit off the beaten track, I will guarantee you'll find all the facilities you need there.	[]	[]	—	—	—
9 Swimming is said to being the best all-round exercise you can do.	[]	[]	—	—	—
10 Even though he'd run most of the way, he only just managed to catch the last train.	[]	[]	—	—	—
11 Last year the race was started by a so-called celebrity that hardly anyone recognised.	[]	[]	—	—	—
12 I hear there has been a fantastic turnout for the match the other day.	[]	[]	—	—	—
13 She's been eating dinner when her cousins turned up unexpectedly.	[]	[]	—	—	—
14 We were watching the news when the door slammed and Gina came running into the room.	[]	[]	—	—	—
15 Details of the tour venues were made available online tomorrow morning.	[]	[]	—	—	—

Total points lost / gained: — —**Overall TOTAL (gained points minus lost points)** —

MEANINGS 2+

current

claim

stable

fortune

mole

foul

MEANINGS 2+

bug

shadow

smart

mug

glare

shrink

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5 Weather problems

Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

blisters	dropped	power cut	sunburnt
bucketing down	froze over	snowed in	

- It was and all the parents drove their kids to school rather than letting them walk, so the traffic was horrendous!
- There was a blizzard and we got totally We had to literally dig ourselves out.
- There was a huge storm and then there was a We didn't have any electricity for about three days!
- It to about minus twenty and all the rivers
- I'm not really used to hot weather and it was absolutely scorching, so I got really badly It was horrible. I came out in everywhere.

Now complete these sentences with the words in the box.

chaos	foggy	skidded	tailback
downpour	icy	soaked	visibility

- There was so much black ice on the roads we actually right off at one point. We were lucky no-one was hurt.
- It rained for about ten hours non-stop and then it all froze during the night, so it was total on the roads in the morning.
- It was the middle of winter and the roads were really and there'd been an accident, so there was a huge on the motorway.
- The drive back up from the coast was a nightmare! It was really and it was night-time, so we had almost zero
- I got cycling in to work yesterday! It was nice and sunny when I left my house, but then suddenly the skies opened and I got caught in this

6 Speaking

Discuss these questions with a partner.

- Have you ever had any similar problems to those mentioned above? When? What happened?
- Have you ever had any other problems because of the weather?
- Have you ever had any other problems while you were driving or while you were a passenger in a car?

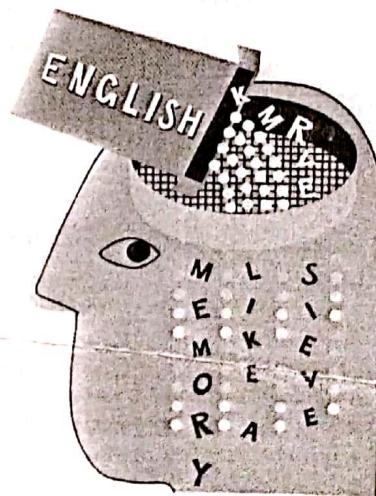
7 Similes

A simile is when we say something is like something else. For example, in Conversation 3 you heard that the heat when you get off the plane in Malaysia 'is like walking into a wall'.

Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

like a mudbath	like a log	like a sieve
like dirt	like a glove	like a pig
like cat and dog	like the plague	

- It'd been raining so hard the pitch was
- The heat was just unbearable. I was sweating
- I can't believe those two are still together. They fight !
- I don't know how she puts up with it. I'd leave him if I was her. He treats her !
- A:** Did you sleep well?
B: Yeah,
- I can't stand the guy! I avoid him
- A:** Do you like the cut of those jeans? Do they fit OK?
B: Yeah, They're really comfy.
- I've studied some of these things before, but I can't remember any of them! I've got a memory !



The similes above are fixed expressions. However, we also often make up our own creative ones. Write your own endings for the similes below.

- It was total chaos in the office. Everyone was running around like
- Have you seen the way he runs? He runs like
- I can't stand him. He acts like
- When we opened the box up, the smell was disgusting. It was like
- You should've seen the place. It was like

Compare your ideas with a partner. Who has the best ones?

WEATHER

Correct the spelling:

droght

scroching

huricane

drizle

blazzard

hatwave

chily

fourcast

flud

Indean summer

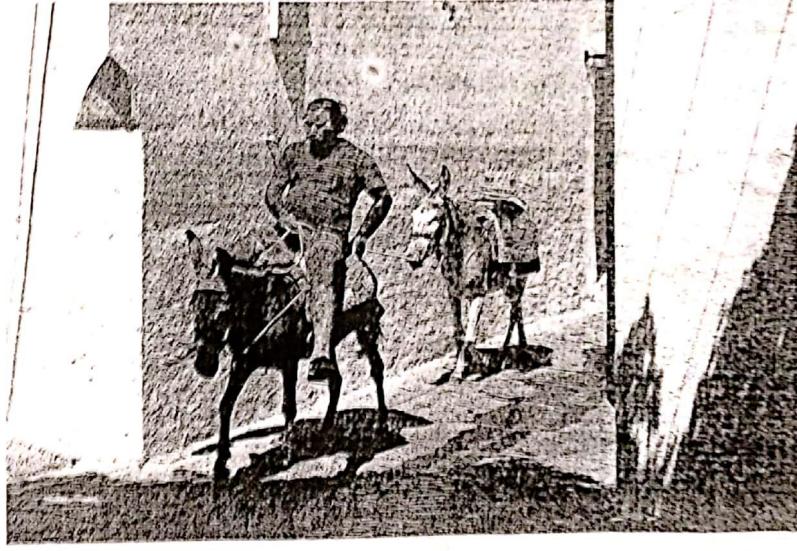
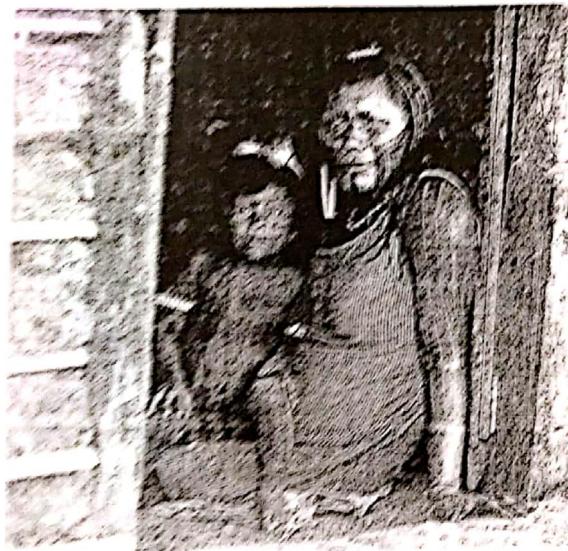
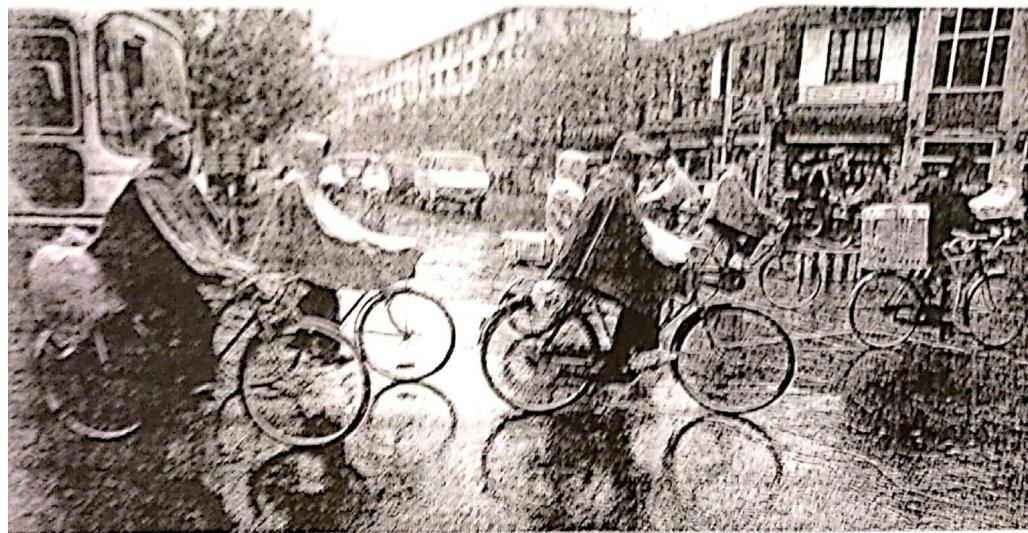
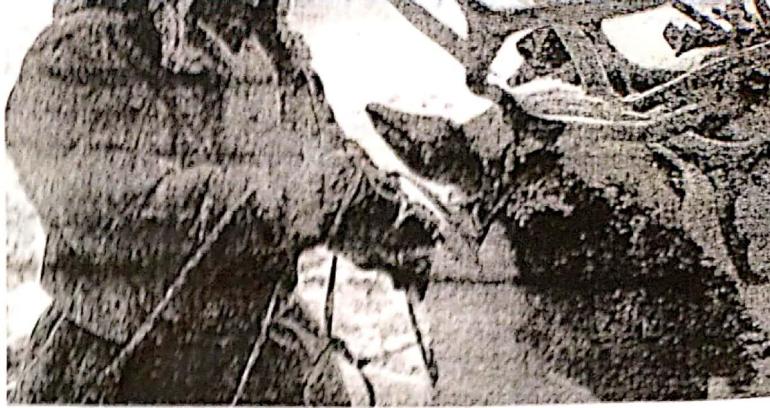
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The outlook for tomorrow



Introduction

A Which of the scenes above show weather conditions most similar to those in your country?

B What do you like and dislike about the climate of your country?

C How does the climate of a country affect the people who live there? Think about these aspects of people's lives:

- their daily routines
- their eating and drinking habits
- their clothes
- their homes and other buildings
- their character and attitude to life

PART THREE

You are going to read a newspaper article. Seven paragraphs have been removed from the article. Choose from the paragraphs A–H the one which fits each gap (27–33). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use. In the exam you will mark your answers on a separate answer sheet.

Rainmaker with his Head in the Clouds

Critics dismissed Graeme Mather's attempts to make clouds rain. But now recent experiments appear to have vindicated him. Anjana Ahuya reports.

Dr Graeme Mather lived his life with his head in the clouds, as a documentary film to be shown this week shows. Against the advice of almost everybody else in the meteorological community, the Canadian scientist devoted his professional life to trying to make clouds rain.

27

Before Dr Mather became involved, the science of weather modification had already claimed many reputations. The idea that clouds could be manipulated first circulated in the 1940s, and efforts gathered pace soon after the Second World War.

28

However, the entire discipline fell into disrepute when commercial companies hijacked the idea, took it around the world, and then failed to deliver on their promises. Cloud-seeding, as the process was known, became the preserve of crackpots and charlatans.

29

Scientists theorised that if they could inject the cloud with similarly shaped crystals, these imposter crystals would also act as frames around which droplets would clump. The cloud would then be tricked into raining. Silver iodide, whose crystals resemble those of ice, seemed the best bet. Sadly, none of the experiments, including Dr Mather's, which had been going for more than five years, seemed to work. Dr Mather was about to admit defeat when serendipity intervened.

30

Dr Mather was convinced that something that the place was spewing into the atmosphere was encouraging the downpour. Subsequent experiments confirmed that hygroscopic salts pouring into the sky from there were responsible. Hygroscopic salts attract water – once in the atmosphere, the particles act as magnets around which raindrops can form.

31

He was wary; Dr Mather was known to be a smooth-talking salesman. 'He was charming and charismatic, and many scientists don't trust that,' he says. 'He was also not well-published because he had been working in the commercial sector. Overall, he was regarded as a maverick. On that occasion, he presented results that I was convinced were impossible. Yet the statistical evidence was overwhelming, which I couldn't understand.'

32

'If those findings can be reproduced there, it will be the most exciting thing to have happened in the field for 20 years. It will be remarkable because some of the results are not scientifically explainable.' He adds, however, that scientists must exercise caution because cloud-seeding is still mired in controversy. He also points out that, with water being such a precious resource, success will push the research into the political arena.

33

Dr Cooper says: 'With the paper mill, he saw something that other people wouldn't have seen. I am still uncomfortable with his idea because it throws up major puzzles in cloud physics. But if Dr Mather was right, it will demonstrate that humans can change clouds in ways that were once thought impossible.'

A Dr Mather refused to be daunted by this image. After all, the principle seemed perfectly plausible. Water droplets are swept up to the top of the clouds on updrafts, where they become supercooled (ie, although the temperature is below freezing, the water remains liquid). When a supercooled droplet collides with an ice crystal, it freezes on contact and sticks. Successive collisions cause each ice crystal to accumulate more water droplets; the crystals grow until they become too heavy to remain suspended in the atmosphere. As the crystals fall through the cloud, they become raindrops. The ice crystals therefore act as frames to 'grow' raindrops.

B Dr Mather unfortunately will not be involved in the debate about such matters. He died aged 63, shortly before the documentary was completed. It will ensure that this smooth-talking maverick is given the recognition he deserves.

C He and a colleague decided to collect a last batch of data when they flew into a tiny but ferocious storm. That storm, Dr Mather says in the film, changed his life. Huge droplets were spattering on the tiny plane's windscreen. No such storm had been forecast. Back on the ground, they discovered the storm was located directly above a paper mill.

D A trial in Mexico has been running for two years, and the signs are promising. 'We were sufficiently encouraged in the first year to continue the seeding research. But the results are preliminary, because we have only a very small sample of clouds at the moment. We need to work over two more summers to reach a proper conclusion.'

Now check your answers to Part Three of the test.

E He arranged to fly to South Africa 'with the full intention of explaining what was wrong with the experiment'. Instead, he came back convinced that Dr Mather was on to something. He is now running two experiments, one in Arizona and one in northern Mexico, to try to verify the South African results. The experiments use potassium chloride, which is similar to table salt (sodium chloride) and, it is claimed, non-polluting.

F The scientific community remained sniffy in the face of this apparent proof. Foremost among the sceptics was Dr William Cooper, of the United States National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR). Dr Cooper, regarded as one of the world's finest cloud scientists, saw Dr Mather present his astonishing claims at a cloud physics conference in Montreal.

G They involved weather experts firing rockets into clouds to stop them producing hail, which damages crops. The clouds, it was hoped, would dissolve into a harmless shower.

H The desire to do so led him to set up a project in South Africa, which was ultimately to convince him that it was possible. As the programme reveals, experiments around the world appear to prove his faith was justified.