



# **SPEAKING**

## **UNIT 4**

*Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.*



# **GRAMMAR**

## GRAMMAR FOR SPEAKING Count and Noncount Nouns

**Count nouns** are nouns that we can count. They can be singular or plural.

Singular: a **person**, one **mountain**, an **umbrella**, a terrible **storm**

Plural: **people**, two **mountains**, **umbrellas**, terrible **storms**, many **snacks**

**Noncount nouns** are nouns that we cannot count. They do not usually have plural forms.

**temperature**, bright **sunshine**, some **ice**, a lot of **rain**

Some nouns can be both count and noncount, but the meanings may be different.

Count: It rained three **times** last night.

Noncount: I don't have any **time**.

### Subject-verb agreement

When count and noncount nouns are the subject of a sentence, use the correct verb form.

Noncount nouns use singular verbs forms.

Count: An **umbrella is** useful in the rain.

**Umbrellas are** useful in the rain.

Noncount: **Rain is** important for farming. (NOT ~~Rain are~~ important for farming.)

- A** Two friends are packing for a camping trip in the mountains. Complete their conversation with the words from the box. Then practice the conversation with a partner.

are    bottles    is    is    raincoats    time    times    umbrella

A: We don't have a lot of <sup>1</sup> **time** . The bus leaves in half an hour.

Did you pack your bag?

B: I'm almost done.

A: Why are you taking an <sup>2</sup> **umbrella** ?

B: Because umbrellas <sup>3</sup> **are** useful when it rains—obviously! Last time I went to the mountains, it rained three <sup>4</sup> **times** !

A: But that umbrella <sup>5</sup> **is** huge! Leave it. I have two plastic <sup>6</sup> **raincoats** . They're great because they're small and easy to carry. You can take one of them.


B: OK. And can you bring two water <sup>7</sup> **bottles** ?

A: Sure! Water <sup>8</sup> **is** important. We may go on a long hike.

**B** For each noun, write *C* for count or *N* for noncount.

N water      C gloves      C battery      C pen      N food  
N sunscreen      C umbrella      N medicine      N chocolate      C matches

## PRONUNCIATION Syllable Stress

 A syllable is a word or part of a word that has one vowel sound. In words with two or more syllables, we usually stress one syllable. We say it more loudly and clearly.

### One syllable

**flood**  
**storm**


### Two syllables

**mea•sure**  
**a•mount**

### Three syllables

**pre•dic•tion**  
**tem•pera•ture\***

\*With some words, there are silent letters. For example, the second *e* in *temperature* is silent, so the word has three syllables, not four.

**C** Listen to the words from exercise B. Mark the main stress and write the number of syllables. 

2 water      1 gloves      3 battery      1 pen      1 food  
2 sunscreen      3 umbrella      3 medicine      2 chocolate      2 matches

## GRAMMAR FOR SPEAKING A, an, some, any, a lot of

We can use *some*, *any*, and *a lot of* with count and noncount nouns. We use *a* and *an* with count nouns only. We use *some* in affirmative statements and *any* in negative statements.

	Count nouns	Noncount nouns
<b>Affirmative statements</b>	You should bring <b>an umbrella</b> . There are <b>some mountains</b> . He has <b>a lot of warm clothes</b> .	There's <b>some snow</b> . We need <b>some help</b> . There's <b>a lot of grass</b> .
<b>Negative statements</b>	You don't need <b>an umbrella</b> . We don't need <b>any new clothes</b> . It doesn't get <b>a lot of rain</b> .	We don't need <b>water</b> . There isn't <b>any ice</b> . We don't have <b>a lot of time</b> .
<b>Questions</b>	Do I need <b>an umbrella</b> ? Do we need <b>some warm clothes</b> ? Does the area have <b>a lot of trees</b> ?	Do we need <b>water</b> ? Do we need <b>any help</b> ? Do we have <b>some time</b> ? Do we have <b>a lot of time</b> ?

**E** Choose the correct word or phrase in this description

In the first photo, there are <sup>1</sup> (a / some) beautiful mountains. And in the sky, there are <sup>2</sup> (a lot of / any) clouds. There's also <sup>3</sup> (a / some) lake. It looks very cold because there's <sup>4</sup> (some / a lot of) snow and ice. There aren't <sup>5</sup> (some / any) houses, so I don't think people live here. Visitors would need <sup>6</sup> (any / a lot of) warm clothes.



Kenai Fjords National Park, Alaska, USA





Nouns in English can be either countable or uncountable. Some nouns can be both countable and uncountable, usually with differences in meaning.

'Quantifiers', like *some*, *many*, *few* and *all*, are used to refer to quantity. There are three types of quantifier – those which are used:

- only with countable nouns
- only with uncountable nouns
- with both types of noun.

Used only with countable nouns	Used only with uncountable nouns	Used with both countable and uncountable nouns
(a) few fewer several many every a (large) number of	(a) little less much a large amount of a great deal of	all a lot of; lots of more some plenty of

a few | a little: a small number | a small amount – often we feel this is good enough

few | little: not many | not much – we feel this is not enough or fewer/ less than we expected

## SPEAKING SKILL

## SPEAKING SKILL Express Likes and Dislikes

We can use many different verbs to express that we like or don't like something.

**Likes:** I (really) like ... I enjoy ... I prefer ... (to...) I love ...

**Dislikes:** I (really) don't like ... I dislike ... I hate ... I can't stand ...

Say I don't mind ... when you have no strong preference.

I **don't mind** the rain. It doesn't bother me.

When you say you like or dislike something in a conversation, you can give a reason.

I **really like** the rain because I can stay inside and read.

I **can't stand** the heat. When it's 40°C, I can't walk anywhere.

**A** Read and listen to the paragraph below. Then answer the question and find the expressions. 🔊

1. What is the definition of a *chionophile*? A person who loves cold weather.
2. Underline the verbs that express likes.
3. Double-underline one expression that expresses a dislike.

Most people like to live in a warm climate, or they prefer going to hot places for vacation. But I'm a *chionophile*. That means I love cold weather! I enjoy walking through the snow because it's so quiet. That doesn't mean I like to be cold. I can't stand it! But I like to be warm in cold places, so I have a very warm coat.



## GRAMMAR FOR SPEAKING Verb + Gerund or Infinitive

After verbs such as like, love, prefer, don't like, can't stand, and hate, use either the infinitive form or the gerund form. There is little or no important change in meaning.

*I **like to live** in a warm place.*

*I **like living** in a warm place.*

After other verbs such as enjoy, dislike, and don't mind, use the gerund form.

*I **enjoy walking** through snow.*

*(NOT ~~I enjoy to walk~~ through snow.)*

**C** Choose the correct answer. In some sentences, both answers are correct. Then practice the conversations with a partner.

A: Do you like <sup>1</sup> (to go / going) out when it snows?

B: Yes, I do, because I really enjoy <sup>2</sup> (to ski / skiing).

A: I can't stand <sup>3</sup> (to watch / watching) old movies. They're so slow! What about you?

B: I don't mind <sup>4</sup> (to watch / watching) them. Sometimes they're funny.

A: How do you feel about classical music?

B: I love <sup>5</sup> (to listen / listening) to it. It's so relaxing.

A: Do you prefer <sup>6</sup> (to drink / drinking) tea or coffee?

B: I don't mind <sup>7</sup> (to have / having) either. But I probably drink more coffee in the morning and more tea in the afternoon.



# SPEAKING

## UNIT 4: WILD WEATHER

*Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.*



Earthquake



Tsunami



Fire



Freeze



Tornado



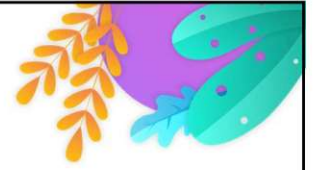
Hail



Lightning strikes



Extreme heat



### What season is your favorite?

- What is the season? What elements do you love about your favorite season (e.g., weather, scenery, activities)?
- Are there any particular activities or hobbies you engage in during this time?
- Are there any kinds of seasonal foods that you enjoy during this time?
- Are there any events, festivals or holidays tied to your favorite season that you look forward to?
- Do you have any memorable experiences or traditions associated with this season?
- How does this season make you feel?



## FINAL TASK





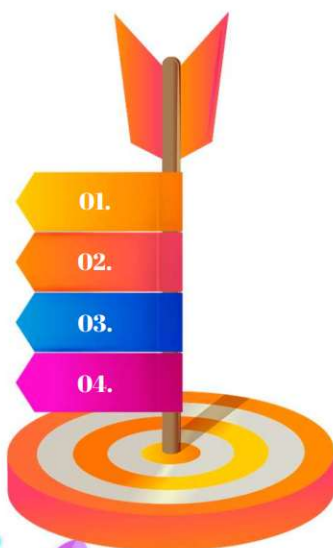
## Describe a time when the weather was bad

You should say:

- When it happened
- What the weather was like
- What you did during the bad weather

And explain how you felt about the bad weather

## When it happened



### 01.

What was the specific date or season when the weather was bad? What was the location where you experienced it?

### 02.

Were there any warnings or forecasts that prepared you for it?

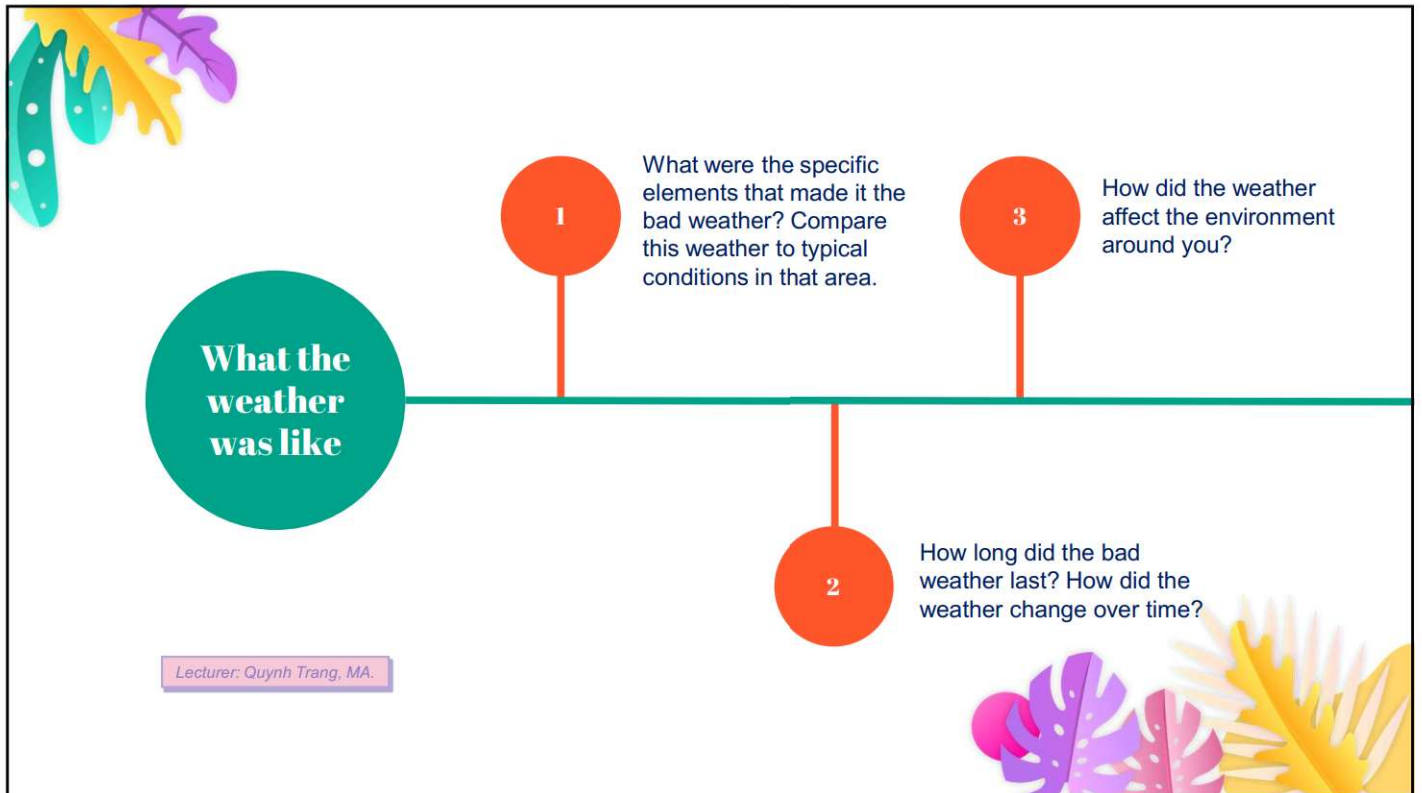
### 03.

Was there a particular event or occasion happening that day?

### 04.

How did the timing of the bad weather affect your plans?

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1

What emotions did you experience? How did your feelings evolve over the course of the event?

3

Why do you think this was a memorable weather experience, compared to other weather events? Did it have any long-term effects on your feelings or point of view?

2

What do you think might be the cause(s) of this bad weather? What should we do about it?

**How  
you felt**

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