

4 PRONUNCIATION

vowel sounds



Spelling and pronunciation

Most vowels, or combinations of vowels, can be pronounced in more than one way. If you are unsure what the vowel sound is in a new word, check with your dictionary.

- a Look at the groups of words below and circle the word you think is different.

- 1 blow snow showers below
- 2 weather sweat heavy heat
- 3 drizzle blizzard chilly mild
- 4 hard warm dark garden
- 5 flood cool soon loose
- 6 fought ought drought brought
- 7 thunder sunny hurricane humid
- 8 scorching world tornado storm

- b (2 34))) Listen and check.

- c (2 35))) Listen and write five sentences. Then practise saying them.

- d Talk to a partner.

- What kind of weather do you associate with the different seasons where you live?
- What's the weather like today? Have you heard the forecast for tomorrow / next weekend?
- What's your favourite weather? Does the weather affect your mood? What do you like doing when the weather is bad?
- What kind of weather do you think is the best and the worst for...?
 - a camping
 - b going for a walk in the mountains
 - c driving
 - d running a marathon
 - e shopping
 - f sightseeing
- Do you think global warming is affecting the climate? In what ways has climate change affected the weather in your country?

5 LISTENING & SPEAKING



- a (2 36))) You're going to listen to three people talking about their experiences of extreme weather in the UK. Listen once. Which speaker...?

- ☐ was both frightened and excited by the weather
☐ got quite stressed because of the weather
☐ really enjoyed themselves in spite of the bad weather

- b Listen again and make notes in the chart.

	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3
When did it happen?			
Where were they at the time?			
What kind of weather was it?			
What happened as a result?			



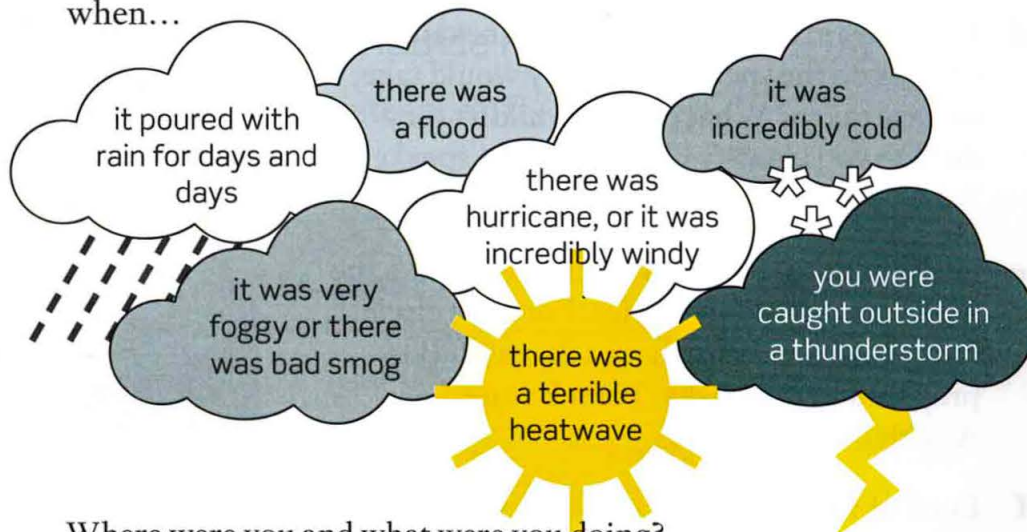
Modifiers with strong adjectives

When you are talking about extreme situations, e.g. very bad weather you can use:

- 1 Normal adjectives with a modifier (*very, really, extremely, incredibly, unbelievably*), e.g. *It was incredibly cold, extremely hot, unbelievably windy*, etc.
- 2 Strong adjectives, e.g. *It's boiling here - 40 degrees, It's freezing today*, etc.
- 3 Strong adjectives with *absolutely*, e.g. *It was absolutely freezing. The midday heat was absolutely scorching.*

Remember that we often use *a bit* or *rather* + adjective to express a negative idea, e.g. *It's a bit too hot. It's rather chilly today.*

- c In small groups, talk about a time when you were somewhere when...



Where were you and what were you doing?
 What did you do to protect yourself from the weather?
 Did you ever feel scared or in danger?

6 (2 37))) SONG Heatwave