



Weather phenomena

🔦 B1 Level

🔦 Duration: 45 min

🔦 Group lesson

🔦 Age: Teenagers and adults

🔦 Lesson goals

- Students can understand most factual information that they are likely to come across on familiar subjects of interest, provided they have sufficient time for re-reading;
- Students can communicate with reasonable accuracy in familiar contexts; have a good degree of grammatical control

🔦 Necessary background

Students are familiar with the usage of **a, an, the** and **zero article**.

1

Warm-up

🔦 Tip: if you want to use this task, do not show your students the lesson title. Alternatively, you can write the words on the whiteboard/print out the words. Do exercise 1 and after that hand out the worksheets.

Exercise 1: Read the names. What can these be? Let's brainstorm ideas.

Aurora Borealis

Waterspouts

Haboob

Frost flowers

Fire whirls

2

Grammar

Exercise 2: Fill in the gaps in the text with: a, an, the or zero article.

Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) 1

____(2) Northern Lights are ____ (3) natural light display in ____ (4) sky, usually seen in regions like ____ (5) Norway, ____ (6) Sweden, ____ (7) Finland, and ____ (8) Iceland. It is caused by solar wind particles interacting with Earth's magnetic field. ____ (9) lights appear in different colors and shapes, and it's ____ (10) beautiful sight to see.

Waterspouts 2

Waterspouts are tornadoes over water. They look like ____ (11) funnel-shaped cloud that touches ____ (12) surface of ____ (13) sea or ocean. They are most common in tropical areas like ____ (14) Caribbean Sea and ____ (15) Mediterranean Sea.

Haboob 3

____ (16) haboob is ____ (17) type of dust storm that occurs in regions like ____ (18) Sahara Desert in ____ (19) Africa and ____ (20) Middle East. It is caused by hot air rising from ____ (21) ground, creating strong winds that carry ____ (22) dust and sand.

Frost flowers 4

Frost flowers are delicate ice crystals that form on plants in extremely cold temperatures. They look like flowers made of ice, and they can be found in places like ____ (23) Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Fire whirls 5

Fire whirls are spinning columns of ____ (24) fire that occur during wildfires. They are also known as fire tornadoes and can reach up to 100 feet tall. They are most commonly found in dry regions like Australia and California. These are just ____ (25) few examples of unusual weather phenomena that you can see around ____ (26) world. Make sure to research and plan accordingly before going to see them!

3

Reading

Exercise 3: Work in pairs. Read the article and decide if the statements are true or false.

1. The Northern Lights are caused by the interaction of Earth's magnetic field with solar wind particles.
2. Waterspouts are most common in the Pacific Ocean.
3. Haboobs are caused by cold air rising from the ground.
4. Frost flowers can be found in warm regions like the Amazon rainforest.
5. Fire whirls are also known as fire hurricanes.

4

Vocabulary

Exercise 4: Read the definition and find the word in the text. All the words are given in the same order as they appear in the text. Check the answers together.

1. Unusual events that can be seen and studied p_____
2. Areas or parts of a country, world that are different from others in some way
r_____
3. Relating to the sun or using its energy
s_____
4. Big strong moving columns of air that form during strong thunderstorms and can cause a lot of damage
t_____
5. Very small particles of dirt or other substances that fly in the air and settle on surfaces
d_____
6. Easy to break d_____
7. Tall, thin structures that are often used to hold up buildings or bridges
c_____

5

Speaking

Exercise 5: Interview your classmate using the questions below.

1. Which weather phenomenon do you find most interesting?
2. Have you ever traveled to a place where any of these phenomena can happen?
3. Would you like to see any of these weather events in person?

Homework

Exercise 1: Read the dialogue and fill in the gaps.

regions (2)

tornadoes

phenomena

delicate

columns

Becky: Wow, I had no idea that there were so many unusual weather phenomena out there!

Ryan: Yeah, it's amazing how different _____(1) of the world can produce such unique and beautiful sights.

Izzy: Have any of you ever seen the Northern Lights?

Ryan: No, but I've always wanted to. It's definitely on my bucket list.

Becky: Me too! And those frost flowers...they sound so _____(2) and beautiful.

Izzy: My aunt actually went to see the Northern Lights in Norway last year. She said they were absolutely stunning.

Ryan: That's so cool. What about _____(3) over water? I've never heard of that before.

Becky: They're called waterspouts, right?

Ryan: Yeah, exactly. Apparently, they're most common in tropical areas like the Caribbean.

Izzy: And have you guys heard of fire whirls?

Becky: No, what are those?

Izzy: They're spinning _____(4) of fire that occur during wildfires. They can reach up to 100 feet tall.

Ryan: Whoa, that's intense. Where do they usually happen?

Izzy: Dry _____(5) like Australia and California.

Becky: This is all so fascinating!

Ryan: Yeah, nature is full of surprising _____(6).

Izzy: Definitely. We should plan a trip to see some of these things someday.

Becky: Count me in!

Exercise 2: Fill in the gaps in the text with: a, an, the or zero article.

There is _____(1) beautiful natural phenomenon that can be seen in _____(2) sky at night called _____(3) Northern Lights. It happens in _____(4) northern part of _____(5) world, like _____(6) Norway, _____(7) Sweden and _____(8) Canada. When _____(9) sun sends out particles into space, they interact with _____(10) Earth's magnetic field and create colourful lights in _____(11) sky. _____(12) lights are usually green, but sometimes they can be red, blue or purple. _____(13) people travel from all over _____(14) world to see _____(15) Northern Lights because it's so rare and magical. Some people even believe that _____(16) Northern Lights have special powers! If you ever get _____(17) chance to see them, make sure you wrap up warm because it's very cold outside at night. You'll need to find _____(18) dark place with no light pollution, like _____(19) forest or _____(20) hill, to get _____(21) best view. It's definitely worth staying up late for!



Correct answers

Exercise 2: Fill in the gaps in the text with: a, an, the or zero article.

- | | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. the | 8. - | 15. the | 22. - |
| 2. the | 9. the | 16. a | 23. the |
| 3. a | 10. a | 17. a | 24. - |
| 4. the | 11. a | 18. the | 25. a |
| 5. - | 12. the | 19. - | 26. the |
| 6. - | 13. the | 20. the | |
| 7. - | 14. the | 21. the | |

Exercise 3: Work in pairs. Read the article and decide if the statements are true or false.

1. True
2. False (They are most common in tropical areas like the Caribbean Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.)
3. False (They are caused by hot air rising from the ground.)
4. False (They can be found in places like the Arctic and Antarctic regions.)
5. False (They are also known as fire tornadoes.)

Exercise 4: Read the definition and find the word in the text. All the words are given in the same order as they appear in the text. Check the answers together.

1. phenomena
2. regions
3. solar
4. tornadoes
5. dust
6. delicate
7. columns

Homework

Exercise 1: Read the dialogue and fill in the gaps.

1. regions
2. delicate
3. tornadoes
4. columns
5. regions
6. phenomena

Exercise 2: Fill in the gaps in the text with: a, an, the or zero article.

- | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|
| 1. a | 8. - | 15. the |
| 2. the | 9. the | 16. the |
| 3. the | 10. the | 17. the |
| 4. the | 11. the | 18. a |
| 5. the | 12. The | 19. a |
| 6. - | 13. - | 20. a |
| 7. - | 14. the | 21. the |