

Project English and Geography

STEP 1: Find out about the weather

The Vikings¹ thought cats were a sign of heavy rain and that dogs were a sign of storms and wind. So 'It's raining cats and dogs' means a bad rainstorm². The cartoon is funny because people think it rains a lot in the UK, but is that true?



a) Look at these annual average rainfall totals³ (mm) and find the places in your atlas⁴.

Fort William	1900	Manchester	800	Falmouth	1100
Glasgow	1200	Norwich	600	Newcastle	670



b) Look at a relief⁵ map in your atlas which shows the highland⁶ and lowland⁷ areas⁸ of the UK. Where does it rain a lot? Where does it rain less? Can you explain why?

STEP 2: Collect weather words

The weather is with us all the time – rain, snow, sun, wind. When we talk about weather we describe what the atmosphere⁹ is like in one place at one time.

- Collect all the weather words you know and make a word web.
- Now look out of the window and write a short weather report. The words in your word web will help you.

Start like this: The weather in (place) (this morning) is ...



STEP 3: Make a weather forecast¹⁰

- Listen to the weather forecast and find out what the weather will be like in Wales.
- Look at the weather map and the weather symbols¹¹ on the next page. Find the regions on a map in your atlas.
- Write a UK weather forecast for the TV news. These Useful phrases may help you.
- Now do your weather forecast for a partner.

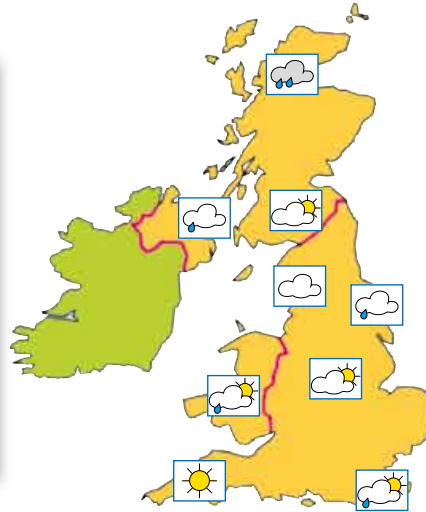
USEFUL PHRASES

Here is the UK weather forecast for (Monday, 14th April);
It will be (dry, wet, cloudy, ...) over (most of the country/...);
There will be (some sun, light¹³/heavy rain) in (the North / South / ...);
That's all for now and now back to (Susan).

¹Viking ['vaɪkɪŋ] = Wikinger / -in • ²rainstorm ['reɪnstɔ:m] = starke Regenfälle • ³annual average rainfall total [ˌænjʊəl ˌævɪdʒ 'reɪnfɔ:l tɔʊtl] = durchschnittliche Niederschlagsmenge pro Jahr • ⁴atlas ['ætɫəs] = Atlas • ⁵relief [rɪ'li:f] = Relief • ⁶highland ['haɪlənd] = Hochland- • ⁷lowland ['ləʊlənd] = Flachland- • ⁸area ['eəriə] = Gebiet, Region • ⁹atmosphere ['ætməsfɪə] = Atmosphäre • ¹⁰forecast ['fɔ:kɑ:st] = Vorhersage • ¹¹symbol ['sɪmbl] = Symbol • ¹²Met [met] = (Abkürzung für) Meteorologie • ¹³light rain [laɪt 'reɪn] = Nieselregen

The different regions on the weather map

- Northern Scotland
- Southern Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- Wales
- North-east England
- North-west England
- South-east England
- South-west England
- The Midlands

**The symbols on the weather map**

- sunny intervals
- light rain showers
- light rain
- heavy rain
- cloud / cloudy
- sun / sunny

**STEP 4: Give a presentation****PROJECT SKILLS**

If you have to prepare a presentation, you first look for important information. Then you must organize the information you have found. The ideas here will help you to present the information clearly.

1. **Start your presentation with an introduction¹⁴.**

The theme of today's presentation is ...
 Firstly we are going to talk about ... Secondly ... Then ...
 Our fourth and final part is ...
2. **Now present your information:**

To begin with, I'd like to look at ...
 The next point/idea is ...
 Let's have a look at/As you can see on the map ...
3. **At the end of your presentation you can summarize¹⁵ the main points and answer questions.**

Before we finish, we'd like to summarize the main points.
 Well, that brings us to the end of our presentation.
 If you have got any questions, we'll try to answer them.

STEP 5: Do a project: Britain's climate¹⁶

Climate is the average weather over many years. In the UK the climate is a bit different in every region.

- a) Make groups. Each group looks at one of the five regions on the map.
- b) Find out about the climate in your group's region. Look at: annual rainfall • average temperature • hours of sunshine¹⁷. (Remember the Project skills you learnt on page 23.)
- c) Now find out about the climate of the region where you live in Germany. *Is the UK really wetter? Give a presentation.*



¹⁴introduction [ˌɪntrəˈdʌkʃn] = Einleitung • ¹⁵(to) summarize [ˈsʌmraɪz] = zusammenfassen • ¹⁶climate [ˈklaɪmət] = Klima • ¹⁷sunshine [ˈsʌnʃaɪn] = Sonnenschein