

Unit 9 Sunshine and showers

Expressions using words related to the weather

Learn the expressions

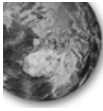
1 This unit deals with vocabulary about the weather. There are a lot of weather idioms in English that describe feelings or mental states. Let's look at some of them. Complete the sentences with the expressions below. Check your answers in the answer key on this page.

save it for a rainy day	fair-weather friend	under the weather
when it rains, it pours	in a fog	snowed under
his/her head in the clouds	weather the storm	on cloud nine
a stormy relationship		

- Someone who is feeling a little sick is _____.
- Someone who spends time with you only when it's convenient for him or her is a _____.
- If someone is _____, he or she is confused and unable to think clearly.
- When we come through a difficult situation without failing, we say we managed to _____.
- If you have more work than you can deal with, you are _____.
- Someone who is distracted or absentminded has _____.
- If we put something aside to use it when we need it, we _____.
- When two or more people are often angry at one another, they have _____.
- _____ means that when something good or bad happens, there's always a lot of it.
- Someone who is extremely happy about something is _____.

Answer Key

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. under the weather | 6. His/her head in the clouds |
| 2. fair-weather friend | 7. save it for a rainy day |
| 3. in a fog | 8. a stormy relationship |
| 4. weather the storm | 9. When it rains, it pours |
| 5. snowed under | 10. on cloud nine |



Use the expressions

2 Complete the sentences with the appropriate form of the expressions in the box.

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- I'd love to go away for a few days, but I'm totally _____ right now and couldn't possibly take any time off.
- Sarah and Matt have been _____ since their baby was born. They say it was the happiest day of their lives.
- Hank has been feeling _____ lately. I hope he's not coming down with that awful flu that's been going around.
- Who needs a _____ like you? The minute things get a little difficult, you run the other way!
- Last week, Bobby fell off his bike and broke his wrist. Then, yesterday, our car was stolen at the mall. So many troubles, all at one time. I can't believe it. _____!
- The economy is very weak right now, and business has been terrible. I'm feeling pretty depressed, but I hope we'll be able to _____.
- Some experts say that couples who have _____ at the beginning usually end up turning things around and not arguing much with each other.
- Sheila has been _____ lately because she has been working long hours and getting very little sleep.
- I hope you calm down soon. Since you met Paul, you've had _____ and you're driving all your friends crazy.
- How are you doing with your budget? My mother always taught me to _____. You should try to put some money away every month. If you do, you'll feel more optimistic about the future.

Make the expressions your own

3 Complete these sentences with information about yourself. Add as many details as possible.

- I feel snowed under when _____
- _____ puts me on cloud nine.
- _____ but I weathered the storm.
- Whenever I suspect someone is a fair-weather friend, I _____