

transcript

level 1

Try not to look at this until you've done all the exercises that go with the listening.

Sunny spells

- Richard: For this week's podcastsineenglish.com we're going to talk about one of the most popular topics of conversation in Britain, and that is the weather. So, Jackie, what's the weather like today?
- Jackie: It's a lovely, lovely day today, the sky is blue, there are some large, white clouds in the sky, a little bit of wind, and it's quite dry - super.
- Richard: Is it warm? Or cold?
- Jackie: Oh it's hot, it's very, very hot.
- Richard: Ah, so therefore we're not in Britain, are we?
- Jackie: No, we're not at all. We're in Thailand and the weather in general I think is much nicer in Thailand than in Britain.
- Richard: So ...er what about the weather in Britain then, what's it like there?
- Jackie: Well, Richard you know that it's horrible! Um... unfortunately the weather in Britain is really not very good, is it? It's very grey, cloudy, cold, and it rains a lot doesn't it?
- Richard: Yes, but it certainly rains a lot in other places as well.
- Jackie: Yes, I think the difference though is in tropical countries, for example, or in other European countries it rains a lot for a short time, but in Britain it rains a little bit all the time.
- Richard: Yes, it's the drizzle isn't it? The drizzly rain. But the best weather in the world has got to be an English summer day.
- Jackie: Why do you say that?
- Richard: Well, the sun's shining, there's a blue sky, English summer day - perfect weather.
- Jackie: OK, but what about when it's really, really cold though, Richard.
- Richard: Well, it doesn't really get very cold in England or Britain, does it? Er... I mean actually, one of the coldest places I've ever been to, ...er is on the equator. I remember I went to, and climbed up in fact,

Mount Kinabaloo, which is on the island of Borneo which is very near the equator, so at the bottom of the mountain it was boiling hot, very, very tropical but then as we climbed the mountain it got colder and colder and colder. And ...er in actual fact we stayed the night on the mountain, ...um in a little hut, and then the following day, we climbed to the top and it was absolutely freezing!

Jackie: And what were you wearing?

Richard: I was wearing all of the clothes I had with me. It was so cold I had my spare socks on my hands and also on my ears because of the wind it was so cold, so windy, it was blowing a gale. But, what a fantastic experience!

Jackie: Mmm, I think the coldest place I've been to is the desert when I was camping in Jordan. It was quite hot during the day but at night it was really, really freezing especially, as you can imagine, being in a tent. Overall I prefer hot weather but the problem that I have with tropical countries are the thunderstorms. I really don't like the thunder and the lightening, I must admit I get a little but frightened by all that. But you don't mind them, do you?

Richard: Oh you can't beat a good thunderstorm, watch the lightening show - it's great!

Jackie: Anyway, for people who, we hope, still come to Britain despite the horrible weather what do you recommend that people do on a cold winter's day in Britain?

Richard: [laughs] That's easy - stay in and watch TV!

Jackie: Oh really? I think the nicest thing is to go for a nice, long walk in a park or a wood and then to find a pub and to sit with a warming glass of whisky, sit in front of a open fire, I think that's the best thing to do.

Richard: Oh, I must admit that does seem very, very nice!