

# WHAT'S THE WEATHER LIKE?

## UNIT GOALS

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

- describe the weather
- use superlatives and the Simple Future
- pronounce the final -y sound

Traditional boats in  
Hội An, Việt Nam



## Preview

- A**  **2-27** Listen. Number the weather conditions in the order you hear them (1-4).



It's rainy.  
\_\_\_\_\_



It's sunny.  
\_\_\_\_\_




It's windy.  
\_\_\_\_\_



It's stormy.  
\_\_\_\_\_



- B**  **2-28** Listen and complete the chart. What's the weather like?

	RAINY	SUNNY	WINDY	STORMY	HOT	WARM	COOL	COLD
Hà Nội	✓							
Cape Town								
Rio de Janeiro								
Stockholm								

- C** Talk with a partner. What's the weather like today? What kind of weather do you like?

Today, the weather is cold. I like the weather to be warm and sunny.

## Language Focus

**A** 2-29 **Listen and read.** Then repeat the conversation and replace the words in **blue**.

**REAL ENGLISH** Cool!

**B** **Practice with a partner.** Replace any words to make your own conversation.



2-30

### TALKING ABOUT WEATHER—SUPERLATIVES AND SIMPLE FUTURE (P. 170)

**What's** the weather **like** today?  
**What's** the weather **like** in summer?

It's **warm**.  
It's always **dry** and **hot**. July is the **hottest** month.

**Will** the weather be **cold** tomorrow?

It **will be rainy**, but it **won't be cold**.  
**If** it's rainy, I'll **stay** home. I **won't** go out.

**Is it** good to visit in winter?

Yes, it is. Winter is the **most exciting** season.  
No, it isn't. Winter is the **coldest** season.

**How** hot **is** it?

It's (about) **30 degrees**. (30°)  
It's (about) **minus 12 degrees**. (-12°)



**C** **2-31** Look at the weather chart. Complete the conversation. Listen and check your answers. Then practice with a partner.

Hunter: What's the weather like where you live?

Sarah: Well, in Perth, it's always 1. (hot / cold) in January and February. That's the 2. (summer / autumn) here.

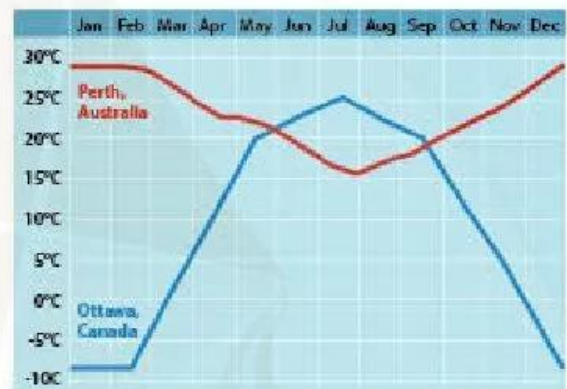
Hunter: Really? So when is it winter in Australia?

Sarah: Well, winter is from 3. (June to September / November to January).

Hunter: In Ottawa, winter is from 4. (November to March / October to December). It's always really 5. (cold / cool). Winters are long and snowy.

Sarah: Is it hot in the summer?

Hunter: Well, it's sometimes hot, but it's usually 6. (warm and sunny / cool and dry).



**D** What's the weather like where you live? Answer the questions. Discuss your answers with a partner.

1. What's the weather like in March? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What's the weather like in October? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What are the hottest/coldest months? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is it usually warm and sunny in August? \_\_\_\_\_
5. If it's warm tomorrow, what will you do? \_\_\_\_\_

**E** What's the weather like in South Africa tomorrow? **Student A:** Look at the weather map below. **Student B:** Turn to page 136. Ask and answer questions to complete the temperatures and weather conditions on your map.



# Unusual Weather

**Weather is sometimes very strange.**  
Here are some amazing facts about unusual weather.

This is a tornado. A tornado is a kind of \_\_\_\_\_ with very strong winds.

- A** Look at the photos.  
Complete the captions with the words from the box.

storm	ice
tornadoes	tennis

- B** 2-32 Listen to facts about the weather. Circle T for True or F for False.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Tornadoes are always the same color.          | T | F |
| 2. Tornadoes can pick up houses and move them.   | T | F |
| 3. Another word for tornadoes is "spinners."     | T | F |
| 4. Hailstones sometimes have things inside them. | T | F |

**Discussion.** What weather fact on this page do you think is the most interesting? Why?

These hailstones are made of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Hailstones are cold and hard. Some hailstones are really big, like \_\_\_\_\_ balls.



\_\_\_\_\_ can pick up small animals like frogs. Then it can rain frogs!



## Pronunciation

Final -y sound

**A** 12-33 Listen and repeat.

1. wind, windy      2. sun, sunny

**B** 12-34 Listen. Circle the words you hear.

- |          |        |          |        |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| 1. ice   | icy    | 4. cloud | cloudy |
| 2. snow  | snowy  | 5. rain  | rainy  |
| 3. storm | stormy | 6. wind  | windy  |

**C** Work with a partner. Take turns to read the words in B.

### IDIOM

"I'm under the weather" means "\_\_\_\_\_".

- a. I feel sick  
b. I feel happy

## Communication

**Weather report.** In pairs, complete the chart below for five cities of your choice.

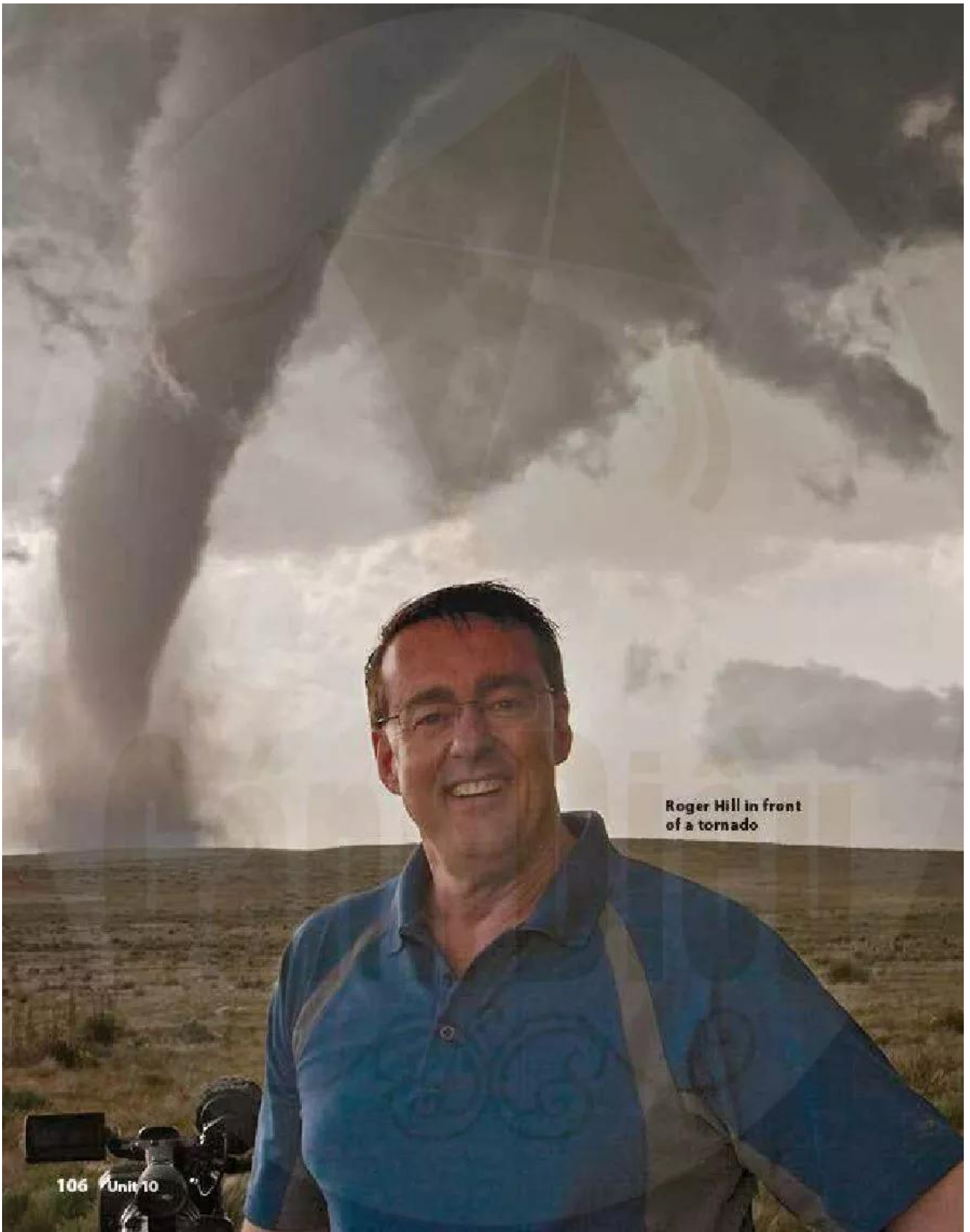
**Student A:** You are the TV presenter. **Student B:** You are the weather reporter.

Present the report to your class.

CITY	TEMPERATURE	WEATHER
Hà Nội	31°C	warm and sunny
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

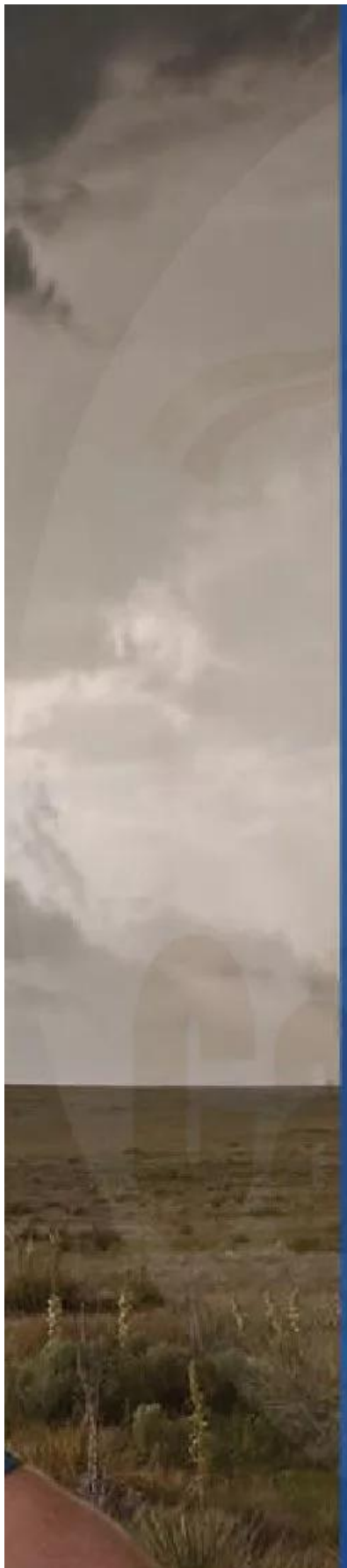
What's the weather like in Hà Nội, Jennifer?

Today, the weather in Hà Nội is warm and sunny. The temperature is 31 degrees Celsius.



Roger Hill in front  
of a tornado





## Reading

- A** Look at the photo and read the caption. Who do you think Roger Hill is?
- a. a photographer
  - b. a weather reporter
  - c. a TV reporter
- B** Read the title. What do you think storm chasers do?
- C** Read the article quickly. Underline the words that mean the opposite of “away.”

# STORM CHASER

Most people run away from tornadoes, but Roger Hill runs toward them. He is a “storm chaser.” He takes photos of storms. He has photos of more than 650 tornadoes!

Hill runs a company called Silver Lining Tours. His company organizes  
5 trips for people who want to see tornadoes. He spends about four months every year traveling. He travels all over the United States looking for tornadoes. He finds them by checking the Internet for weather information. When he finds a storm, he starts driving toward it. His company’s cars have special equipment to help him follow  
10 the storms.

Whenever he’s chasing and photographing tornadoes, Hill knows he needs to be safe. He says you can get close to a tornado and take a picture. However, if you make a mistake, it can kill you. So in a way, it’s like a photographer trying to take photos of grizzly bears. Before  
15 taking a photograph, you need to be ready and to have an escape route. Safety is really important!

 2–35 OPTIONAL AUDIO



## Comprehension

**A Choose the correct answers for *Storm Chaser*.**

- Main Idea** The article is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. a person who chases storms  
b. how storms form into tornadoes  
c. how to stay safe from storms
- Reference** In line 7, what does "them" mean?  
a. people      b. tornadoes      c. tours
- Inference** Tornadoes and grizzly bears are both \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. fast      b. dangerous      c. difficult to find
- Vocabulary** What is an "escape route"? (lines 15–16)  
a. a fast car      b. a hiding place      c. a way of getting away
- Detail** Hill says \_\_\_\_\_ is really important.  
a. safety      b. time      c. weather information

**B Read the article again. Put the sentences in order from 1 to 4.**

- \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Hill finds the storm.      b. Hill photographs the storm.  
c. Hill checks his escape route.      d. Hill starts driving toward the storm.

**C CRITICAL THINKING** Do you think Roger Hill's job sounds exciting or scary?

**DO YOU  
KNOW?**



**Clouds are very heavy. Their weight can equal that of 100 elephants.**

- a. True  
b. False

## Writing

**Write a postcard.** Imagine you are on vacation. Tell a friend where you are and what the weather is like. Write 40–60 words.

Hi Melanie!

I'm on an island near Hawaii! It's very beautiful! The weather is really nice. The temperature is around 30 degrees. The waves are amazing, and I can surf almost every day.

It's usually sunny, but today it's raining and I don't know what to do! I'm waiting for it to be sunny again!

Wish you were here,

Alberto




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OPTIONAL

## VIDEO

# Tornado Chasers

### ABOUT THE VIDEO

See how scientists chase tornadoes.

### BEFORE YOU WATCH

**Guess.** Complete the advice about tornadoes.

If there is a tornado in your area:

- a. you (should / shouldn't) hide in the basement.
- b. you (should / shouldn't) hide under a table.
- c. you (should / shouldn't) stay near windows.

### WHILE YOU WATCH

**A** Check your answers to the Before You Watch question.

**B** Watch the video again. Circle T for True or F for False.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. There are more than 8,000 tornadoes in the United States every year. | T | F |
| 2. Many tornadoes take place in an area called "Twister Alley."         | T | F |
| 3. Scientists drive cars with special equipment to study tornadoes.     | T | F |
| 4. Scientists study tornadoes to help keep people safe.                 | T | F |

### AFTER YOU WATCH

**Talk with a partner.** Why do you think storm chasers do such dangerous work? Would you want to be a storm chaser?

Storm chaser Brad Mack photographing a thunderstorm supercell in Graham, U.S.A.