

Weather Idioms

1

(to be) under the weather

When you feel a little poorly or unwell and are not one-hundred percent.

"Sorry, can we postpone our date until next week? I'm feeling a little under the weather. I think I must have caught the flu that's going around."

2

the calm before the storm

The calm before the storm is the calm moments before a crazy period.

"The shops are pretty quiet at the moment. It's the calm before the storm because the Christmas sales are starting next week."

3

chasing rainbows

If you chase rainbows, you are chasing an idea that is not realistic.

"This business idea is just not viable in the current climate. I think we need to give up chasing rainbows."



4

every cloud has a silver lining

An expression meaning that there is always something good to come out of a bad situation or circumstance.

"The silver lining of the pandemic was that many employers are now more open to flexible working practices."

5

fair weather friend

A fair weather friend is only there for the good times, the happy or sunny periods. They don't support you during the bad days.

"Unfortunately, Jenny only supported me when my business was doing well. When things got tough in the pandemic, I stopped hearing from her. I think she was a fair weather friend."



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6

it never rains but it pours

When you have one problem and suddenly everything starts to go wrong, you might use this phrase.

"Not only have we lost two important clients this week, but our general manager has just handed in her notice. It never rains but it pours!"



7

come rain or shine

This means that no matter the circumstances, I will be there, I will fulfil my promise.

"I know how important your graduation ceremony is to you. Don't worry, I'll be there come rain or shine."

8

on cloud nine

To be on cloud nine is to be absolutely ecstatic and joyous and full of happiness.

"After meeting his favourite musician after the show and getting a selfie with him, Jacob was on cloud nine!"

9

put on ice

If you put something on ice, it means you are putting it on hold, you are postponing it for now.

"We need to put the sale of our apartment on ice for the moment, as we have some bigger issues to worry about."



10

icebreaker

When you are meeting people for the first time, you need to 'break the ice' (the tension or awkwardness) and get to know each other. An 'icebreaker' is an activity or conversation to help break the ice.

"The cookery course began with an icebreaker activity where everyone introduced themselves and spoke about their favourite childhood food."

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11

steal someone's thunder

We use this expression to describe when you steal someone's moment, you take over their glory or overshadow their news to put yourself in the spotlight.

"My cousin totally stole my thunder by proposing to his girlfriend at my wedding reception."



12

save for a rainy day

To put money aside for a 'rainy day' means to save money for a day when things aren't so great financially.

"I thought about spending my Christmas bonus on the new iphone, but I think it's a wiser decision to save it for a rainy day."

13

a storm in a teacup

When you make a big problem or fuss about something small, this is a 'storm in a teacup'.

"Emilie had a meltdown because her banana fell on the floor. It was a storm in a teacup."



14

take a rain check

When you have agreed to meet someone and for whatever reason (perhaps you are too busy, feeling under the weather, or you can't afford it), you need to postpone, you 'take a rain check'.

"Sorry but could we take a rain check on the cinema tonight? I have an important presentation at the end of this week and I've still got a lot to do to prepare."

15

throw caution to the wind

Throwing caution to the wind means doing something despite the risks and despite feeling nervous or scared about doing it.

"I have been talking about opening my own restaurant for so long now. I think it's time to just throw caution to the wind and give it a go!"



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