

■ Now it's exercise time! Test your knowledge of idioms by guessing the meaning of the following weather related expressions.

Q1. Take a raincheck

- a) Look out the window to check the weather
- b) Postpone something, wanting to do something later
- c) Arrive late

Q2. To get wind of

- a) Hear about something, especially something meant to be secret
- b) Have your hair messed up because of the wind
- c) Fall over

Q3. Calm before the storm

- a) Calm before a violent/disturbing activity e.g an argument
- b) Period before you go surfing
- c) A very relaxed person

Q4. A cloud on the horizon

- a) A cloudy day
- b) Not knowing what to do in a situation
- c) Problems ahead, or expected

Q5. A face like thunder

- a) An ugly person
- b) Someone looking very angry
- c) Someone who has recently been crying

Q6. It never rains but it pours

- a) When one bad thing happens, many follow
- b) To make sure you always take an umbrella with you
- c) The weather looks bad

Q7. Right as rain

- a) It is sure to rain today
- b) Everything is going well
- c) A problem is expected

Q8. A fairweather friend

- a) A friend who is really funny
- b) A friend who is irritating
- c) A friend who is there during the good times, but never seems to be there during the bad

ANSWERS

- A1. b) Postpone something, wanting to do something later**
- A2. a) Hear about something, especially something meant to be secret**
- A3. a) Calm before a violent/disturbing activity e.g an argument**
- A4. c) Problems ahead, or expected**
- A5. b) Someone looking very angry**
- A6. a) When one bad thing happens, many follow**
- A7. b) Everything is going well**
- A8. c) A friend who is there during the good times, but never seems to be there during the bad**