

Lighten up!
Keep smiling!
Cheer up!

POLITENESS CHECKLIST

Тест на вежливость

Now you can check if you have remembered the basic rules of introduction. Tick (✓) 'do', if you think that the described behaviour is right in England. Tick 'don't' if people in England shouldn't behave like that. The correct answers are in the Key on page 318.

DOs and DON'Ts

		Do	Don't
1.	Use a person's name as soon as you have been introduced.		
2.	Try to appear friendly and confident when you are introduced.		
3.	Give a detailed answer about your health when answering the 'How are you?' question.		
4.	Tell the people you've just introduced something about each other to help them start a conversation.		
5.	Let the people know if you didn't catch their names.		
6.	Give only names, not surnames, when introducing people in business situations.		
7.	In business situations use 'How do you do' as a formal greeting every time you meet your business partners.		



As you remember, Dr. Zunin doesn't recommend discussing something unpleasant at the beginning of the meeting. We should start our conversation with some pleasant and neutral topic which everybody is familiar with and feels comfortable with. We've already mentioned that in England one of the most popular small talk topics is the weather. Some people say that it's because the weather in the country is so changeable. Anyway, talking about the weather is a good way to start a conversation in any country, isn't it?

WHAT TO SAY ABOUT THE WEATHER

Что сказать о погоде



When the weather is good

Когда погода хорошая

- It's fine today.
- It's lovely today, isn't it?
- What a beautiful day we are having today!
- The weather is fair (wonderful, marvellous, gorgeous)!

- Сегодня хороший день.
- Сегодня приятный день, не так ли?
- Какой сегодня чудесный день!
- Погода ясная (замечательная, великолепная, превосходная)!



When the weather is bad

Когда погода плохая

- It's awful (terrible) outside today!
- The day is nasty, isn't it?
- The weather's miserable (dreadful, foul)!
- What dull (changeable) weather!

- Сегодня на улице ужасно!
- Ненастный день, не правда ли?
- Погода отвратительная (ужасная, противная)!
- Какая пасмурная (неустойчивая) погода!



When it's warm and sunny

Когда тепло и солнечно

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — It's warm today. — It's rather warm. — It's hot (sunny, dry) today. — It's warmer (better) today than yesterday. — It's clearing up! — The sky is blue and clear! — I hope fine weather keeps up, don't you? — The weather is changing for the better, isn't it? — What a hot (warm, sunny, clear) day! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Сегодня тепло. — Сегодня довольно тепло. — Сегодня жарко (солнечно, сухо). — Сегодня теплее (лучше), чем вчера. — (Погода) проясняется! — Небо голубое и чистое! — Я надеюсь, хорошая погода сохранится, а вы? — Погода улучшается, не так ли? — Какой жаркий (теплый, солнечный, ясный) день!
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When it's cold and cloudy

Когда холодно и облачно

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — It's cold. — It's chilly (cool) today, isn't it? — It's quite windy (wet, cloudy) today. — How foggy and humid it is today! — It's colder today than yesterday. — It's clouding over. — It looks like a cold day. — I'm afraid the weather is changing for the worse. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Холодно. — Сегодня прохладно, не правда ли? — Сегодня очень ветрено (сыро, облачно). — Как сегодня туманно и влажно! — Сегодня холоднее, чем вчера. — Становится облачно (собираются тучи). — Похоже, будет холодный день. — Боюсь, погода ухудшается.
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What to say about rainy weather
Что сказать о дождливой погоде

<p>— It sometimes (rarely) rains in autumn here.</p> <p>— Look! It's raining (drizzling).</p> <p>— It looks like rain (It's likely to rain).</p> <p>— It rained heavily yesterday.</p> <p>— It's pouring down! Take your umbrella.</p> <p>— I like (don't like, hate) rainy weather.</p>	<p>— Осенью здесь иногда (редко) идет дождь.</p> <p>— Посмотри! Идет дождь (моросит).</p> <p>— Похоже, что будет дождь.</p> <p>— Вчера шел сильный дождь.</p> <p>— Льет как из ведра! Возьми зонт.</p> <p>— Я люблю (я не люблю, терпеть не могу) дождливую погоду.</p>
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What to say about snowy weather
Что сказать о снежной погоде

<p>— It often snows in Moscow in winter.</p> <p>— It seldom snows heavily in London.</p> <p>— Look out of the window! It's snowing.</p> <p>— It didn't snow last year.</p> <p>— It looks like snow. (It's likely to snow).</p> <p>— It's frosty! What a nice frosty day!</p> <p>— How slippery it is today! Take care!</p> <p>— It is sleeting now.</p> <p>— I like (adore, dislike, can't stand) snowy weather.</p>	<p>— В Москве зимой часто идет снег.</p> <p>— В Лондоне редко идет сильный снег.</p> <p>— Выгляни в окно! Идет снег.</p> <p>— В прошлом году снега не было.</p> <p>— Похоже, что будет снег.</p> <p>— Морозно! Какой приятный морозный день!</p> <p>— Как сегодня скользко! Будьте осторожны!</p> <p>— Идет мокрый снег (дождь со снегом).</p> <p>— Я люблю (обожаю, не люблю, не выношу) снежную погоду.</p>
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What's the temperature today?
Какая сегодня температура?

It's 5 degrees above zero in London.
Пять градусов тепла (выше нуля) в Лондоне.

It's 10 degrees below zero in Moscow.
Десять градусов мороза (ниже нуля) в Москве.

What's the weather forecast for the coming weekend?
Какой прогноз погоды на предстоящие выходные?

They promise fair weather.
Обещают хорошую погоду.

I hear it's going to be rainy.
Я слышал, что будет дождливо.



I hope it won't be too difficult for you to speak about the weather. While giving you my 'weather recommendations', I remembered a story by a famous writer George Mikes in which he mocks at (подтрунивает над) the English love for the weather talk. George Mikes (1912–1987) was born in Hungary, and in 1938 he was sent to London as a correspondent. Mikes was planning to stay in Britain only for a couple of weeks, but he remained in the country for the rest of his life and became one of the best English authors known for his humorous stories.

Read the story and say if there is anything in it which reminds you of weather forecasts in your country.

THE WEATHER ☉☉☉

Погода

This is the most important topic in the land. On the Continent, wanting to describe someone as exceptionally dull people say: 'He is the type who would discuss the weather with you.' In England it is an ever-interesting, even thrilling topic, and you must be good at discussing the weather.

Examples for conversation

For good weather

'Lovely day, isn't it?'

'Isn't it beautiful?'

'The sun...'

'Isn't it gorgeous?'

'Wonderful, isn't it?'

'It's so nice and hot...'

'Personally, I think it's so nice when it's hot, isn't it?'

'I love it, don't you?'

For bad weather

'Nasty day, isn't it?'

'Isn't it dreadful?'

'The rain... I hate rain...'

'I don't like it at all. Do you?'

'Fancy such a day in July. Rain in the morning, then a bit of sunshine, and then rain, rain, rain, rain, all day long.'

'I remember exactly the same July day in 1936.'

'Yes, I remember too.'

'Or was it in 1928?'

'Yes, it was.'

'Or in 1939?'

'Yes, that's right.'

Now observe the last few sentences of this conversation. A very important rule comes from it. You must never contradict anybody when discussing the weather. If it hails and snows, if hurricanes break the trees along the road, and if someone says to you: ‘Nice day, isn’t it?’ — answer without hesitation: ‘Isn’t it lovely?’ Learn the above conversation by heart. If you are a bit slow in picking things up, learn at least one conversation, it would do wonderfully for any situation.

возражать
идет град
ураганы
без сомнения

If you do not say anything else for the rest of your life, just repeat this conversation, you still have a fair chance of passing as a remarkably witty man of sharp intellect and extremely pleasant manners. English society is a class society, strictly organized almost on corporate lines. If you doubt this, listen to the weather forecasts. There is always a different forecast for farmers. You often hear statements like this on the radio: ‘Tomorrow it will be cold, cloudy and foggy; long periods of rain will be interrupted by short periods of showers.’

необыкновенно
остроумный
прогнозы

And then: ‘Weather forecast for farmers. It will be fair and warm, many hours of sunshine.’

You must not forget that the farmers do grand work of national importance and deserve better weather.

заслуживать

It happened on many occasions that nice, warm weather had been forecast and rain and snow fell down all day long, or vice versa. Some people jumped to the conclusion that

наоборот