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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 15/01/13

Purple and pink colours introduced on Australian weather map

Recently weather maps in Australia began to show two entirely new colours on them. Purple and pink have been introduced by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology due to the extreme temperatures that have been recorded in the country.

Australia has seen a record heatwave, which has caused hundreds of bush fires right across the country. The increased temperature has forced the country's meteorologists to redraw their national temperature scales upwards.

Previously Australian weather maps recorded a cap of 50 degrees Centigrade, that's 122 degrees Fahrenheit. This has now been raised to 54 degrees Centigrade, which is more than 129 degrees Fahrenheit.

Australian weather maps now show deep purple and pink over parts of Central Australia. The move is thought to be the first time any country in the world has actually redrawn its weather charts to take into account temperatures that went over the scale previously used on weather charts.

The extremely hot weather has caused many bushfires. Some of the worst affected areas included New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. Many Outback roads melted. Sydney has been suffering from power cuts due to soaring demand for air conditioning. At night, for many, the hot temperature has been unbearable.

The latest forecast for Australia – Hot getting hotter! As one firefighter put it: "You don't get conditions worse than this."

Climate scientists have said it is a warning for the future...

SPEAKING

Think of three things you know about Australian weather. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Name the colours.
- 2) What was the cap raised to?
- 3) What is 50°C in Fahrenheit?
- 4) Who has redrawn what?
- 5) Name the bureau.

Student B questions

- 1) What is the latest forecast for Australia?
- 2) What did the firefighter say?
- 3) Name the worst areas affected by the hot weather.
- 4) What has Sydney been suffering from?
- 5) What has melted?

Category: Australian Heatwave / Meteorology / Weather
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**Purple and pink colours on the weather map**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

Purple and pink colours introduced on Australian weather map - *In pairs* choose three things from the article.

Write them below.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Add three similar ideas of your own. Discuss together.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs, write a short weather forecast for Australia. Include the night time and day time temperatures for tonight, tomorrow and the forecast for the next few days. Prepare a simple map or use Google maps to help you present your forecast. **The teacher** will choose some students to present their work to the class.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Would you like to go to Australia?
- 3) Is air conditioning popular in your country? Explain.
- 4) What is the hottest temperature you have endured?
- 5) Would you like to live in the Outback?
- 6) Why is Australia such a popular place to live?
- 7) What is a good way to cool down?
- 8) Would you like to be a firefighter in Australia?
- 9) Have you ever called the fire brigade?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the ABC Australia TV studio. Today's interview is about: *The extreme weather in Australia.*

- 1) A tourist on holiday in Australia.
- 2) A meteorologist.
- 3) Crocodile Dundee
- 4) Someone from the Outback.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. You are locals in a bar in the Australian Outback. Start a conversation about: '*The extreme weather in Australia*'. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING

Group – You are climate change scientists from different countries. You are meeting in Brisbane, Australia to discuss climate change. *5-10 mins.* **The teacher** will choose some groups to hear their discussions in front of the class.

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...

The extreme temperatures in Australia

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Have you ever been to Australia?
- 3) Is Australia a good place to go on holiday?
- 4) Will beer sales increase in Australia due to the hot weather?
- 5) What do Australians do to cool down?
- 6) Do you use air conditioning?
- 7) How often do you check the weather forecast?
- 8) What is the weather forecast for tomorrow in your country?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson in English for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Purple and pink colours introduced on Australian weather map

Recently weather maps in Australia began to show two (1)___ new colours on them. Purple and pink have been introduced by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology due to the (2)___ temperatures that have been recorded in the country.

Australia has seen a record (3)___, which has caused hundreds of (4)___ fires right across the country. The increased temperature has forced the country's meteorologists to (5)___ their national temperature scales upwards.

Previously Australian weather maps recorded a (6)___ of 50 degrees Centigrade, that's 122 (7)___ Fahrenheit. This has now been raised to 54 degrees Centigrade, which is more than 129 degrees (8)___.

extreme / Fahrenheit / heatwave / redraw / degrees / bush / entirely / cap /

Australian (1)___ maps now show deep (2)___ and pink over parts of Central Australia. The move is thought to be the first time any country in the world has actually redrawn its weather (3)___ to take into account temperatures that went over the (4)___ previously used on weather charts.

The extremely hot weather has caused many bushfires. Some of the worst affected areas included New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. Many Outback roads melted. Sydney has been suffering from power cuts due to soaring (5)___ for air conditioning. At night, for many, the hot temperature has been (6)___.

The latest (7)___ for Australia – Hot getting hotter! As one firefighter put it: "You don't get conditions (8)___ than this."

Climate scientists have said it is a warning for the future...

scale / demand / unbearable / worse / purple / weather / charts / forecast

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Purple and pink colours introduced on Australian weather map

Recently weather maps (1)___ Australia began to show two entirely new colours (2)___ them. Purple and pink have been introduced (3)___ the Australian Bureau of Meteorology due to the extreme temperatures (4)___ have been recorded in the country.

Australia has seen a record heatwave, which has caused hundreds (5)___ bush fires right across the country. The increased temperature has forced the country's meteorologists to redraw (6)___ national temperature scales upwards.

Previously Australian weather maps recorded a cap of 50 degrees Centigrade, that's 122 degrees Fahrenheit. This has now been raised to 54 degrees Centigrade, (7)___ is more (8)___ 129 degrees Fahrenheit.

which / that / than / their / on / of / in / by

Australian weather maps now show deep purple and pink over parts of Central Australia. The move is thought to be the first time any country in the world has actually redrawn (1)___ weather charts to take (2)___ account temperatures that went over the scale previously used on weather charts.

The extremely hot weather has caused many bushfires. (3)___ of the worst affected areas included New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. Many Outback roads melted. Sydney has been suffering (4)___ power cuts (5)___ to soaring demand (6)___ air conditioning. At night, for (7)___, the hot temperature has been unbearable.

The latest forecast for Australia – Hot getting hotter! As one firefighter put it: "(8)___ don't get conditions worse than this."

Climate scientists have said it is a warning for the future...

many / into / some / from / for / you / its / due /

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Purple and pink colours introduced on Australian weather map

Recently _____ Australia began to show two entirely new colours on them. _____ have been introduced by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology due to the extreme temperatures that have been recorded in the country.

Australia has seen a record heatwave, which has caused _____ right across the country. The increased temperature has forced the country's meteorologists to redraw their national temperature scales upwards.

Previously Australian _____ recorded a cap of 50 degrees Centigrade, that's 122 degrees Fahrenheit. _____ raised to 54 degrees Centigrade, which is more than 129 degrees Fahrenheit.

_____ now show deep purple and pink over parts of Central Australia. The move is thought to be the first time any country in the world has actually redrawn its weather charts to take into account temperatures that went over the scale previously used on weather charts.

The _____ has caused many bushfires. Some of the worst affected areas included New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. Many Outback roads melted. Sydney has been suffering from power cuts due _____ for air conditioning. At night, for many, the hot temperature has been unbearable.

The latest forecast for Australia - _____! As one firefighter put it: "You don't get conditions worse than this."

Climate scientists have said it is a _____...

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board/your tablet - In pairs, write as many words about Australia as you can! One-two minutes. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) The weather _____
- 2) Australia _____
- 3) Deep purple _____

3) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **The extreme weather in Australia**. Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL READING

- 1) entirely
- 2) extreme
- 3) heatwave
- 4) bush
- 5) redraw
- 6) cap
- 7) degrees
- 8) Fahrenheit

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) heatwave
- 2) purple
- 3) entirely
- 4) bureau
- 5) meteorology
- 6) extreme
- 7) temperatures
- 8) bush
- 9) redraw
- 10) scales

ANSWERS

- 1) weather
- 2) purple
- 3) charts
- 4) scale
- 5) demand
- 6) unbearable
- 7) forecast
- 8) worse

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) upwards
- 12) Centigrade
- 13) Fahrenheit
- 14) Australia
- 15) weather
- 16) thought
- 17) cap
- 18) actually
- 19) previously
- 20) unbearable

Purple and pink colours introduced ... - *15th January 2013*