the weather

Learn with television

French Experience 1: Programme 15
Learn the key words which will let you understand the weather forecast in French, for example, cold fronts in Brittany, clouds in Normandy and sunshine in the south and the eastern regions of France.

French Experience is repeated regularly on BBC Learning Zone (BBC Two). Check out the details on www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone and video the programmes to watch them at your leisure.

Learn online

www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french

French Steps: Stage 4
Talking about the weather
Hakim M'Barek is on holiday in Chambéry and the weather isn’t as good as it might be. Listen as he gets chatting about it to the waiter in a local café, then have a go at all the activities.

Learning hint

Get your daily weather forecast in French! if you go to http://meteo.france3.fr/royaume_uni.html you’ll find the detailed weather forecast for the whole of the UK. Because the symbols are familiar, it’s an excellent way of gaining new language as well as consolidating what you’ve learnt already.

Key language

Quel temps fait-il? What’s the weather like?
Il fait beau It’s a nice day
Il fait chaud It’s hot
Il fait (très) froid It’s (very) cold
Il y a beaucoup de... There are a lot of...
Il y a de plus en plus de... There are more and more...
Il pleut It’s raining
Il neige It’s snowing
d’habitude usually

la météo weather forecast
le vent wind
la pluie rain
des nuages clouds
des orages storms
en été in summer
au printemps in spring
en automne in autumn
en hiver in winter

Quiz

1. Which is the odd one out: normalement, rarement, d’habitude?
2. What’s the key word to look/listen out for when you want to know the weather forecast?
3. What’s the opposite of il fait gris?
4. How would you send an email to a friend in France asking what the weather’s like today?
5. And how would you tell him that it’s warm here but it’s raining?
6. You’re planning a sailing holiday in Brittany. How would you ask if there’s usually a lot of wind in Camaret?

Answers on www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/answers.shtml

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