



# Topic

Conversation  
for Idioms

Lesson 6  
Weather (1)

# Lead-in

Match the idioms to the pictures.



a. in a fog

b. under the weather

c. on cloud nine

d. head in the clouds

1. Albert always seems to be **in a fog**.  
He can't focus on his work.

- Q What do you do if you are in a fog?
- Q What causes people to feel in a fog?

## Origin

This expression means to admit total ignorance and dates from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is derived from the notion of being in a fog and having limited vision.



2. I was **on cloud nine** after buying my dream car.

**Q** Which picture best describes the meaning of the idiom?

**A.**



**B.**



3. My daughter is absent today.  
She feels **under the weather**.

- Q** Which is true about the idiom?
- a. People feel under the weather if the weather is hot.
  - b. Being under the weather means you are ill.

### Origin

Some sources suggest that when sailors were unwell, they were sent below decks that is under or out of the weather which is possibly true.



4. He has his **head in the clouds** whenever he thinks about becoming an engineer. He is terrible at Math.

**Q** When do we use the idiom?

- when someone is mentally strained from a difficult subject
- when someone is talking about something impossible

### Origin

The earliest use of this expression dates back to the mid-1600s. At that time, humans did not have airplanes so aviation was not a concept that inspired the idiom. Clouds were considered out of reach or impossible for humans.



# Quick Review



**under the weather**  
to feel ill or unwell

**in a fog**  
confused or unaware



**head in the clouds**  
to talk about impossible  
or stupid things



**on cloud nine**  
extremely happy  
and excited



## Practice

Complete the sentences by choosing the correct word/s.

1. She is not right for this job; she has her **(head, hand)** in the clouds.
2. Jeffrey is a bit **(above, under)** the weather.
3. After the accident, Melanie went about in a **(fog, smoke)** even though she had not been injured.
4. I've been on **(cloud nine, fog eight)** ever since I met her.



## Practice

Complete the sentences by choosing the appropriate idioms.

**head in the clouds**

**on cloud nine**

**under the weather**

**in a fog**

1. She is \_\_\_\_\_ today because she passed the job interview.
2. He always feels like he's \_\_\_\_\_ whenever he takes that medicine.
3. Pablo seems to be \_\_\_\_\_. He doesn't know what's going on.
4. She must have had her \_\_\_\_\_ when she talked about visiting Big Ben because she has never been to London.



**SPIN**

----- the -----

**WHEEL**