

Idiom of the Month: AN INDIAN SUMMER

By Sarah Gudgeon

I.

a. Read

I love it when we get an Indian summer – warm and sunny September days are the best.

I know, especially after all the rain we got in July and August

b. Complete:

In England, we say that it is an _____ summer when we get a period of nice _____ weather in the early _____. The _____ are blue and the _____ are _____ than average for that time of year.



warm

Indian

temperatures

higher

skies

autumn

2. Can you match these weather idioms to the right definition?

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a. On cloud nine | 1. Not informed |
| b. In the dark | 2. A problem that is likely to occur |
| c. A cloud on the horizon | 3. Very happy |
| d. Once in a blue moon | 4. Whatever happens |
| e. Come rain or shine | 5. Refuse an invitation for now |
| f. Take a rain check | 6. Very occasionally |

3. Complete these sentences with the right idiom from exercise 2.

- a. Jimmy and Bob only met up _____ but they were still best mates.
- b. Sam was _____ - he couldn't believe he'd passed his final exams.
- c. Lucy decided to _____ on the party; she was just too tired.
- d. Frank was completely _____ about the company's plans to relocate all staff to Brazil.
- e. _____, Mark and Suzy were going to buy their dream home.
- f. Lizzy was really happy with her new job; the only _____ was that she might have to give up her flat in the city.

Teacher's Notes

1B. Complete: In England, we say that it is an Indian summer when we get a period of nice warm weather in the early autumn. The skies are blue and the temperatures are higher than average for that time of year.

2. Can you match these weather idioms to the right definition?

a3 b1 c2 d6 e4 f5

3. Complete these sentences with the right idiom from exercise 2.

- a. Jimmy and Bob only met up **once in a blue moon** but they were still best mates.
- b. Sam was **on cloud nine** - he couldn't believe he'd passed his final exams.
- c. Lucy decided to **take a rain check** on the party; she was just too tired.
- d. Frank was completely **in the dark** about the company's plans to relocate all staff to Brazil.
- e. **Come rain or shine** Mark and Suzy were going to buy their dream home.
- f. Lizzy was really happy with her new job; the only **cloud on the horizon** was that she might have to give up her flat in the city.