

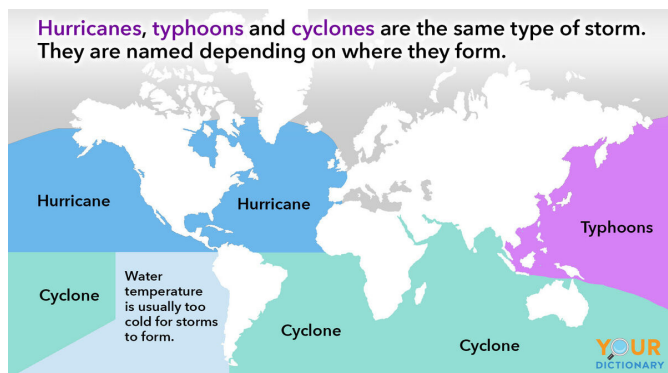
CrossTalk

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter August, 2023

Cyclones

The global temperatures are going up, there's no question about it, and we can bear witness to this change almost on a daily basis, when the world news constantly reports on wildfires, droughts and flooding in all corners of the globe.

This year, a weather phenomenon called El Niño is responsible for an increased number and severity of storms, born in the tropical regions of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.



These storms are called cyclones if they form in a southern hemisphere, and are further identified as hurricanes (formed in the Atlantic) or typhoons (formed over the Pacific), both originating in the northern hemisphere. On the other hand, storms that form exclusively on land are called tornadoes, and these have their own set of characteristics to identify them by.



Tornadoes take the shape of a single thin funnel of spinning air, often completely invisible until they begin picking up debris from the land and water condensation. Their lifespan is relatively short, counted in minutes, and rarely cause huge amounts of destruction in their path. They are often, however, a part of much bigger storm system, with tornadoes forming and dying off multiple times.

Hurricanes and typhoons are very often super massive structures that can only be seen in their entirety when viewed from outer space.



Frequently spanning a thousand kilometres in diameter, they move slowly for many days over the oceans, gaining momentum, and when they make a “landfall”, they are capable of causing immeasurable damage. Heavy rains cause floods, and winds of over 74 mph uproot trees, destroy electrical infrastructure and rip buildings to pieces.

As the air becomes warmer, it can hold more water and that translates to not only more frequent but also more powerful storms.

Another interesting observation, that researchers have noticed is that hurricanes and typhoons transform from weak to strong storms much faster than before and travel further inland carrying more rainfall.

Unfortunately, global warming will continue to get worse for the next 3-4 decades and the only thing we can do is to adapt to these new climatic conditions. Better warning systems and evacuation procedures will surely prevent disruption of life and potential death tolls resulting from severe weather effects.

Article by Marek

Net News

NET LESSONS: Too busy to come to CROSSROADS?

.... Try our *lessons on the net!*

For more info on this subject, go to:

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/cyclones-arcticintense-frequent-climate>

Some Thoughts for the Month



Joshua Says: It's strange how things happen in cycles. Recently I ran into a few of our (very) old students at various places around town. Three in particular go back to our first location some 30 or more years ago! We lost all contact with them during that time and running into all three within a week or two was surprising to say the least. And we are also starting to see some of our pre-corona students coming back. Good news all round!

Junko Says: Language acquisition can be as natural for adults as it is for children. A child's way of acquiring language is realistic and quick. The concept of "comprehensible input" encourages understanding naturally without the use of translations and grammar. When we understand the content, we acquire language easily. We have a stock of short stories with illustrations in our library to support this idea. Please feel free to borrow them. Using this kind of material at home between lessons can help you.



Marek Says: We are currently in the El Niño phase, which means the average temperature in the Eastern Atlantic is higher by at least 0.5C. This means that the global weather will be disrupted and many parts of the world will experience more storms and more rainfall, but also drier conditions in some regions that typically get wetter weather. This event lasts around 9-12 months and is usually, but not always, followed by a reverse phenomenon, called La Niña.

Mandey dit Avez-vous passé un bon été? Et oui, c'est bientôt la rentrée. En France, cest le moment le plus important de toute l'année. Fini les rediffusions interminables des séries des années 70, C'est non seulement la rentrée scolaire des enfants, mais aussi la rentrée des programmes télévisés, radiophoniques et internet, c'est aussi la rentrée politique, les politiciens vont reprendre les débats. Et enfin, c'est aussi notre rentrée à nous les travailleurs, sniff sniff. Mais cette année est très particulière car c'est la première fois qu'il fait 40°C en septembre. A vos maillots de bain et bonne rentrée !!!



ACROSS

- 2 displacement, discontinuity, disorder
- 7 atmospheric moisture
- 12 regular and often,
- 13 impossible to calculate
- 14 remaining after being destroyed
- 17 extremely negative
- 18 total, complete
- 19 not often
- 20 covering a large area

DOWN

- 1 a forward driving force
- 3 remove or destroy completely
- 4 change to suit a new purpose
- 5 without variation
- 6 many, numerous
- 8 only, without others
- 9 change the nature or appearance of something
- 10 half of the globe
- 11 a remarkable development
- 15 convey and support as fact
- 16 revolving quickly on an axis

Play A Game!

Find the answers on P1

([print version here](#))

Here's another look at idioms. This time involving clothing. See if you can complete each idiom with an item of clothing from the list below.

The boss told Ronald that he'd soon be out of a job if he didn't pull his _____ up. (*try harder*)

Janette looked worried for Ronald when she heard about this and said she would hate to be in his _____ right now. (*exchanging places with someone*)

I met Ronald a little while later and he looked really hot under the _____. (*angry*)

He said he had told the boss to keep his _____ on! This made the boss even angrier. (*don't get angry or excited*)

The boss said he was serious and if Ronald didn't _____ down and do his job properly, he'd _____ him out of the company! (*try harder* and *fire him*)

Ronald insisted he was a hard worker and said he felt that the boss was hitting below the _____, by complaining like that. (*not being fair*)

But after a few minutes talking with me, he began to smile.

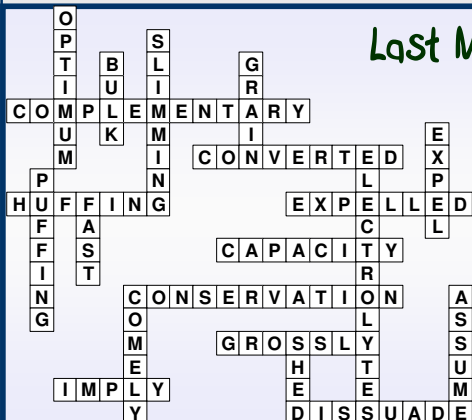
This made me curious and so I asked him what he had up his _____. (*what's the secret, what are you hiding*)

"Oh, it's OK," he said. "The boss is just in a bad mood today. I'm not going to get my _____ in a twist over it". (*get angry or excited over some trivial matter*)



shoes – collar -- hat – belt – socks – buckle – knickers – boot –sleeve

Last Month's puzzle Solution



ACROSS

- 5 matching, going together well
- 7 changed from one state to another
- 10 blowing hard and loudly
- 12 forced to leave
- 13 amount that can be contained
- 14 unchanged, maintained
- 16 repellently disgusting
- 18 express indirectly
- 19 turn away from

DOWN

- 1 best, most favorable
- 2 taking off weight
- 3 large in mass
- 4 small part of a substance
- 6 force to leave
- 8 solutions that conduct electricity
- 9 forcefully exhaling
- 11 go without food
- 14 pleasing to look at
- 15 suppose, guess
- 17 to remove



Don't forget... Our SPECIAL 1+1 Campaign offer! Up to 50% off!!

See our notice board, or ask Junko in our office, for the details.