

---

# IELTS Language Lab

## Test 17: Weather

You can listen to this show at the following address:

<http://www.ieltspeaking.co.uk/ielts-grammar-practice/>



---

## Welcome

**Welcome to the IELTS Language Lab, brought to you by Peter Travis from [ieltspeaking.co.uk](http://www.ieltspeaking.co.uk). In this episode we're going to listen to Mohamed who tried one of the free Part 2 practice tests we've published on the ieltspeaking website. The task was Speaking Practice 17:**

**<http://www.ieltspeaking.co.uk/ielts-sample-speaking-test-17/>**

## Task

Describe a time when you experienced extreme weather conditions. You should say:

- when this was
- where you were
- what the weather was like

and say how you felt about this experience.

## Comprehension

**The first time you listen decide if Mohamed answers the question appropriately.**

Back in 2013 here in Egypt in Cairo I was doing my military service and ... it was really harsh cold winter in December and ... it was one of those winters where actually Egypt got snow for ... like one time in a million because it rarely snows here ... especially it snowed around ... like New Cairo areas where it was mostly desert ... at my military camp ... I didn't get much snow as we got heavy showers and rain ... and .. because at the military camp the ground was mostly soil ... the rain turned the soil into sticky mud

and at night it was very hard to see because we didn't have any light posts so we had to rely on flashlights and be very careful where we are stepping so we won't slip into a slippery mud hole and you know get our clothes all dirty it was really a horrific experience for me and I really wish it never occur again in my life.

## Assessment

**Mohamed responded appropriately to the task and everything he said was relevant to the question. However, his talk only lasted about 1 minute and he should practise giving a fuller answer that gets him closer to 2 minutes. Now listen a second time. How well do you think Mohamed did using the IELTS assessment criteria?**

- Grammatical Range and Accuracy
- Lexical Resource (Vocabulary)
- Fluency and Coherence
- Pronunciation

## Feedback

### Grammatical Range and Accuracy

**Mohamed's use of English was very good, with well-formed statements and very few mistakes. However, can you spot the error in this extract?**

'be very careful where we are stepping so we won't slip into a slippery mud hole'

**The verbs in this statement should of course be in the past tense:**

where we were stepping so we wouldn't slip into a slippery mud hole'

### Lexical Resource

**Mohamed's use of vocabulary was excellent and there were several examples of advanced expressions such as:**

'Back in 2013'

'harsh cold winter'

'it was one of those winters where

'sticky mud'

' a horrific experience'

**There were a couple of occasions where Mohamed used the wrong words.**

**'especially' would be better as 'in particular' as in 'in particular, it snowed around New Cairo'.**

**Mohamed should have used 'hope' instead of 'wish' as he is referring to the future.**

## **Fluency and Coherence**

**Mohamed's speech is very fluent indeed. There were no undue hesitations or pauses and his speech rate and delivery of connected speech was virtually at native-speaker level.**

## **Pronunciation**

**Mohamed has very clear pronunciation and there were no occasions where his pronunciation would cause the listener difficulties. He pronounced 'stepping' as 'shstepping' but apart from this there were no errors.**

**That's the end of this lesson. Why not try recording yourself answering the same question? You'll find the test on the IELTS speaking website here:  
<http://www.ieltsspeaking.co.uk/ielts-speaking-practice-test-17/>**