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#### Snow or no?

We didn't have "white Christmas" nor a white New Year's Eve. Some of us miss it, some are happy about it. Just to give you a glance how it was years before, we found information about Europe's Deep Freeze of 1709.

In the first months of 1709, Europe froze and stayed that way for months. People ice-skated on the canals of Venice, church bells broke when rung, and travellers could cross the Baltic Sea on horseback. This freakish winter ultimately claimed the lives of a vast number of Europeans and disrupted two major wars. It happened literally overnight in the first few days of 1709. On January 5, temperatures plummeted. But 1709 was no ordinary cold snap. Dawn broke the next morning on a continent that had frozen over from Italy to Scandinavia and from England to Russia, and would not warm up again for the next three months. During the worst winter in 500 years, extreme cold followed by food shortages caused hundreds of thousands of deaths in France alone, even froze lagoons in the Mediterranean.

Various theories for the event have been put forward. In previous years, a number of volcanoes around Europe had erupted, including Teide (on the Canary Islands), Santorini (in the eastern Mediterranean), and Vesuvius (near Naples). Huge quantities of dust and ash in the atmosphere reduced the amount of sunlight reaching the Earth. The year 1709 also falls within the period known by climatologists as the Maunder Minimum (1645-1715), when the sun's emission of solar energy was significantly diminished. Whether these events combined to create Europe's glacial catastrophe that winter remains a matter of heated debate. **National Geographic**, 2017/01-02

**BOOK REVIEW** 

## Look Inside For More Content!

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WINTER

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## **WEATHER**

WINTER: cold, snowy weather



AUTUMN: warm weather

**Outfits** 

**Colours** 



A sweater, a hat, a winter jacket, leggings and boots



Leather shoes, a scarf, jeans and a sweater



White and blue



Dark green, yellow, brown, red and orange

Author: Ania Nguyen

### WINTER

I don't know why other people like winter, but I do know that I absolutely LOVE winter. The colder, snowier, icier, and windier the better. I think spending winter in a warm place is a waste of time. Winter is the time to go further north, and not south.

I love getting up every morning in the deep winter and looking out the window to see what the new day has brought. Some people might question this, but my sister and I can usually smell snow coming. The air does smell different and perhaps what we're sensing is really the drop in barometric pressure, but something is different a few hours before it snows, and the feeling is different than right before it rains.

One of the most wonderful feelings in life is stepping out of your warm and cosy house and feeling a howling blast of frigid air hit you right in the face. It literally takes your breath away and makes every sense in your body feel so alive.

Anything below 0 C degrees is nice, but when it gets really, really cold it feels like you are transported to a different world. The ground crackles when you walk, your breath freezes, and everything looks so incredibly ethereal and mysterious.

I've lived through so very cold, snowy and icy winters and I never get tired of them. In fact I'm greedy and I want more. More snow, more cold and more screaming wind.

Author unknown



Dear Pedro,

How is it going? Today I've seen snow for the first time this year and I am really excited. Every time when snow falls I go with my friends to the Old Town and we take pictures.

I love building snowmen with my younger brothers. I like spending winter evenings with a cup of herbal tea and a piece of tasty cake. Sometimes I hate winter because of the freezing temperature which can fall way below zero.

I feel a bit stressed because it is the season during which it is easy to catch a cold if you do not wear warm clothes. Such low temperatures make people feel like they are constantly being chased by billions of germs that are viciously waiting until they can invade our bodies and do their nasty business. Not only does the low temperature do this, it also does make life harder and dangerous for drivers. In winter there are many more traffic accidents than in any other season.

Winter is an amazing part of the year and I think than everyone should experience it at least once in their lives. I hope that you will be able to visit me next year and I will be able to show you the beauty of

winter.

Love, Martha

Author: Marta Burzyńska



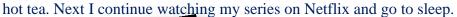
### WINTER

# My perfect winter Day

Lots of people like winter because of snow and because of the winter break. These days people like having a rest and spending time with their relatives. This is how my perfect winter day should look like.

In my opinion it is the perfect time to start reading a book. For example I usually don't want to read books so maybe it is the best time to start 3.

My perfect winter day starts with sleeping till 11 and lying in my bed to about 12 while watching Netflix. Next I go to meet my friends and we have a good time together. We eat at the McDonald's or any other delicious fast food restaurant. Then we go to the cinema. When I am back home I start reading a book, drinking





"I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields, that it kisses them so gently? And then it covers them up snug, you know, with a white quilt; and perhaps it says "Go to sleep, darlings, till the summer comes again."

— Lewis Carroll

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness."

— John Steinbeck

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."

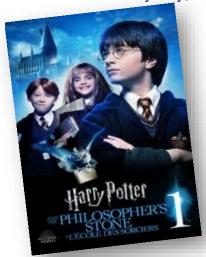
— Edith Sitwell

## **BOOK REVIEW**

#### Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

There is probably no better book then "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone". This book is on the first place among all the books I have read.

In my opinion this book was very interesting. I like fantasy genre of books. They are addictive to me. The beginning of Harry Potter's story in my opinion is the most interesting book of the Harry Potter series. In this book J. K. Rowling showed us how Harry's life began and how he got to Hogwarts and his adventures in this magic school. I'm sure that I can recommend it to everybody, especially for the ones that are into fantasy.



John Flanagan's epic Ranger's Apprentice fantasy series is set in a medieval-style world where highly skilled fighters called Rangers are trained to protect king and villagers. They have always scared Will in the past — the Rangers, with their dark cloaks and shadowy ways. The villagers believe the Rangers practice magic that makes them invisible to ordinary people. And now 15-year-old Will, always small for his age, has been chosen as a Ranger's apprentice. What he doesn't yet realize is that the Rangers are the protectors of the kingdom. Highly trained in the skills of battle and surveillance, they fight the battles before the battles reach the people. And as Will is about to learn, there is a large battle coming. The exiled Morgarath, Lord of the Mountains of Rain and Night, is gathering his forces for an attack on the kingdom. This time, he will not be denied.... But the Rangers may be secretive, but they value honor, community, and courage.

I liked this book very much and I am vey happy that there are more books in the series to read (3)

**Author unknown** 



### WINTER

Frankly speaking I have no idea what I am going to do during these winter holidays. I think that I will probably stay in Warsaw. But contrary to the opinion of a lot of people (that there is nothing to do in here) I think there are plenty of things one can do in Warsaw. For example I plan to go hanging out and shopping with my friends. We will definitely have at least one pyjama party.

I am Vietnamese, and similarly to Polish people, the Vietnamese like spending holidays with their family. We also have our own New Year, it is called Tet, this year me and my family will celebrate it on 25th January. Tet is seen as a chance for a fresh start. Debts are settled, and old grievances are forgiven. Houses are cleaned of clutter and decorated with symbolic flowers. Plants get pruned, and drawers are cleared out. All preparations are meant to set the stage for attracting as much luck and good fortune as possible in the upcoming year.

Superstition permeates the air: Whatever happens on the first day of the new year is thought to set the pace for the rest of the year. Sweeping and cutting (including hair and fingernails) are taboo during Tet as no one wants to unknowingly remove incoming good luck!

Although Chinese New Year is observed for 15 days, Tet is typically celebrated for three days with some traditions observed for up to a week. The first day of Tet is usually spent with immediate family, the second day is for visiting friends, and the third day is dedicated to teachers and visiting temples.

One of the most important traditions observed during Tet is the emphasis put on who is the first to enter a house in the new year. The first person brings the luck (good or bad) for the year! Special people (who are considered successful) dear to the family are sometimes invited and given the honour to be the first to enter. If no one is invited, the homeowner leaves and returns a few minutes after midnight just to ensure they are the first to enter the house for the new year.

#### **Author: Natalia Garstka**

#### **Climate Change**

In our times, climate is changing. Is this normal or must we change our lifestyle? I'll explain this issue. The Earth's climate has changed throughout history. Just in the last 650,000 years there have been seven cycles of glacial advance and retreat, with the abrupt end of the last ice age about 11,700 years ago marking the beginning of the modern climate era — and of human civilization.

Most of this climate change is attributed to a very small variations in Earth's orbit that change the amount of solar energy our planet receives. The current warming trend is of particular significance because most of it is extremely likely (greater than 95 percent probability) to be the result of human activity since the mid-20th century and proceeding at a rate that is unprecedented over decades to millennia. Earth-orbiting satellites and other technological advances have enabled scientists to see the big picture, collecting many different types of information about our planet and its climate on a global scale. This body of data, collected over many years, reveals the signals of a changing climate. The heat-trapping nature of carbon dioxide and other gases was demonstrated in the mid-19th century. Their ability to affect the transfer of infrared energy through the atmosphere is the scientific basis of many instruments flown by NASA.

There is no question that increased levels of greenhouse gases must cause the Earth to warm in response. Ice cores drawn from Greenland, Antarctica, and tropical mountain glaciers show that the Earth's climate responds to changes in greenhouse gas levels. Ancient evidence can also be found in tree rings, ocean sediments, coral reefs, and layers of sedimentary rocks. This ancient, or paleoclimate, evidence reveals that current warming is occurring roughly ten times faster than the average rate of ice-age-recovery warming.

Author: Staś Pszczółkowski





Meet the people behind this amazing edition of The Bingo Times!

We meet up once a month - on the second Friday of each month.

Our next meeting is in March.



Marta Burzyńska



Staś Pszczółkowski



Iza Czernek



Natalka Garstka



Julka Knap



Ola Wiech



Karolinka Rychlicka



Ania Nguyen



... you?

#### Feel free to contact us!

If you have a topic you would like us to write about or you wrote an article and you would like us to publish it or maybe you would like to submit your artwork or a joke -

- you can e-mail us at: school@edulang.pl