

Summertime Expressions

Ex 1: Read the example sentences below, and try to guess the meaning of the phrases.

a ray of sunshine

Jenny's son is **a little ray of sunshine**. He's such a cheerful boy. He's always smiling and giggling.

a summer fling

Dan: Are you still seeing that guy you met on holiday?
Sam: Oh no, that was just **a summer fling**. I've been dating a guy called Andy recently.

a fair-weather friend

Jim is just **a fair-weather friend**. He's never there for me when things aren't going well. You're a true friend, Zach, and I really appreciate your support.

be off on one's holidays

Andre: I'm **off on my holidays** at the end of this week.
Jackie: Oh, how exciting! Where are you off to?

a scorcher

Tomorrow is going to be an absolute **scorcher**. 32 °, the forecast said.



soak up some sun

I can't wait to hit the beach and **soak up some sun**.

an Indian summer

I really hope we get **an Indian summer** this year. I'm not ready for the winter again just yet.

make hay while the sun shines

Maria: The restaurant is so busy in July. We all have to work three double shifts a week.

Carly: Well, I guess they need to **make hay while the sun shines**. It will be dead come September, when all the tourists are gone.

Ex 2: Cover the examples above. Can you remember the missing word/s from the expressions?

- Wow, today is a _____! The heat is almost unbearable.
- I'm so thrilled to _____ my holidays next week. I really need a break.
- Karla is _____ sunshine in my life. She always brightens up my day.
- The weather has been very warm for October. We're having an _____ summer.
- I met a really nice girl in Crete last year, but it was just a summer _____, unfortunately.
- Oh, look, it's a fabulous day out there. Let's have lunch in the garden and _____ some sun.
- The sale is on now, so we should _____ while the sun shines and snap up some bargains.
- I can't believe Joe bailed on me again when I really needed him. He's such a _____ friend.



Ex 3: Let's practice!

(a) Ask and answer the conversation questions in pairs or small groups.

- Are you **off** anywhere **on your holidays** this year?
- Who in your life is like **a ray of sunshine**, always cheering you up?
- How do you stay cool when it's **a scorcher**?
- Do you have a special name for unseasonably warm weather occurring in autumn in your country?
- Do you know anyone who had a holiday romance which became more than just **a summer fling**?



(b) Work in pairs, and write three or four mini-dialogues using some of the expressions from above.