

Cooper: Hi everybody, today we have a nice and important guest, probably the most important guest, it's my mom. Mom, can you say hello to my audience? Or our audience?

Carol: Hello, to all of you.

Cooper: Don't talk too slow. You can talk just like a normal person, okay?

Carol: Sometimes I talk too fast, and so I have to make sure not to talk too fast.

Cooper: No, you should talk fast because we want them to be experience what they would experience every day.

Carol: Yes.

Cooper: Don't talk faster than normal, talk your normal speed.

Carol: Right.

Cooper: Okay. So you guys, my mom ... Mom, can you tell us where you live?

Carol: I live on Long Island, which is outside of New York City.

Cooper: You're talking very slow.

Carol: Well people always complain, native speakers say I speak so quickly they can't understand me, so I'm trying to speak the way I would to any native speaker.

Cooper: Oh okay that's fine. So we're going to talk a little bit about the weather today. Okay, because see my mom lives on Long Island in New York and you guys live in Brazil. And Brazil has a very different climate than New York actually, and it has a very different climate than Oxford. And New York has a different climate than Oxford. For example, I talked to my mom just now and she said, we're having a very beautiful summer day. And I think, I just become envious you know. Because I'd like to have a beautiful summer day, and here I am in Oxford, and they're actually saying, mom they're actually saying it's warm and it's about 24 degrees which is about 76 degrees Fahrenheit for the high, and there's no sun and believe me it feels cold for the summer. I'm just curious, what's the temperature like there?

Carol: The temperature is very warm, it's 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

Cooper: 90 degrees Fahrenheit?

Carol: And the sky is blue, there aren't any clouds.

Cooper: Do you enjoy it?

Carol: I love the warm weather.

Cooper: Yeah, I mean, look I'm not going to take any English summers anymore. Okay I can put up with the English winters, and the falls and the spring but the English summers I can't put up with. You know some people want to go away for the winter, I want to go away for the summer. Isn't that strange? I want to go away for the summer to go someplace warm. That's how strange England is, 90 degrees Fahrenheit is about 32 degrees Celsius. And that's a nice day, we like that, right? Because another thing, mom, and I'm going to let you talk after this. Another thing that's really interesting, people think that people from New York don't have 32 degrees, they think that it's too hot for people from New York. And I tell them, well you tell us now, what's the summer like in New York?

Carol: Well on some days, are like this particularly in August, can get very warm. But I have to tell you, when you're so jealous of our weather, that it can be very humid, the air can be very heavy. So people often like to go to the beach where it's cooler, because playing tennis you can't really play in the middle of the day in this temperature when the air is heavy. You really just can play in the morning or later, later in the day.

Cooper: Why is that?

Carol: Because 90 degrees, when it's humid, when the air is heavy, is really hot.

Cooper: Right, yes. So then how would you describe New York summer, because it's not just hot, right?

Carol: Right, and it's lovely to sit in the shade of a tree, but I have to tell you with a New York summer that if there were not air conditioning, it could be pretty bad. You would not want to sleep at night, in high 70 degrees.

Cooper: Okay, so you're saying that the reason why it's so uncomfortable in New York, on Long Island, in the summer is because of the combination of the heat and the humidity?

Carol: Right.

Cooper: And this makes it very uncomfortable, so at night you need the air conditioning.

Carol: For many days, but there are other days also when the temperature is in the 80s and it's not so humid, and those days are delightful. But in the month of August, we most often have a lot of heat and humidity.

Cooper: Actually the hottest days in New York are at the very end of July, but you know, I have to know everything. So days in the 80s, and the 80s are just like 28, 29, you know and it's funny because I would love, in the 80s here in England would be considered a very big heat wave. In fact this year, there were days in the 80s and people were saying it's very uncomfortable for them. Have you ever noticed anything like that about getting used to the temperature, getting used to the weather? Have you ever learned what it's like to get used to temperatures, for example, people in England are used to, who grew up in England would think that a nice summer day, a delightful summer day, as you said. They would think it was too hot. They would think that it was uncomfortable.

Carol: I think that's absolutely true, people get used to one way or another.

Cooper: And does that ever happen to you?

Carol: It happens to me when I go on a vacation in the Winter to some place warm, to an island and when you walk off the plane it feels really hot and humid, but after a day it feels like it should feel, and you don't even want air conditioning.

Cooper: Okay, okay. So tell us what it's like to live in New York in terms of the seasons? You've talked a little bit about the summer, but tell us what it's like. A lot of times people say they enjoy the seasons, they don't want to move to, for example to Goiania, because Goiania doesn't have seasons. Is that the way you feel?

Carol: Well, I don't know that I would mind if it were spring all year long. When the days are long, they're nice and warm days. Pretty flowers coming up. I guess the variety after the summer to have the autumn where the air gets a little more crisp and leaves change and they're really pretty, red and yellow. That's nice. I don't love the winter, there are people who do, they feel the cold crisp air is invigorating and they like winter sports like skiing and skating, but I don't love winter, where you have to wear heavy jacket and sweaters and warm hat. I could do without that season.

Cooper: What's the best thing about the winter?

Carol: The best thing, well the best thing is for people who like winter sports.

Cooper: No, I'm saying for you.

Carol: For me? Well sometimes when there's a bright blue sky and the cold crisp air, can feel good. Other than that, I guess some people, maybe for me even, the winter is time to just hibernate in the house and curl up in the warmth and watch a good movie.

Cooper: Do you have a fireplace?

Carol: We have a fireplace, but don't use it very often. That could be a nice thing to do, a lot of people like to have a fireplace in the winter.

Cooper: What's it like in New York in the winter? Does it snow?

Carol: It does snow, every year is different, but I would say it snows at least two or three times every winter. And again, the snow when it first comes down is beautiful, so just looking outside and seeing that is nice.

Cooper: How high does it get?

Carol: How high does it get? Oh, it can get two feet high.

Cooper: Two feet?

Carol: Yes.

Cooper: So there's two feet of snow on the ground.

Carol: It can get that high.

Cooper: How do you walk in that?

Carol: Well, this is one of the negatives about winter, you have to shovel that snow out of the way in order to walk. And there are snow plows that go down the street to get the snow off the street so cars can move, and for many people it's a big nuisance because to get anywhere by car the streets are icy, you have to be very careful. So that's the negative about the snow.

Cooper: Does that mean that it's not easy to drive on the snow?

Carol: You have to be more careful.

Cooper: Okay, and what's your favorite thing ... oh you said. Your favorite thing in the winter is not to go outside?

Carol: I guess, that's right, although a brisk walk if there's no snow, could be nice too.

Cooper: Okay, tell us a little bit about ... and what temperature is it like there in the winter?

Carol: Well it varies a great deal, sometimes we have days in the winter when it's 50 degrees Fahrenheit, and that's really nice.

Cooper: Twelve degrees Celsius about, okay.

Carol: But sometimes it goes down to five degrees, 10 degrees Fahrenheit and that is really unpleasantly cold.

Cooper: I don't know what temperature five degrees Fahrenheit is, but it's minus a lot, minus something. Might minus 15, I don't know, something like that.

Carol: It's a complicated Math to figure that out.

Cooper: It's probably minus 15 or something. Okay. How long does it last?

Carol: Well those really cold days, really coldest days don't last for very long. Maybe just a few days. So most of the days in the winter are, I would say around 40 degrees.

Cooper: Oh really, so about three or four degree Celsius.

Carol: Most days, but they're plenty of days also when it's between 20 and 40, it's different every year.

Cooper: So tell us about the other seasons? What you do? Tell us some more? Tell us about yourself? Tell us about your personal relationship with the other seasons?

Carol: Okay, well I love spring, because one great thing about spring is the days get longer and longer, and I love when it stays light in the evening.

Cooper: Why do you love when it stays light in the evening?

Carol: It's just good for my mood, and I feel more upbeat when it's light rather than dark. And I love to be able to take a walk after dinner, so if it's light at 7 o' clock, I can go out after dinner and take a walk. So that's one of the nice things about the long days, the outside [crosstalk 00:12:09].

Cooper: How late are the longest days?

Carol: The longest day, which is June 21st I think, it's still fairly light. It doesn't start getting dark until around 9 pm.

Cooper: Here in England, in Oxford, it would start getting dark on the longest day around 10.45 pm.

Carol: Well that's nice in the late spring, but in the winter it gets dark much earlier than it does here.

Cooper: Yeah.

Carol: Flip side.

Cooper: Yeah, the flip side is here in the winter it gets dark at 3.30 pm.

Carol: Right.

Cooper: So, you like the long walks on the spring, I interrupted you, what else?

Carol: That's okay. Well I like in the spring, so flowers start coming up automatically, you don't have to plant them, every year we have certain flowers that come up in the spring. And there's a succession of different flowers, so first you get the Crocuses, which are little tiny purple and yellow flowers, and after that you get the bright yellow Daffodils, and then after that you get the Tulips, which are all different colors. Then the leaves start coming out on the trees, and there are certain bushes we have that have very bright colored flowers. So I love seeing that.

Cooper: So, what about autumn? What are your favorite autumn activities?

Carol: Well autumn, the days start getting a little crisp, so we don't have to worry about exercise outside and it being too hot. So in early autumn, you can take walks, you can play tennis, go horse back riding. It's a great season for doing anything outdoors.

Cooper: What about you, personally, what do you like to do? What's your favorite autumn memory?

Carol: I would say, oh even, I remember when you were a little boy, taking a hike in the woods in the autumn, when the trees were turning colors, it was really very pretty.

Cooper: Oh yeah, and I'm sure I liked that a lot. Obviously, I remember Halloween as a little kid, in autumn. I remember Halloween ...

Carol: Oh Halloween, that's a holiday that people look forward to, certainly in New York all the kids go out with their parents from house to house, and they dress in costumes and get a trick or treat, which is usually some kind of candy.

Cooper: What I remember about Halloween and living in New York, is you would always know, Halloween was like for me, that is exactly when the weather changed. I always missed the summer, so the summer came and then you could always have some nice days that you could go out without a jacket, until about the beginning of October, you could always have that. Not always, but sometimes you had a nice warm day, but by the end of October it starts getting really cold. So when you go out at night on Halloween you needed to have gloves and hat. For me that's when the weather starts going to winter.

Carol: Yes that is true, although sometimes there still are some very, very nice days in early November.

Cooper: And you get depressed, because I can tell you, like here I am in England and it's August and the weather, I don't think we're going to have anymore nice days, summer hot days anymore. It's depressing because I just feel like September going to be worse, then October, then November. Only bad weather to come.

Carol: I know what you mean, that's the worst thing about fall, is that you're anticipating winter and the colder weather.

Cooper: See my theory is, my favorite month is February, because I know it's only going to get better.

Carol: I hear ya. It's true.

Cooper: We're gonna say thank you to my mom, Dr Cooper's mom we'll call her.

Carol: Okay, you're very welcome.

Cooper: And I'm sure that the audience is going to be really happy to hear your voice, and get to hear a native speaker talking about New York, Long Island and the different seasons.

Carol: Okay well I'm glad that I was able to do this.

Cooper: Thank you.

