

**Unit 12, p.176**

**Hotting up!**

Look at the Fun facts and see if you can find sentences or phrases that mean the same as the ones below.

- 1 The temperature is 30° centigrade or more.
- 2 You cannot buy any ice cream in London.
- 3 Many underground trains do not run.
- 4 People in the park wear the minimum of clothes.
- 5 Tax inspectors stop work and leave their offices.
- 6 The roads are full of cars. It is impossible for them to move.

**Fun facts**

**Heat-wave tales**

It was the first week in July. Temperatures all over Britain hit the 30s.

- Many Brits simply took the day off work to go to the seaside. People were packed like sardines on the beach and the roads to and from the cities were jammed. Traffic was at a standstill.
- In London's parks you could see more bare flesh than textiles (but nudity, of course, is banned!)
- Ice cream was sold out in the capital.
- The air conditioner in the tax office in Cardiff, Wales, broke down. The person in charge told the employees that if the temperature climbed to more than 32° and they felt uncomfortable in the heat, they could leave. The thermometer reached 32°. And 500 tax inspectors walked out.
- Tube drivers in London were allowed to work 2 hours less and many trains had to be cancelled.
- National Health Service workers in Newcastle were given free cold drinks and ice lollies.

All this is nothing new. There has been a heat wave every year since 2002. Britain is hotting up!

**Questions**

1. What do you do to keep cool?
2. Do you think pupils / workers should have to work when the temperature is 32°?
3. Do you prefer hot or cold weather? Explain your choice.
4. What advice would you give to people in very hot / cold weather?