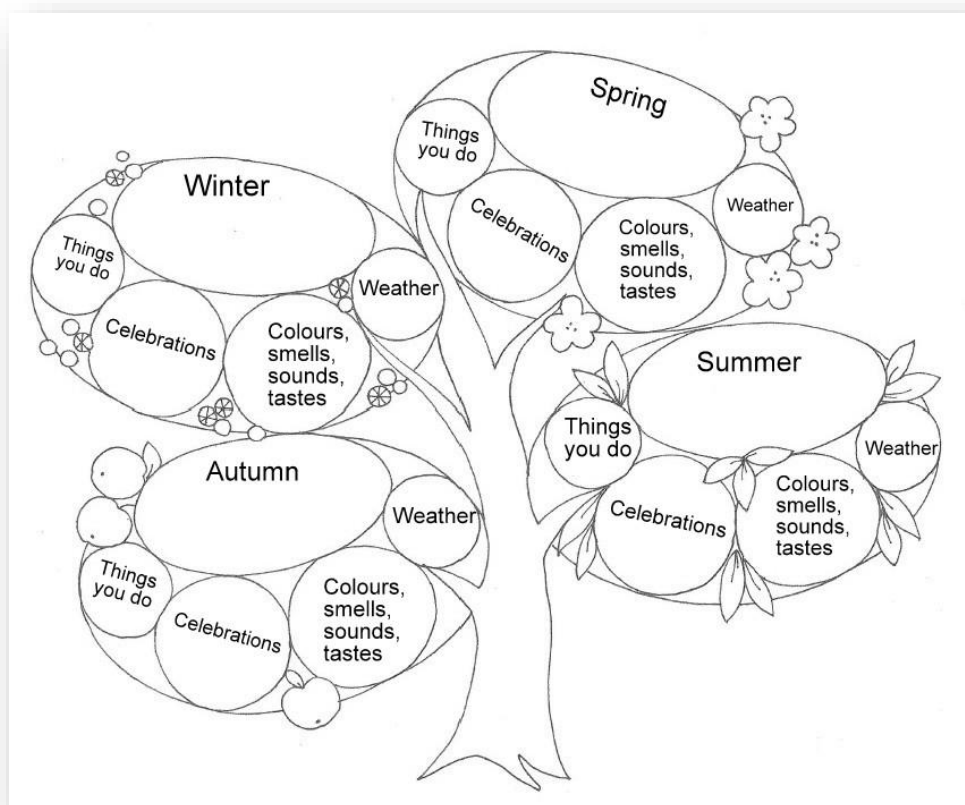


What words do you associate with each season?



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Competences

Grammatical competence: verbs in the present tense

Lexical competence: festivities, colours and sensory impressions related to the seasons

Knowledge of the world: seasons

Main skills

Write a text or poem and listen to other students' texts

Level: A2 – B2

Description of the activity

The teacher asks the students which season they prefer and why.

Then s/he raises the subject of the differences in seasons in different parts of the world: Countries in the mid-latitudes - places that are neither near the poles nor near the Equator - have four seasons. The farther north you go, the bigger are the differences in the hours of daylight, for example in Lapland, the nights are nightless in June, while there is daylight for only about one and a half hours in December. The seasons in the Northern Hemisphere are the opposite of those in the Southern Hemisphere, for example the summer months in Europe are the winter months in Australia. The countries on the Equator don't have seasons as in Europe. It gets light at around 6am and dark about 6pm.

Then the teacher distributes the worksheet and asks the students to think of words they associate with the concepts shown in the mental map of the seasons and write them down. They can use a dictionary. Then the results are shared and the teacher writes some useful vocabulary on the board.

As a writing task, students write a few sentences about one of the seasons or all the seasons depending on the time available in class. In a more advanced course, students can be asked to write a poem that has musicality and rhythm. It doesn't need to rhyme. Then the texts are shared in the plenary or in small groups.

See below for an example of a poem about the seasons.

The seasons

Spring

The sky and landscape are painted
In pale water colours
There is still some snow
But summer is not far away at Easter.

Summer

The morning dew and blackbird announce
A bright summer morning
Heralds a perfect summer day
And another summer night
Full of cricket song.

Autumn

A new school year has started.
The days are so clear
A gorgeous Indian summer bathed in sunlight
But soon a damp white fog
Will shroud everything
Storms will strip the trees of their leaves
So that they look like skeletons
As if to prepare the scenery for Halloween.

Winter

The short bleak days and the long nights
Look almost like a black and white movie.
Christmas is not far away with
Christmas cards and seasonal greetings,
And a Christmas tree, tinsel and holly,
Plum pudding and turkey.
We make new year's resolutions
And welcome the new year.

What words do you associate with each season?

