



Cultural Linguistic Services
OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

English Learning Newsletter

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

New words of the week:

- In December 2020, **USCIS** (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) **implemented** (started) a **revised** (new) **civics** (government and history) test for people applying to become U.S. citizens.
- On March 1, 2021, USCIS **reverted** (changed back) to the 2008 **version** (form) of the test.

Weather idioms:

- March **comes in like a lion but goes out like a lamb** (starts with cold weather but ends with warmer weather).
- I'm feeling **under the weather** (sick).
- We are **snowed under** (have a lot of work to do) this week.
- She's **on cloud 9** (very happy).
- They are **saving for a rainy day** (saving money for the future).
- Did you **get wind of** (hear about) the news?
- Let's **break the ice** (start a conversation).
- It's raining **cats and dogs** (very hard).
- Can I **take a rain check** (do something later)?

Phrases for conversation:

Use these phrases to **catch up with someone** (talk with someone you have not seen for a while):

- **What's new?**
- **Long time no see!**
- **It's nice to see you again.**
- **I'm so glad we ran into each other.**
- **How have you been?**
- **What's been happening?**
- **How's life been treating you?**



For Fun:

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