

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S1 #1

How Many Seasons Are There in Turkey?

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TURKISH

1. AHMET: Yağmur mu yağıyor?
2. ZEYNEP: Yok, sadece çiseliyor.
3. AHMET: Hava nemli ve rüzgarlı. Fırtına bekleniyormuş.
4. ZEYNEP: Evet, öğleden sonra.

ENGLISH

1. AHMET: Is it raining?
2. ZEYNEP: No, just drizzling.
3. AHMET: The weather is humid and windy. A storm is expected.
4. ZEYNEP: Yes, in the afternoon.

VOCABULARY

Turkish	English	Class
yağmur	rain	noun
çiselemek	to drizzle	verb
yağmak	to rain	verb
hava	weather, air	noun
nemli	humid	adjective
rüzgarlı	windy	adjective
fırtına	storm	noun

beklemek	to wait	verb
öğleden sonra	afternoon	phrase, noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Dün, kısa bir zamanda oldukça yağmur yağdı.</p> <p>"Yesterday, we had a lot of rain in short period of time."</p>	<p>Yağmur yağıyor.</p> <p>"It's raining."</p>
<p>Yağmur sokağa yağıyor.</p> <p>"The rain is falling on the street."</p>	<p>Yarın biraz çiseleyecekmiş.</p> <p>"It's going to drizzle a bit tomorrow."</p>
<p>İki gün önce çok yağmur yağdı.</p> <p>"It rained a lot two days ago."</p>	<p>Datça'nın havası çok temiz.</p> <p>Datça's air is very clean.</p>
<p>Hava berbat.</p> <p>"This weather is horrible."</p>	<p>Ankara'da hava nasıl?</p> <p>"What's the weather like in Ankara?"</p>
<p>Mersin'in havası nemlidir.</p> <p>"Mersin has humid weather."</p>	<p>Türkiye'nin Kuzey Batısı çok rüzgarlıdır.</p> <p>"The northwest of Turkey is very windy."</p>
<p>Çamaşırlar rüzgarlı havada iyi kurur.</p> <p>"Laundry dries well in windy weather."</p>	<p>Ege Denizi'nde Kasım ayı fırtınalı geçer.</p> <p>"The Aegean Sea is stormy during November."</p>
<p>Balıkçılar fırtınaya yakalandı.</p> <p>"Fishermen were caught in the storm."</p>	<p>Faturanız için bir kaç gün daha bekleyebilir misiniz? Neredeyse hazır.</p> <p>"Can you wait for your invoice a couple of days more? I have it almost ready."</p>
<p>Beklemeyi sevmem.</p> <p>"I don't like waiting."</p>	<p>Saatlerce seni beklemekten nefret ediyorum.</p> <p>"I hate waiting for you for hours!"</p>

<p>Yolcu treni bekler.</p> <p>"The traveler waits for the train."</p>	<p>Kedim öğleden sonra uyumayı sever.</p> <p>"My cat likes to sleep in the afternoon."</p>
<p>Öğleden sonra kar yağacak.</p> <p>"It's going to snow this afternoon."</p>	<p>Seni öğleden sonra arayacağım.</p> <p>"I'll call you back this afternoon."</p>
<p>Kedin öğleden sonraları kestirmeyi seviyor.</p> <p>"My cat likes to take a nap in the afternoon."</p>	<p>Öğleden sonra çay vaktidir.</p> <p>"Afternoon is tea time."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

yağmak "to rain," "to fall," "to drop"

This verb is exclusively used for objects falling down from the sky. Noun form of the verb, *yağış*, is also used exclusively to encompass all objects falling from the sky. This word doesn't point at what is falling down, so in order to specify, *yağmur* ("rain"), *kar* ("snow") etc. should be added before the verb, as in *Kar yağıyor* ("It's snowing").

A common phrase, *başımıza taş yağacak* ("we're going to be punished by falling rocks"), is often said after committing a deed one believes to be wrong.

For example:

1. *Rize'de kar yağdı.*
"It snowed in Rize."

beklemek "to wait," "to expect"

Beklemek has two main meanings: "to wait" and "to expect." In a weather context, *beklemek* is mostly used in its passive form with "expectation," so *beklenmek* ("to be expected").

Weather forecasts employ this verb often to describe the potential for rain/snow/hail in an area. If rain/snow/hail has already started to fall, it's illogical to use this verb. *Yağmak* should be used instead.

For example:

1. *Bu ay fırtına beklenmiyor.*
"No storm is expected for this month."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Talking About the Weather.

Yağmur mu yağıyor?

"Is it raining?"

1. How to talk about the weather

The weather and the temperature are always the safest topics for making small talk, so let's look at some of the related adjectives. When describing the weather with adjectives, the adjective is used at the end of the sentence. If you're going to talk about weather in the past, past tense suffix *-di* or *-miş* can be added to the adjective. However, present continuous or future tense suffixes/infixes cannot be used with adjectives; instead, the auxiliary verbs *olmak* ("to be") should be used.

Vocabulary List: Adjectives Related to Temperature and Weather

Let's look at four adjectives describing the air temperature. They're really useful, so try to memorize them.

Turkish	"English"
<i>sıcak</i>	"hot"
<i>soğuk</i>	"cold"
<i>ılık</i>	"warm"
<i>serin</i>	"cool"

Describing the Day's Temperature

In Turkish *hava* means "weather" or "air," and when you combine it with one of the adjectives above, your description is complete. It's very simple. For example, *Hava sıcak* means "It's hot." Try to replace *sıcak* with *soğuk*, *ılık*, or *serin* and add *çok* ("too") in front of the adjective.

Adjectives and Expressions about Weather

Some adjectives and their English equivalents are:

<i>açık</i>	"bright and clear"
<i>güneşli</i>	"sunny"
<i>yağmurlu</i>	"rainy"
<i>bulutlu</i>	"cloudy"
<i>nemli</i>	"humid"
<i>karlı</i>	"snowy"
<i>ayaz</i>	"frost"
<i>serin</i>	"cool"
<i>sağanak</i>	"downpour"
<i>çiseleme</i>	"drizzle"
<i>ağır yağış</i>	"heavy rain"
<i>hafif yağış</i>	"light rain"
<i>kar</i>	"snow"
<i>kar fırtınası</i>	"blizzard"
<i>bulut</i>	"cloud"

For example:

1. *Dün kar yağdı ve hava çok soğuktu.*
"It snowed yesterday and the temperature was freezing."
2. *Mersin'in havası sıcak ve nemlidir.*
"Mersin is hot and humid."
3. *İstanbul'da Mayıs ılık olur.*
"Istanbul is warm during May."

2. The Present Continuous

In this lesson you will also learn how to talk about the weather using the "present continuous tense."

Here are some examples from the dialogue:

1. *Sadece çiseliyor.*
"It's just drizzling."
2. *Fırtına bekleniyordu.*
"A storm is expected."

As you can see there is a common element in these two verbs, the infix/suffix **-yor-**.

Let's take a look at another verb for the conjugation: *çizmek* ("to draw"). In present continuous tense with personal suffixes, *çizmek* becomes:

- *çiz-iyor-um* (First person singular) "I am drawing."
- *çiz-iyor-sun* (Second person singular) "You are drawing."
- *çiz-iyor* (Third person singular) "He/she/it is drawing."
- *çiz-iyor-uz* (First person plural) "We are drawing."
- *çiz-iyor-sunuz* (Second person plural) "You are drawing."
- *çiz-iyor-lar* (Third person plural) "They are drawing."

The *-iyor* infix also changes into *-iyor*, *-uyor*, or *-üyor* depending on the vowel harmony rules. Here, the rule is that the vowel *i* must change into another vowel to comply with the final vowel in the verb root.

Let's illustrate the previous explanation with a few examples.

- *yağ-ıyor* means "It is raining." Here, the *-iyor* suffix *i* turns into *ı* to match the final vowel of the verb root, which is also *ı*.

- *dur-uyor* means "It is stopping." Here, the *-iyor* suffix *i* turns into *u* to match the final vowel of the verb root, which is also *u*.

- *büzül-üyor* means "He/she/it is shrinking." Here, the *-iyor* suffix *i* turns into *ü* to match the final vowel of the verb root, which is also *ü*.

Let's also look at how to form negative sentences using this tense.

To make a present continuous tense verb negative you need to attach the negative suffix **-me** right after the verb root. As you know, in Turkish two vowels cannot exist in sequence. Therefore, the *-e-* in *-me* can't go with the *-i* in *-iyor*. Just like in *çisele-me-iyor*, *-e* drops and the word becomes *çiselemiyor*.

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Hava nemli ve rüzgarlı. Fırtına bekleniyormuş.*
"The weather is humid and windy. A storm is expected."

Sample Sentences

1. *Ankara'da yazın yağmur yağmaz.*
"It doesn't rain in Ankara during summer."
2. *Bu dolu yağışı beklenmiyordu.*
"This hail wasn't expected."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Four Seasons of Turkey

Turkish people love the summer season, as most people get to go on long vacations during the summer months, but complaints of *Hava çok sıcak!* ("It's so hot!") are often heard. Southern beaches receive floods of both international and domestic tourists, while mountains in the North host those who don't want to get a suntan and prefer the calm of green plateaus. Regardless of the location, having a picnic is the number one activity but no Turkish summer picnic is ever complete without watermelons or *mangal* (Turkish barbecue). After long summer days of fun and laziness, autumn is the time for students to head back to school and

grown ups to go back to their jobs. Rain is a common sight in most places, and the phrases *bardaktan boşalırcasına* ("as if water is being poured from a glass") or *Nuh'un tufanı gibi* ("like Noah's flood") are used to describe heavy rain falls. Also, autumn months are lively with the traditional preparation of staple foods for the winter. Not too many households in the city still participate in this tradition but for those who do, it's a flurry of activities like making copious amounts of tomato and pepper paste, drying vegetables on strings, making pickles and jams, etc. Everyone helps each other with these tasks and winter preparations are usually done long before the first snow hits the ground. Winter is mild in the South and very harsh in the North; snow piles can block village roads in Eastern Anatolia. Although families and friends gather inside, no one can keep children from playing in the snow especially when it's *lapa lapa* ("slow but heavy snow fall"). Eating *kestane* ("chestnut") and *mandalina* ("tangerine") is a winter time tradition. About a month after the New Year's celebrations, the weather starts to warm up unnoticeably slowly, a phenomenon called *cemre düşmesi* in Turkish, which signals the arrival of spring. Spring is usually brief with the commonly found plum trees and *gelincik* (literally "little bride," the red poppy) blooming beautifully. During mid-spring, Turkish people celebrate a religious festival called *Hıdırellez* by burying symbolic objects under rose plants and jumping over bonfires. The warm days of spring then turn into often scorchingly hot days of summer.