



## Snow Causes Disruption Across UK

### Why are some storms named?

- Storms are given short and clear names to help make people more aware of them and their potential dangers.
- Sometimes storms are named alphabetically (A-Z) throughout the year and a new list of names is created every 12 months.

Weather warnings were in force as freezing temperatures and icy winds brought **disruption** to much of Britain this week.

Storm Darcy met with cold air from the east and caused heavy snow in parts of the UK.

The snow was so thick in some places that the roads became **impassable**.

Some schools, nurseries and coronavirus vaccination centres had to close because of the weather.

It was so cold, the temperature fell to below -20°C in parts of Scotland.

The heavy snow even caused some people to lose power to their homes.

Dr Owen Landeg is an environmental scientist. He said, "It's really important during this particularly cold period to keep checking on **frail** or older neighbours or relatives."

### What are Weather Warnings?

The Met Office is the UK's weather service. When the weather is likely to be much worse than normal, they issue weather warnings.

The warnings come in one of three colours: yellow, amber and red.



Photo: The snow made travel difficult in some areas.

A yellow warning is the least severe warning of the three but the weather might still cause some disruption.

An amber warning means the bad weather will be worse and likely to cause more problems. A red warning is the highest alert and means that the weather is likely to be very dangerous.

### Glossary

**disruption** When something is stopped from carrying on normally.

**impassable** Impossible to travel over because it is blocked.

**frail** Delicate or weak.

### Reflect

How might people check on their frail or elderly relatives in a safe and socially distanced way?

# Questions

1. Using information from the story, fill in the missing words to complete the sentence.  
Some parts of the UK were hit with freezing \_\_\_\_\_ and thick \_\_\_\_\_ this week when Storm Darcy met winds from the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. **Dr Owen Landeg is not worried at all about how the cold weather might affect some elderly people.** Find one piece of evidence which **does not** support that statement.
3. In the sentence: **When the weather is likely to be much worse than normal, they issue weather warnings** which of the following words could be used as a an alternative for 'warning' ? **(Tick one)**  
  
confidence  
caution  
question  
secret
4. What was the name of the storm mentioned in the article?  
  
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