To analyse main features of a weather report Steps to success:

- 1) I can say whether speech is formal or informal.
- 2) I can explain the basic organisation of a weather report

http://www.bbc.co.uk/

Watch the Sky or BBC national weather forecast, try to answer the questions.

Preparing a Radio Forecast

When forecasters prepare for their radio forecasts today, they have much more information at their finger tips than when Michael Fish first started. Aside from that he hasn't seen many changes (perhaps not even the headphones!).

When training new forecasters in radio broadcasting, he recommends that they spend an hour producing a scripted forecast for a two minute radio broadcast, and it's not easy to cover the whole of the UK in this time with no graphics to help.

The forecaster has confirmed the duration of the broadcast with the radio network before they go into the studio. They automatically hear the network to whom they are contributing and set their countdown clock. Once they receive the 'handover' from the presenter they start the clock and when it reaches zero they know their time is up.

Radio forecasts still play a very important role in keeping people informed of current and future weather. "Radio is the only medium (by which) to receive weather information when driving, so it is vital, especially in severe weather" says Michael Fish.

The BBC Weather Centre upgraded its radio studio and facilities in 2003 and now has the ability to record and upload audio content to any BBC platform or customer.

Useful Vocabulary

Conditions

Outlook

Forecaster

Forecast

Report

http://www.bbc.co.uk/london/weather/

What place is the report about? What time periods are mentioned (eg: day name, day or night?) What is the temperature? What are the conditions? Does the forecaster seem friendly or serious (formal/informal)? Does the forecaster give an opinion on whether the weather will be good or not?