BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

How do we describe smells?



Listen to the full episode here: https://bbc.in/4qzvwFW

1. **Look at the cover image and title of the episode. What do you think this episode is about? What do you know about this topic already? What vocabulary do you associate with this topic?**

2. **Now listen to the first two minutes of the episode.**
   - What do the presenters say the episode is about?
   - What is this week's question? What do you think the answer is?

3. **Now listen to the whole episode. As you listen, write down the six items of vocabulary. What do they mean?**

a) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

b) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

c) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

d) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

e) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

f) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

© British Broadcasting Corporation 2026

6 Minute English worksheet
How do we describe smells?



4. What did you learn that was surprising or new in this episode?

5. Answer the quiz questions. Listen again or use the transcript to help you.

1. Which adjective is an informal word for 'bad smelling'?
   a) stinky
   b) fragrant
   c) musty

2. Which word refers to things that are based on personal opinions and feelings, rather than facts?
   a) subject
   b) objective
   c) subjective

3. Which adjective means 'related to seeing'?
   a) visual
   b) auditory
   c) olfactory

4. "Whenever I want to discuss plans for moving abroad with my wife, she stops the conversation. She always shuts it ___."
   a) up
   b) down
   c) in

5. Which adjective means 'related to smelling'?
   a) visual
   b) auditory
   c) olfactory

6. Which adjective means 'pleasant smelling'?
   a) humming
   b) reeking
   c) fragrant

© British Broadcasting Corporation 2026

6 Minute English worksheet
How do we describe smells?



6. Write your own sentences using the vocabulary.

7. Answer the following questions.

- What are three things you have learnt from this episode?
- How does this topic make you feel?
- Give three examples relevant to your life using the vocabulary.

© British Broadcasting Corporation 2026

6 Minute English worksheet
How do we describe smells?



Answers

3.

a. stinky – (informal) having a bad smell

b. fragrant – having a sweet or pleasant smell

c. subjective – based on your own personal opinions and feelings

d. visual – related to seeing

e. auditory – related to hearing

f. shut (something) down – stop something

5. 1a, 2c, 3a, 4b, 5c, 6c

© British Broadcasting Corporation 2026

6 Minute English worksheet
How do we describe smells?



Teacher's notes
This worksheet is standardised so that you can amend and use it as appropriate with your classes.

Some topics may be difficult for learners, especially those which could be upsetting or cause offence. Please be mindful of this when using this worksheet and adapt it as necessary.

Extension activities

- Role-play an interview with an 'interviewer' and an 'expert' on this topic.
- Write a short story or article using the vocabulary from this episode.
- Read original articles on this topic.
- For homework: If it is available in your country, download and listen to the original podcast these extracts were taken from.

© British Broadcasting Corporation 2026