Hair with a Mind of Its Own?

Kristine Khealie

**BEFORE YOU READ:** Does the weather affect your hair? If so, how?

At certain times of the year, our hair seems to have a mind of its own. However, this is not the case. The real problem is the climate we live in. A lot of people have bad hair days due to the weather. For some people, the heat and humidity makes their hair frizz up or even curl. When it’s cold and dry, their hair might maintain a straighter look.

I myself have struggled with how the weather affects my hair. But now I have a strategy for how to deal with it. I am African-American and Indian, so my natural hair is soft curls. As soon as spring starts, I keep my natural curly hair all the way to the end of summer. I choose to do this because if I were to straighten my hair, it would automatically frizz up and turn into curls. The only time I get to straighten my hair is when it’s fall or winter. When the temperatures start to get colder, that’s the great time for my hair to stay straight.

**AFTER YOU READ:** What does the author mean when she says our hair “seems to have a mind of its own”? Try using that phrase in a sentence. For example: “It makes no sense why the car won’t start; it seems to have a mind of its own.” Explain in your own words when it is appropriate to use that phrase.

*Kristine Khealie, born and raised in New York City, is currently attending school at New York City College of Technology Adult Learning Center. She enjoys cooking for family and friends and would love to major in Culinary Arts.*