

Thunderstorms are an extreme form of weather. Luckily, very few people are struck by lightning in New Zealand. However, in the United States, lightning kills an average of 93 people every year and injures 300. Thunderstorms can bring heavy rain, hail, and violent winds. All of these can cause damage, injury, and even death.

Lightning is caused when static electricity builds up in storm clouds. An electric charge is “static” if it builds up in an object rather than flowing through it. You can cause static electricity to build up on a balloon by rubbing it against a woolen jersey. Enough electricity builds up on a balloon to make it stick to a wall. In the same way, your hair becomes charged with static electricity if you use a plastic brush. A charge builds up in each strand of hair as you brush. Because all the hairs develop the same type of charge, they repel one another and stand up separately.

Topic Sentence

Explain

Example

Analysis

Summary