

**Chapter 18 Moisture, Clouds, and Precipitation**

**Section 18.1 Water in the Atmosphere**

21 points

Obtain a psychrometer in order to measure the relative humidity.

Use the table at the right to calculate the relative humidity in the classroom.  
Record here: \_\_\_\_\_

2pts

Measure the relative humidity outside.  
Record here: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIVE HUMIDITY TABLE										
Dry bulb C	Difference between wet and dry bulb readings in Celsius degrees									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3	84	69	54	40	26	12				
4	85	70	56	42	29	16	3			
5	86	72	58	45	32	19	7			
6	86	73	60	47	35	23	11			
7	87	74	61	49	37	26	14	3		
8	87	75	63	51	39	28	18	7		
9	88	76	64	53	42	31	21	11	1	
10	88	77	66	55	44	34	24	15	6	
11	89	78	67	56	46	36	27	18	9	
12	89	78	68	58	48	39	29	21	12	
13	89	79	69	59	50	41	32	22	15	7
14	90	79	70	60	51	42	24	25	18	10
15	90	80	71	61	53	44	26	27	20	13
16	90	81	71	63	54	46	28	30	23	15
17	90	81	72	64	55	47	40	32	25	18
18	91	82	73	65	57	49	41	34	27	20
19	91	82	74	65	58	50	43	36	29	22
20	91	83	74	67	59	53	46	39	32	26
21	91	83	75	67	60	53	46	39	32	26

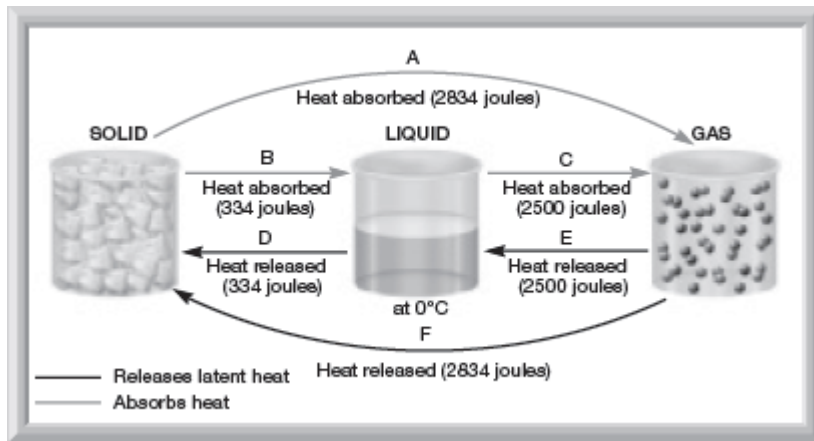
1.  Circle the letter of the most important gas in atmospheric processes.
- a. oxygen
  - b. nitrogen
  - c. water vapor
  - d. carbon dioxide

**Water's Changes of State**

2. Select the appropriate letter in the figure that identifies each of the following changes of state.

6pts

- \_\_\_\_\_ sublimation
- \_\_\_\_\_ freezing
- \_\_\_\_\_ deposition
- \_\_\_\_\_ evaporation
- \_\_\_\_\_ condensation
- \_\_\_\_\_ melting



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3. For each change of state, write the opposite change of state.

3pts

a. condensation: \_\_\_\_\_

b. freezing: \_\_\_\_\_

c. deposition: \_\_\_\_\_

4. The heat absorbed or released during a change of state is called \_\_\_\_\_

**Humidity**

5.  Is the following sentence true or false? Saturated warm air contains more water vapor than saturated cold air.  
\_\_\_\_\_

6.  What is the difference between humidity and relative humidity?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Match each situation to its change in relative humidity.*

<b>Situation</b>	<b>Change in Relative Humidity</b>
_____ 7. Water vapor is added.	a. increases
_____ 8. <input type="radio"/> Air temperature decreases.	b. no change
_____ 9. Water vapor is removed.	c. decreases
_____ 10. <input type="radio"/> Air temperature increases.	

11. When a parcel of air is cooled to the temperature at which it is saturated, it has reached its \_\_\_\_\_

12. Circle the letter of the factor that a hygrometer is used to measure.

- a. humidity
- b. relative humidity
- c. temperature
- d. latent heat

13. A sling psychrometer works because the amount of cooling that occurs in the wet bulb is directly proportional to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the air.

14. What happens when air that has reached its dew point is cooled further? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Section 18.2 Cloud Formation**

27 points

*This section explains what happens when air is compressed and expanded. It also describes processes that lift air, how stable and unstable air behaves, and how condensation occurs.*

**Reading Strategy**

As you read, write the main idea for each topic in the table below. For more information on this Reading Strategy, see the **Reading and Study Skills** in the **Skills and Reference Handbook** at the end of your textbook.

2pts

Topic	Main idea
Adiabatic temperature changes	a.
Stability measurements	b.
Degrees of stability	c.

3pts

**Air Compression and Expansion**

1. When a parcel of air is allowed to expand, it \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Why does a parcel of air expand as it rises upward through the atmosphere?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Is the following sentence true or false? The rate of heating or cooling of saturated air is the dry adiabatic rate.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. When a parcel of air reaches its dew point, the process of \_\_\_\_\_ begins.
5. After a parcel of air rises past the condensation level, the rate of cooling decreases because of the release of latent \_\_\_\_\_.

**Processes That Lift Air**

6. List four mechanisms that can cause air to rise.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4pts

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7. Complete the table below.

Processes That Lift Air		
Process	Cause of Lifting	Typical Resulting Weather Pattern
Orographic lifting	mountains block airflow	
Frontal wedging		clouds and rain
Convergence		
Localized convective lifting		

6pts

8. What causes a rain shadow desert? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ is produced when two air masses collide.

10. Is the following sentence true or false? Localized convective lifting produces thermals that lift birds to great heights.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Stability**

11.  A parcel of air that is less dense than the surrounding air is \_\_\_\_\_ and will tend to rise.

12.  Is the following sentence true or false? Unstable air tends to remain in its original position. \_\_\_\_\_

13. Circle the letter of the sentence that best describes a temperature inversion.

- a. Air temperature increases with height.
- b. Air temperature decreases with height.
- c. Low-altitude air is unstable.
- d. High-altitude air is unstable.

14. Clouds associated with lifting of \_\_\_\_\_ air often produce thunderstorms.

**Condensation**

15.  For condensation to occur, air must be \_\_\_\_\_.

16. Is the following sentence true or false? Above the ground, tiny particles called condensation nuclei serve as surfaces for water-vapor condensation. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Section 18.3 Cloud Types and Precipitation**

18 points

*This section describes different types of clouds, including fog. It also explains how precipitation forms and describes different types of precipitation.*

**Reading Strategy**

As you read, add definitions for the vocabulary terms. For more information on this Reading Strategy, see the **Reading and Study Skills** in the **Skills and Reference Handbook** at the end of your textbook.

4pts

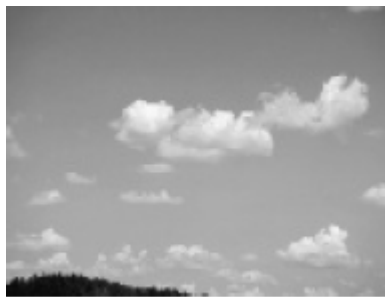
Vocabulary Term	Definition
Cirrus	a.
Cumulus	b.
Stratus	c.
Coalescence	d.

**Types of Clouds**

1.  Is the following sentence true or false? Clouds are classified based on form and height. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The three types of \_\_\_\_\_ clouds are cirrus, cirrostratus, and cirrocumulus.
3. Which photograph shows cumulus clouds? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Which photograph shows cirrus clouds? \_\_\_\_\_



A.



B.

## Chapter 18 Moisture, Clouds, and Precipitation

5. How can you tell from the name of a cloud if it is a middle-range cloud?

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6. Circle the letter of each cloud type that is a low cloud.

- a. stratus
- b. altostratus
- c. stratocumulus
- d. nimbostratus

### Fog

7. Define fog. \_\_\_\_\_

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8. Is the following sentence true or false? Fogs can be formed by cooling or by evaporation. \_\_\_\_\_

### How Precipitation Forms

9. What must happen for precipitation to form? \_\_\_\_\_

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10. Formation of precipitation in cold clouds is called the \_\_\_\_\_ process.

11. Is the following sentence true or false? In warm clouds, raindrops form by the Bergeron process. \_\_\_\_\_

12. Circle the letter of the word that describes water in the liquid state below 0°C.

- a. supersaturated
- b. coalesced
- c. saturated
- d. supercooled

### Forms of Precipitation

Match each description with its form of precipitation.

Description	Form of Precipitation
_____ 13. small particles of ice	a. hail
_____ 14. drops of water that fall from a cloud and have a diameter of at least 0.5 mm	b. sleet
_____ 15. ice pellets with multiple layers	c. rain