

NAME

DATE.....

ENGLISH TEST.

•READING ACTIVITY.



Precipitation, evaporation, and transpiration are all terms that sound familiar, yet may not mean much to you. They are all part of the water cycle, a complex process that not only gives us water to drink, or fish to eat, but also weather patterns that help grow our crops.

[Empty box for notes]

Water is an essential part of life on this planet. It is an odourless, tasteless, substance that covers more than three-fourths of the Earth's surface. Most of the water on Earth, 97% to be exact, is salt water found in the oceans. We cannot drink salt water or use it for crops because of the salt content. We can remove salt from ocean water, but the process is very expensive.



Only about 3% of Earth's water is fresh. Two percent of the Earth's water is in solid form, found in ice caps and glaciers. Because it is frozen and so far away, the fresh water in ice caps is not available for use by people or plants. That leaves about 1% of all the Earth's water in a form useable to humans and land animals. A small amount of this fresh water is found as vapour in the atmosphere, but most of it is found in lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, and in the ground.

[Empty box for notes]

Water is constantly moving between the atmosphere, the ocean and land. This cycle is a very important process that helps sustain life on Earth.



As the water evaporates, vapours rise and condense into clouds. The clouds move over the land, and precipitation falls in the form of rain, ice or snow. The water fills streams and rivers, and eventually flows back into the oceans where evaporation starts the process anew.

Water's state (solid, liquid or gas) is determined mostly by temperature. Although water continuously changes states from solid to liquid to gas, the amount of water on Earth remains constant. There is as much water now as there was hundreds of millions of years ago.

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Precipitation is one key to the water cycle. Rain comes from clouds, but where do clouds come from? Through the process of evaporation and transpiration, water moves into the atmosphere. Water vapours then join with dust particles to create clouds. Eventually, water returns to Earth as precipitation in the form of rain, snow, sleet, and hail.



All clouds contain water vapours. You rarely ever see clouds in the desert because there is very little water to evaporate and form clouds.

GLOSSARY

- 1 **crops(n)**- plants cultivated on a large scale for food or other use, especially a cereal, fruit, or vegetable.
- 2 **remove(vb)**- eliminate, take off.
- 3 **ice cap(n)**- a cover of perennial ice and snow.
- 4 **rise(vb)**- move up, ascend.
- 5 **remains(vb)**- stays, continues the same.
- 6 **dust(n)** – material made of very tiny, microscopical particles.

•QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

1. READ THE TEXT AND PUT THE MISSING HEADING IN EACH BOX (6 marks)

THE WATER CYCLE / THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER / CLOUD FORMATION

2. READ THE TEXT AGAIN AND ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. (18 marks)

a) Mention 3 reasons for which the water cycle is important for us.

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b) Which part of the Earth is covered by water?

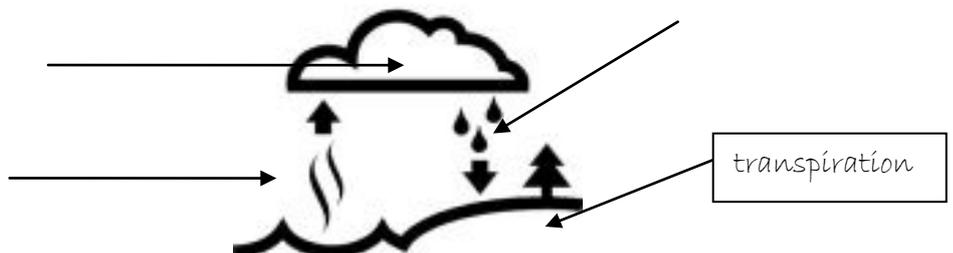
c) What type of water is most common on our planet?

d) How are clouds formed?

e) What determines when water is solid, liquid or gas?

f) Is rain the only form of precipitation on Earth? Give examples

g) Write the different stages of the water cycle on the image, as the example



5. In the text, they mention some weather phenomena, such as *rain, snow, sleet, and hail*. But, how much do you know about the weather? Look at the following symbols and answer the question (12 marks)

► What's the weather like today?

 <p>Today it's</p>	
	
	

6. DO YOU LIKE GOING OUT ON AN EXCURSION? Explain an excursion you did with your class, your friends or your family. Where did you go? What did you do? What was the weather like? Who was there? Etc. [Around 100 words] (40 marks)