

Water Cycle Quiz

Ten questions on the whole series. Answer them all, then turn the page round to check.

1 Which process turns liquid water into invisible water vapour?

- ☐ A Condensation ☐ B Evaporation
☐ C Precipitation ☐ D Infiltration

2 Plants release water vapour through tiny pores in their leaves. What is this process called?

- ☐ A Transpiration ☐ B Percolation
☐ C Runoff ☐ D Deposition

3 Roughly what share of all Earth's water is in the oceans?

- ☐ A About 2.5% ☐ B About 30%
☐ C About 71% ☐ D About 96.5%

4 On average, how long does a water molecule stay in the atmosphere?

- ☐ A About 9 hours ☐ B About 9 days
☐ C About 9 years ☐ D About 3,000 years

5 Rising air cools. What does its water vapour need to condense on to form cloud droplets?

- ☐ A Lightning ☐ B Tiny particles such as dust, salt or smoke
☐ C Strong wind ☐ D Direct sunlight

6 Which type of precipitation grows bigger as rising air keeps it inside a thunderstorm cloud?

- ☐ A Drizzle ☐ B Snow
☐ C Hail ☐ D Dew

7 Frost forms when water vapour turns straight into ice. What is this change called?

- ☐ A Sublimation ☐ B Deposition
☐ C Condensation ☐ D Melting

8 The white cloud above a boiling kettle is often called steam. What is it really made of?

9 Rain falls on a sandy field and on a car park. Where does more water soak into the ground, and what is that process called?

10 True or false: raindrops are shaped like teardrops. Explain your answer.

ANSWERS

1. B: Evaporation
 2. A: Transpiration (the pores are called stomata)
 3. D: About 96.5% (71% is how much of Earth's surface is covered by water)
 4. B: About 9 days
 5. B: Tiny particles such as dust, salt or smoke (cloud condensation nuclei)
 6. C: Hail
 7. B: Deposition (sublimation is the reverse: ice to vapour)
 8. Tiny liquid water droplets. Water vapour is invisible; it condenses into droplets when it meets cooler air.
 9. The sandy field. Soaking in is infiltration; on the car park most rain becomes surface runoff.
 10. False. Small drops are nearly round; bigger ones are flattened underneath like a burger bun, and the largest break up.

SERIES COMPLETE

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