

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

All 8 parts free at infographhub.com/series/water-cycle/