

1. Evaporation is the process by which water molecules in liquid water escape into the air as water vapor.
2. Humidity is a measure of the amount of water vapor in the air.
3. Molecules of water vapor in the air become liquid water in the process of condensation.
4. The two conditions required for condensation is cooling of the air and the presence of particles in the air.
5. The temperature at which condensation begins is called the dew point.
6. Scientists classify clouds based on their shape and by their altitude.
7. Wispy, feathery clouds that form at high levels where the temperatures are low are known as Cirrus clouds.
8. Clouds that look like fluffy, rounded piles of cotton are called Cumulus clouds.
9. Clouds that form in flat layers and usually cover all or most of the sky and are a uniform dull, gray color are called stratus clouds.
10. Precipitation is any form of water that falls from clouds and reaches Earth's surface as rain, sleet, hail, or snow.
11. An air mass is a huge body of air that has similar temperature, humidity, and air pressure at any given height.
12. Scientists classify air masses according to temperature and humidity.
13. Four major types of air masses influence the weather in North America:

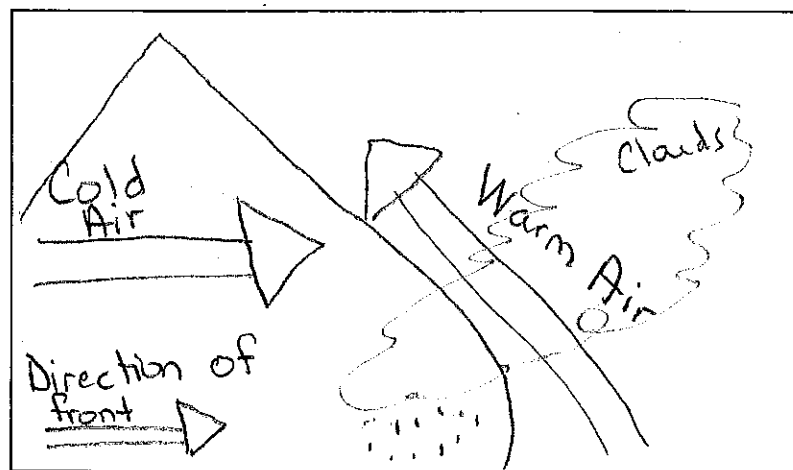
<u>Maritime tropical</u>	<u>Maritime Polar</u>
<u>Continental tropical</u>	<u>Continental Polar</u>
14. Tropical form in the tropics, are warm and have low air pressure.
15. Polar cold air masses with a high air pressure.
16. Maritime air masses that form over oceans.
17. Continental air masses that form over land.

Types of Fronts

Draw a picture of the front in the box.

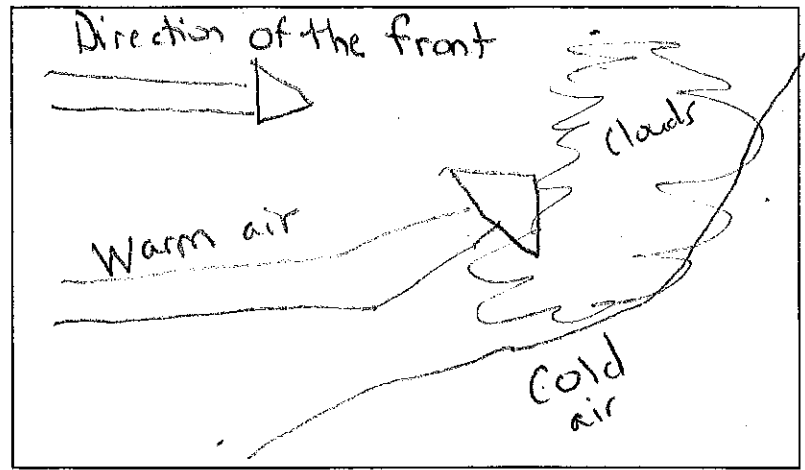
Cold Front

1. How does it form? Cold dense air slides under the lighter warm air. Warm air is pushed up on the edge of the cold air.
2. What types of weather are associated with it?
Clouds, heavy rain or snow
cloudy skies
thunder storms
3. What kind of weather do we get after it passes through? clear skies and lower temperatures



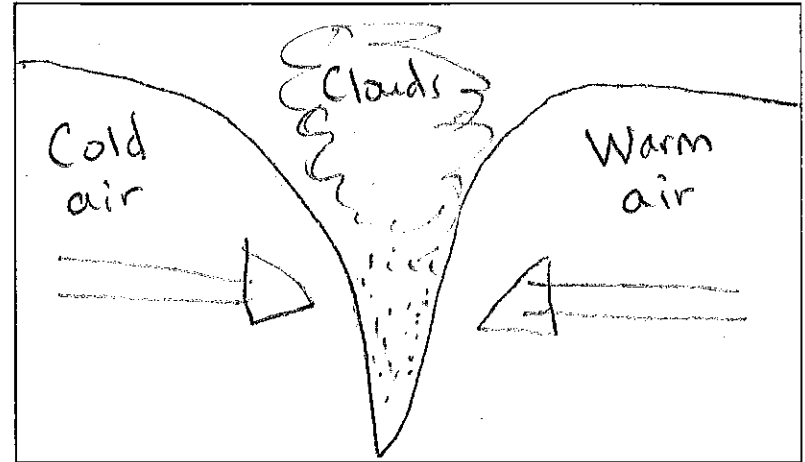
Warm Front

1. How does it form? a fast moving warm air mass overtakes a slowly moving cold air mass
2. What types of weather are associated with it? clouds, precipitation (light rain or snow)
3. What kind of weather do we get after it passes through? Warm and humid



Stationary Front

1. How does it form? Cold and warm air meet but get stuck
2. What types of weather are associated with it? rain, snow, fog or clouds
3. What does it mean by a standoff? Neither one can move the other



Occluded Front

1. How does it form? Warm air mass is caught between two cooler air masses
2. What types of weather are associated with it? cloudy, rain or snow

