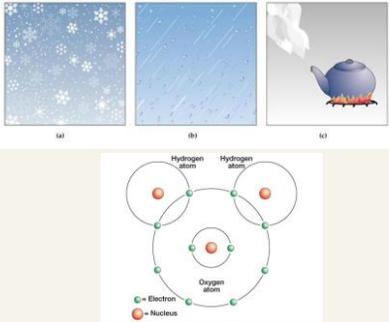
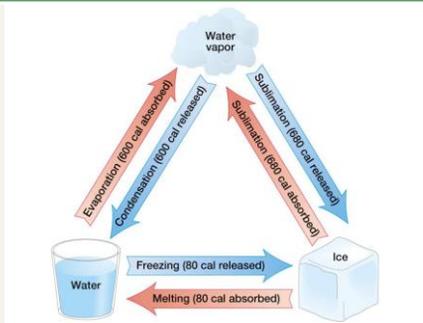


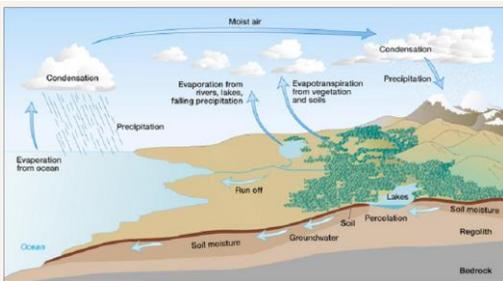
Three States of Water



Three States of Water

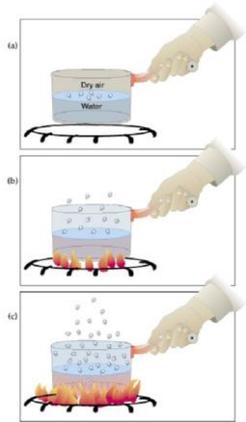


The Hydrologic Cycle



Evaporation

- ❑ The conversion of liquid to gas (water vapor). Evaporation absorbs heat and causes cooling.
- ❑ It can happen ANY temperature, but more when temps are higher.
- ❑ Evapotranspiration is the combination of evaporation & transpiration.
- ❑ Transpiration is the process by which plants release moisture thru their leaves.

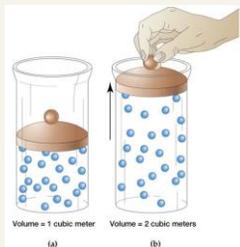


Measures of Humidity

- ❑ Humidity is the amount of water vapor in the air. There are a few types:
 - ❑ Absolute Humidity
 - ❑ Specific Humidity
 - ❑ Vapor Pressure
 - ❑ Relative Humidity
- ❑ The first 3 measures of humidity show the actual amt of water vapor in the air.
- ❑ Dew Point – temperature at which saturation is reached.

Absolute Humidity

- ❑ The amount of water vapor in the given volume of air. It changes as the vol. of air changes. E.g. it decreases as you increase space (spreads), since no more water is added.



Relative Humidity

Describes how close air is to saturation. Most commonly used. Not a direct measure of the amt of water vapor, but a ratio, expressed a %.

It compares the actual water vapor to the capacity of air. "Capacity" is the maximum amt of water vapor than can be in the air at a given temp. Cold air has a low capacity and vice-versa, see figure 6-9. More temperature increases the capacity of air.

Relative Humidity is calculated this way =

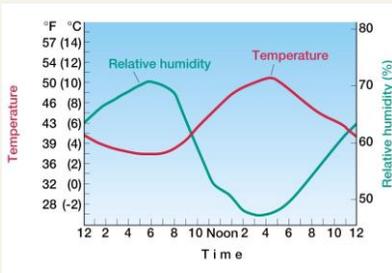
$$\frac{\text{Actual Water Vapor in Air (60g)}}{\text{Capacity (120g)}} \times 100$$

Whatever the answer is, is a % of what is possible.

Relative Humidity and Temperature

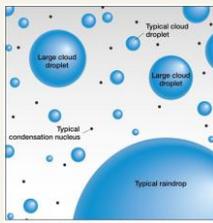
Temperature has an inverse relationship with relative humidity (R.H.)

Temperature increases the capacity of air. And as capacity increases, relative humidity decreases, because R.H. compares what is to what CAN be.



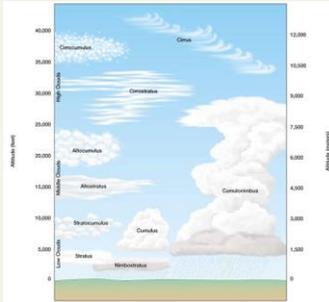
Condensation

- Change of gas to liquid
 - Water vapor to water droplets
 - Opposite of evaporation
- Requirements
 - Decrease in temperature (usually) to the dew point
 - Condensation nuclei – hygroscopic particles around which water condenses (particulate matter like dust, bacteria, pollen, salt, smoke, etc)
 - They get larger with more water vapor, and also as they coalesce. They only become visible to the naked eye when they're large enough (usually in the form of haze, fog or clouds). A single raindrop can contain 1 million condensation nuclei!



Cloud Types

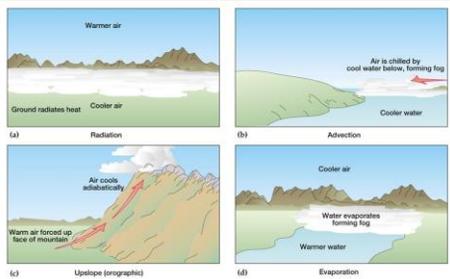
- ❑ All precipitation comes from clouds, but not all clouds produce precip. Only clouds with "nimb" in their names produce precipitation.
- ❑ 50% of the earth is covered with clouds.
- ❑ Other than for precip., clouds are imp't for regulating the earth's temperature. E.g. Deserts have extremes because they are cloudless (day- and night-time temps).



Four Types of Fog

- ❑ A fog is just a "cloud on the ground" (low-lying cloud). No physical difference, except in formation.
- ❑ While clouds are formed by rising air, fogs are formed in 4 ways.
 - ❑ Radiation fog: land loses heat at night, forcing air above it to cool.
 - ❑ Advection: when warm moist air moves over a cold surface (cool water, snow covered ground/cold ocean current).
 - ❑ Orographic: warm air forced to cool as it ascends mountain face (Smoky Mts.)
 - ❑ Evaporation: when water vapor evaporates and it's added to cool air that is already near saturation.

Four Types of Fog

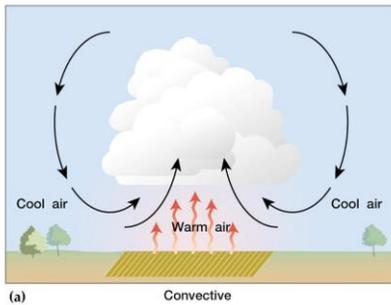


Precipitation

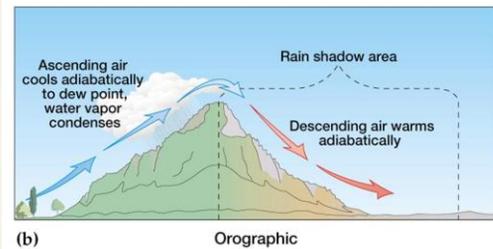
- Forms of Precipitation – depends on temperature & air turbulence (e.g. rain, snow, sleet, ice / glaze, hail, etc). Rain is the most common form. “Rain” (long), differs from “showers” (brief) and “drizzle” (very small drops, short time).
- Atmospheric Lifting and Precipitation (4 types)
 - Convective Lifting
 - Orographic Lifting
 - Frontal Lifting (fronts)
 - Convergent Lifting

Convective Lifting

Hot air rises, and cools adiabatically

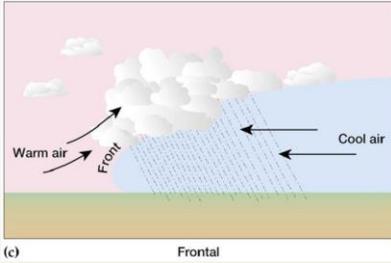


Orographic Lifting



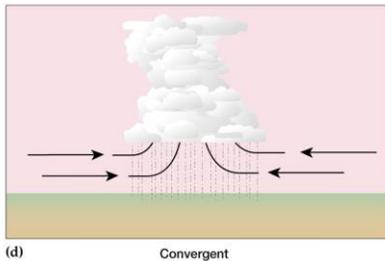
Frontal Lifting

Warm air is pushed over cool air and forced to cool.



Convergent Lifting

Common in the ITCZ (convergence zone). When air converges, the "crowding" forces it to rise. Also found in cyclones, e.g. hurricanes.



Global Distribution of Precipitation

- Average Annual Precipitation
- Seasonal Precipitation Patterns
 - There's more rain in the summer in both hemispheres than in winter (look above & below equator). Notice how ITCZ shifts with summer in both hemispheres.

Average Annual Precipitation

