

# Active Reading

---

## Section: Cycling of Matter

Read the passage below. Then answer the questions that follow.

In the nonliving portion of the water cycle, water vapor in the atmosphere condenses and falls to Earth's surface as rain or snow. Some of this water seeps into the soil and becomes part of the groundwater, which is water retained beneath Earth's surface. Most of the remaining water that falls to Earth does not stay at the surface. Instead, heated by the sun, it reenters the atmosphere by evaporation.

In the living portion of the water cycle, much water is taken up by the roots of plants. After passing through a plant, the water moves into the atmosphere by evaporating from the leaves, a process called transpiration. Transpiration is also a sun-driven process. The sun heats Earth's atmosphere, creating wind currents that draw moisture from the tiny openings in the leaves of plants.

### SKILL: READING EFFECTIVELY

Read each question, and write your answer in the space provided.

1. What occurs in the nonliving part of the water cycle?

---

---

2. What happens to this precipitation?

---

---

3. What occurs in the living part of the water cycle?

---

---

4. What is transpiration?

---

---

Active Reading *continued*

5. Why is transpiration classified as a “sun-driven process”?

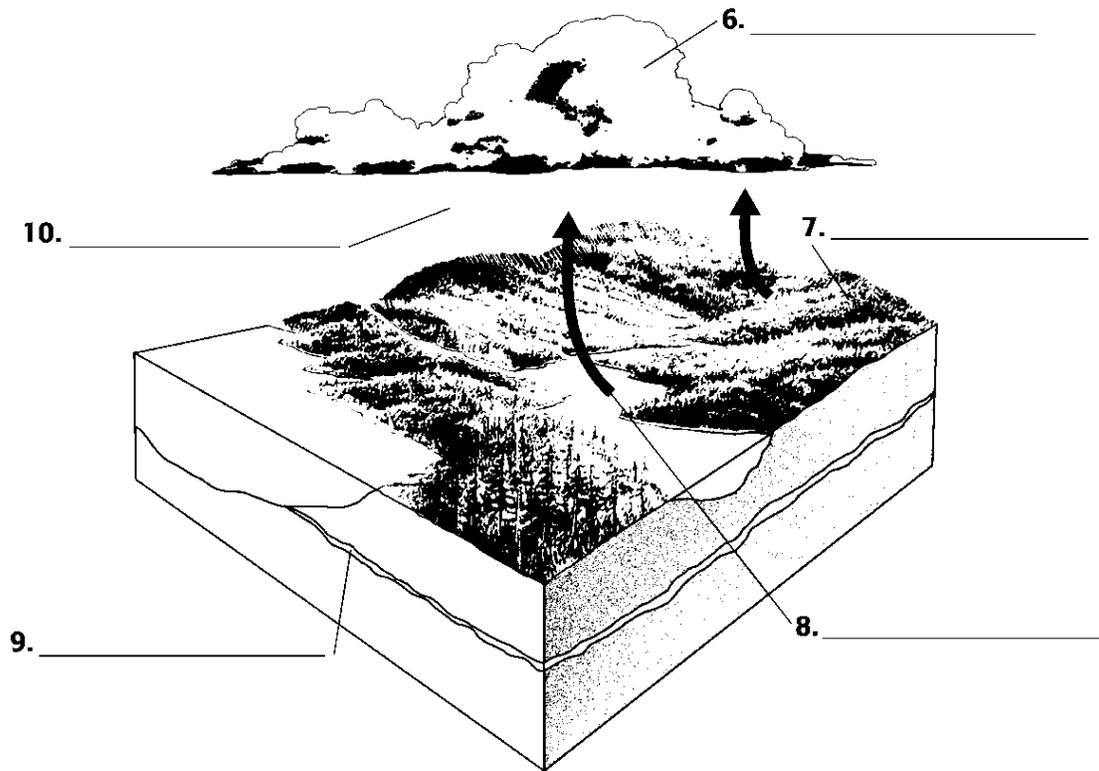
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SKILL: INTERPRETING GRAPHICS**

The figure below shows the water cycle. Insert the following terms in the correct spaces: *evaporation*, *groundwater*, *precipitation*, *transpiration*, and *water vapor*.



In the space provided, write the letter of the term that best completes the statement.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Water retained beneath Earth’s surface is called
- a. precipitation.
  - b. transpiration.
  - c. condensation.
  - d. groundwater.