

## **LPF Reading Exemplar**

### **How Does it Rain?**

#### **Task Description**

In this reading activity, students read an information text on the importance of water in sustaining life on earth through evaporation, forming clouds, condensation and precipitation. Students then responded to the related questions.

#### **Preparation**

Before the reading activity, the teacher activated students' prior knowledge of the importance of water and motivated them to think about the formation of rain by asking the following questions:

- Do you like rain? Why or why not?
- Where does rain come from?
- Where does it go?
- Is rain important to us? Why?

## Learning Outcomes: ATMs 3-4

### ATM 3

Understanding and inferring information, ideas and feelings in a small range of simple texts, using and integrating a small range of reading strategies as appropriate

### ATM 4

Understanding and inferring information, ideas and feelings in a range of simple texts, using and integrating a small range of reading strategies as appropriate

Questions	When students respond to the questions appropriately, they can:
<p>1. What is the passage about?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a. how things grow</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. <i>how the rain falls</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> c. what the world would be like without rain</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> d. how water is an essential part of life</p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>identify the main idea explicitly stated at the opening and closing paragraphs, e.g. ‘But how does the rain come to fall?’, ‘This is how rain comes to fall.’</li></ul>
<p>2. According to the passage, why is water an essential part of life?</p> <p>It is because _____.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a. we need to drink it</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. <i>things would die without it</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> c. we need to swim in it</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> d. the oceans need it</p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>locate specific information by using clues in close proximity, e.g. ‘Without it, all living beings and plants would die.’</li></ul>
<p>3. What stage of the rain cycle is covered in paragraph 2?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a. forming clouds</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. <i>evaporation</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> c. precipitation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> d. condensation</p>	<p>ATM 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>follow ideas by understanding the use of cohesive devices, e.g. ‘this stage’ to refer to the process of evaporation</li></ul>

<p>4. What covers 30% of the earth's surface?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a. oceans</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> b. rivers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> c. mountains</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> d. <i>land</i></p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>process some complex sentences, e.g. 'Most rain starts from ... oceans which cover... 70% of its surface.'</li> </ul>
<p>5. What is the water known as when it rises into the air?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a. steam</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> b. water droplets</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> c. clouds</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> d. <i>water vapour</i></p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>locate specific information by using clues in close proximity, e.g. 'This causes the water to rise... into the air.', '... the water is known as water vapour.'</li> </ul>
<p>6. a) Can people see water rising or evaporating into the air?</p> <p><u><i>No.</i></u></p> <p>b) Write down the sentence that gives you this information.</p> <p><u><i>'It is like steam rising into the air but it is invisible to the human eye.'</i></u></p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identify supporting details explicitly stated in the description of the process of evaporation, e.g. 'It is like steam rising... invisible to the human eye.'</li> </ul>
<p>7. Why does water vapour turn into water droplets? It is because of _____.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. <i>strong pressure from cooler air</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> b. the sun's rays hitting the water</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> c. the force of atmosphere pressures</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> d. the force of black clouds</p>	<p>ATM 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>follow ideas by understanding the use of cohesive devices, e.g. the demonstrative pronoun 'This' to refer to how condensation occurs when cooler air puts pressure on water vapour</li> </ul>

<p>8. What stage of the rain cycle is covered in paragraph 4?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. <i>forming clouds</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> b. evaporation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> c. precipitation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> d. condensation</p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identify the main idea explicitly stated in the text about how clouds are formed, e.g. ‘The water droplets then join together to form clouds.’</li> </ul>
<p>9. Show the correct order in the water cycle by putting 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the boxes provided. The first one has been done for you.</p> <p><input type="text" value="3"/> a. <i>forming clouds</i></p> <p><input type="text" value="1"/> b. <i>evaporation</i></p> <p><input type="text" value="4"/> c. <i>precipitation</i></p> <p><input type="text" value="2"/> d. <i>condensation</i></p>	<p>ATM 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>follow ideas by recognising the text structure of an information text, e.g. chronological sequence of the water cycle</li> </ul>
<p>10. In paragraph 1, find the word that means ‘very important’.</p> <p><u><i>essential</i></u></p>	<p>ATM 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>work out the meaning of the word ‘essential’ by using semantic and syntactic clues, e.g. ‘Without it, all... would die.’</li> </ul>
<p>11. In paragraph 2, find the word that means ‘very big’.</p> <p><u><i>vast</i></u></p>	<p>ATM 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>work out the meaning of ‘vast’ by using semantic and syntactic clues, e.g. ‘... vast oceans which cover... 70% of its surface.’</li> </ul>

## Full text

Water is an essential part of life. Without it, all living beings and plants would die. Most of the earth's water comes from the rain that falls on it. But how does the rain come to fall?

Most rain starts from the earth's vast oceans which cover approximately 70% of its surface.

As they lie there, these oceans are constantly warmed by the rays of the sun. This causes the water to rise or evaporate into the air. At this stage, the water is known as water vapour.

It is like steam rising into the air but it is invisible to the human eye.

As the water vapour rises into the air, it eventually reaches cooler air. The cooler air puts pressure on the water vapour and this causes condensation to occur. This is when water vapour turns into water droplets and this is visible to the human eye.

The water droplets then join together to form clouds. They are pushed together by wind and other atmospheric pressures.

Rain then falls. This is called precipitation. Precipitation is the water droplets falling from the clouds. Some clouds are light and puffy, some are dark and heavy. The dark or black clouds contain many more water droplets than the white clouds and they are generally the cause of heavy rainfalls.

The rain that falls eventually flows into the oceans again from mountains and rivers and the rain cycle continues.

This is how rain comes to fall enabling life to carry on. Imagine what the world would be like if suddenly there was no rain.

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