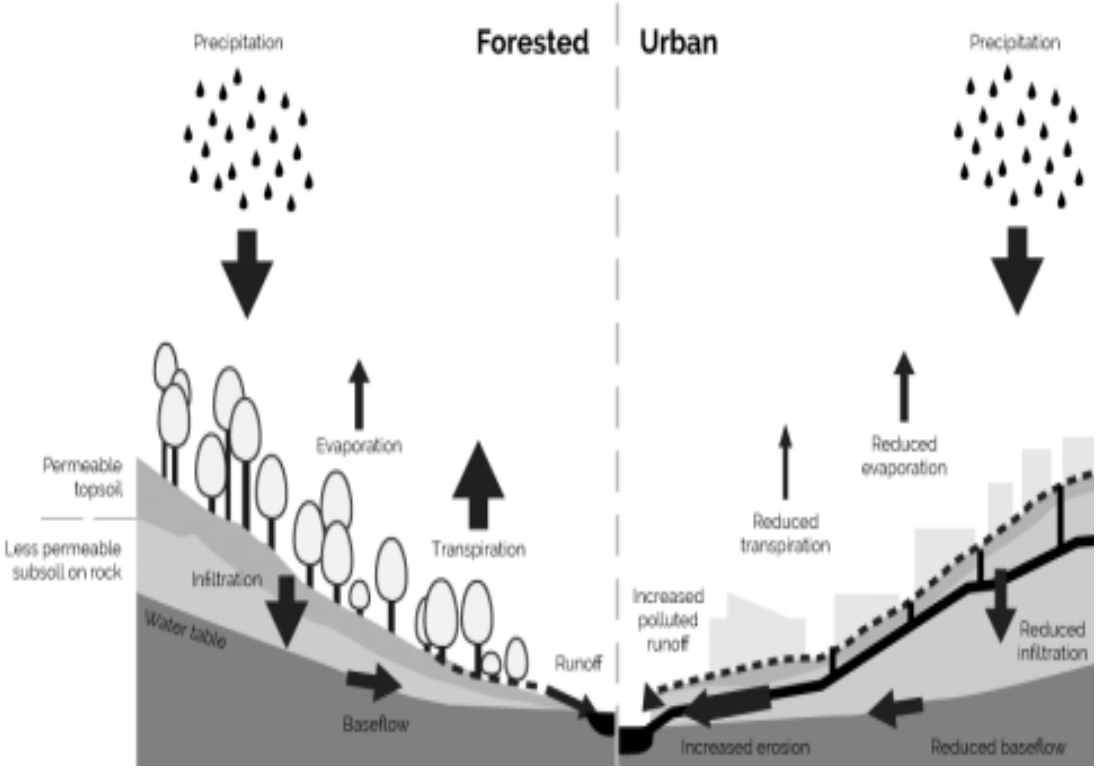
Task 1: Process Diagram

Subject: The diagram below shows the water cycle in both forested and urban areas. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.



Model Answer #1

Response:

The diagram compares the water cycle in forested and urban environments, highlighting the differences in water movement.

Overall, the water cycle is a continuous process that repeats over time. In both environments, the process starts with precipitation (rainfall) and ends with runoff.

In the forested area, rainwater infiltrates the permeable topsoil and moves downward through the less permeable subsoil and rock layers. Some of the water is stored in the water table and flows into rivers through baseflow. Additionally, trees release moisture through transpiration, and evaporation also occurs, helping to maintain the natural cycle.

In contrast, the urban water cycle is different and less eco-friendly. Due to paved surfaces, water infiltration is reduced, leading to weaker baseflow. Instead, water runs off more quickly, carrying pollutants into rivers. Erosion increases, while evaporation and transpiration are lower due to the lack of trees. As a result, urban environments experience more polluted runoff and water management challenges.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): Excellent response to the task. All key features are accurately described and compared.

Coherence & Cohesion (9): The report is exceptionally well-organized and easy to follow. The comparisons are smoothly integrated.

Lexical Resource (8.5): A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used precisely and naturally.

Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9): The grammar is flawless and a wide range of structures are used effectively.

Model Answer #2

Response:

The diagram compares the water cycle processes in forested and urban areas. It highlights key differences in infiltration, runoff, and evaporation between the two environments.

In forested regions, precipitation is largely absorbed by the permeable topsoil, allowing significant infiltration into the ground. This contributes to the formation of a stable water table and baseflow. Evaporation and transpiration from vegetation are essential components in maintaining moisture balance. Runoff is minimal, as most water permeates the soil and feeds groundwater reserves.

Conversely, urban areas show a drastically altered water cycle. Due to reduced vegetation and impermeable surfaces like concrete and asphalt, infiltration is limited. This leads to increased surface runoff, often polluted, which contributes to erosion. The baseflow is reduced, and the water table is lower compared to forested regions. Evaporation and transpiration are also significantly diminished due to sparse vegetation, further disturbing the natural water cycle.

Overall, urbanization negatively impacts the natural water cycle by limiting infiltration and promoting runoff, erosion, and pollution, while forested areas demonstrate a more balanced and sustainable water system.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): The report provides a comprehensive summary of the main features of the diagram and makes relevant comparisons between forested and urban areas. All aspects of the task are addressed fully and accurately.

Coherence & Cohesion (9): The report is exceptionally well-organized and easy to follow. The information flows logically, with clear transitions between paragraphs and ideas. Cohesion is skillfully managed throughout.

Lexical Resource (8.5): A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately. The language is precise and natural, reflecting a high level of lexical control.

Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9): The report demonstrates a wide range of grammatical structures with complete accuracy and fluency. There is no evidence of grammatical errors.

Model Answer #3

Response:

The diagram illustrates the water cycle in both forested and urban environments, highlighting the differences in hydrological processes.

Overall, the comparison reveals significant disparities in water management between forested and urban areas, particularly in terms of infiltration, transpiration, and runoff.

In forested regions, the hydrological cycle initiates with precipitation, which subsequently infiltrates through permeable topsoil and less permeable subsoil, ultimately reaching the water table. The process is facilitated by abundant vegetation, allowing for elevated levels of evaporation and transpiration at the tree canopy, thus contributing to a stable baseflow. This environment promotes a balanced water retention system with minimal runoff, effectively minimizing erosion and ensuring the sustenance of groundwater levels.

Conversely, urban settings exhibit a starkly different water cycle due to the predominance of impermeable surfaces such as asphalt and concrete. Here, precipitation leads to significantly reduced infiltration and baseflow due to the artificial covering of topsoil. The resultant increase in runoff is particularly problematic, as it is often polluted and leads to heightened erosion. Moreover, the urban landscape is characterized by diminished rates of transpiration and evaporation, resulting in a less effective water management system that undermines the natural hydrological equilibrium.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): Excellent response to the task. All key features are accurately described and compared.

Coherence & Cohesion (9): The report is exceptionally well-structured and easy to follow. The flow of ideas is natural and logical.

Lexical Resource (9): A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately. The language is precise and effective.

Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9): The grammar is flawless. A wide range of grammatical structures is used with complete accuracy and fluency.

Model Answer #4

Response:

The two diagrams illustrate the water cycle in city areas compared to forest areas. The process in each diagram comprises the same six stages, starting with rainfall and culminating in runoff.

In general, the rainfall in the two areas remains the same; yet, urban areas exhibit less water going up into the atmosphere and returning to the water table, and more erosion and water pollution occur there compared to forest areas.

Above the ground, it can be seen that less water evaporates from the ground, as well as a reduction in the level of transpiration from foliage in cities than in forest areas. This, in turn, causes more water to stay on the surface in urban areas, becoming dirty and polluted as it runs off to the rivers, lakes, or oceans.

While below the ground, water from rainfall is less likely to infiltrate the soil and cause the baseflow to reduce, resulting in a thinner water table for urban areas and increasing the level of erosion.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): Excellent overview of the main features and a clear comparison between forested and urban areas.

Coherence & Cohesion (9): The report is exceptionally well-organized and easy to follow. The logical flow of ideas is seamless.

Lexical Resource (8.5): A wide range of sophisticated vocabulary is used accurately and appropriately. The language is natural and precise.

Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9): The grammar is impeccable. A wide range of grammatical structures is used with complete accuracy and fluency.

Model Answer #5

Response:

The two diagrams illustrate the water cycle in a forest environment compared with a built-up human settlement. In each diagram, there are six stages, starting with rainfall and culminating in runoff. Overall, the rainfall in the two areas remains the same, yet city areas show significantly less water re-entering the atmosphere and permeating the ground compared to areas of countryside.

Above ground, it can be seen that a greater proportion of the water evaporates from the ground and from the foliage in wooded areas than it does in cities. By contrast, proportionally more water goes over the surface in urban areas, becoming dirty or polluted as it flows through the settlement. While the level of erosion is not displayed in the forested area diagram, this phenomenon increases in cities.

Below the ground in forests, a significant amount of water soaks through the topsoil and subsoil, whereas less water infiltrates the subsoil in populated regions and this leads to a reduction in the baseflow. The water table is noticeably higher beneath forested areas than it is beneath cities.

Evaluation:

Overall Band Score: 9

Task Response (9): The report provides a comprehensive and accurate summary of the main features of the water cycle in both forested and urban areas, highlighting key differences and making relevant comparisons. All aspects of the diagram are addressed effectively.

Coherence & Cohesion (9): The report is well-structured and logically organized, with clear transitions between paragraphs and ideas. The flow of information is smooth and easy to follow.

Lexical Resource (9): The report demonstrates a wide range of vocabulary, using precise and sophisticated language to describe the water cycle and its differences in forested and urban areas. The choice of words is accurate and appropriate.

Grammatical Range & Accuracy (9): The report exhibits a high level of grammatical accuracy and fluency. Sentences are varied and complex, demonstrating a wide range of grammatical structures. Punctuation is used correctly and effectively.