



SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. How are spring and neap tides formed. [V. Imp.]

Answer: During the full moon and new moon days, the sun, the moon and the earth are in the same line and the tides are highest. These tides are called spring tides. But when the moon is in its first and last quarter, the ocean waters get drawn in diagonally opposite directions by the gravitational pull of sun and earth resulting in low tides. These tides are called neap tides.

2. How are high tides important? [V. Imp.]

Answer: High tides are important for various reasons:

- They help in navigation
- They raise the water level close to the shores. This helps the ships to arrive at the harbour more easily.
- The high tides also help in fishing. Many more fish come closer to the shore during the high. This enables the fisherman to get a plentiful catch.
- The rise and fall of water due to tides is being used to generate electricity in some places.

3. What are waves? Write a short note on it.

Answer: Waves are the rise and fall of the water on the surface of the ocean. Waves are formed when winds scrape across the ocean surface. The stronger the wind blows, the bigger the wave becomes. During the storm, the winds blow at very high speed and therefore huge waves are formed. These waves are very strong, hence very destruction. They may cause huge devastation.

4. Write a brief note on Tsunami. [Imp.]

Answer: Tsunami is a Japanese word that means 'harbour waves' as the harbours get destroyed whenever there is tsunami. An earthquake, a volcanic eruption or underwater landslides can shift large amounts of ocean water. As a result tsunami occurs which may be as high as 15 m. The tsunami of 2004 is still in our mind. It caused huge death and destruction in the coastal areas of India. The Indira point in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands got submerged after the tsunami.

5. Write a note on the importance of water. [V. Imp.]

Answer: Water is life. Without water, we can not think of life. Its scarcity may create numerous problems but its absence would definitely lead to non-existence of all the living beings on the earth. It is a precious resource of the nature. We drink water whenever we feel thirsty. We use water in numerous activities such as washing clothes, cleaning house floors, watering garden etc. Industries also need water for their functioning. Thus, water is very essential and therefore we must conserve it. Our careless use of water has created several problems. Whatever water is there, it is not of good quality. We should think about the ways of its conservation for our own sake.

6. Explain water cycle with a neat and labelled diagram. [V. Imp.]
Answer: The sun's heat causes evaporation of water, flowing down to stream or drains into water vapour. When the water vapour cools down, it condenses and forms clouds. These clouds, when become too heavy to float, start falling on the land or sea in the form of rain, snow or sleet. Thus, the process by which water continuously changes its form and circulates between oceans, atmosphere and land is known as the water cycle.

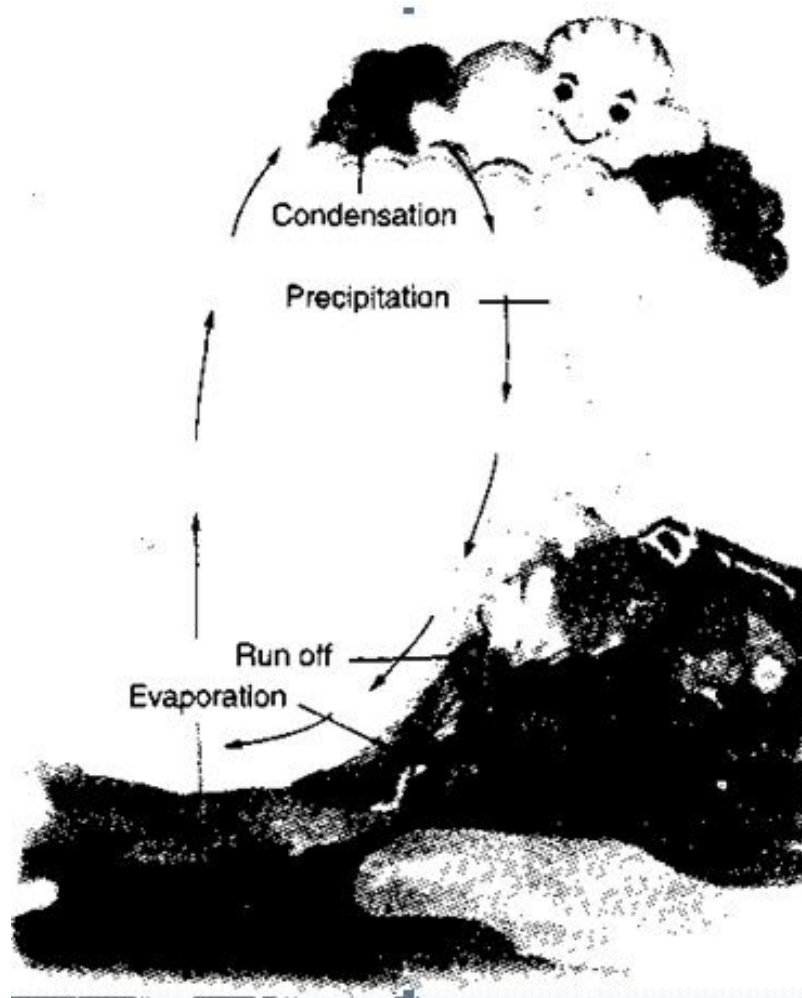


Fig. 5.2. Water Cycle

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