

How a Rainforest Rains: Sequencing an Explanation Text

Learning objective: To understand the structure of an explanation text by sequencing the stages of the water cycle.

Nova the Owl is writing an explanation text about how rainforests create their own rain. She has jumbled up her notes! Cut out or number the sentences below from 1 to 6 to show the correct chronological order of the process. Remember, explanation texts describe how or why something happens using time conjunctions.

Word bank: evaporation · condensation · transpiration · precipitation · vapour · atmosphere

1. 1. The sun heats the water in the soil and the rivers, turning it into invisible water vapour. (1 mark)

2. 2. Plants release water from their leaves into the air, a process called transpiration. (1 mark)

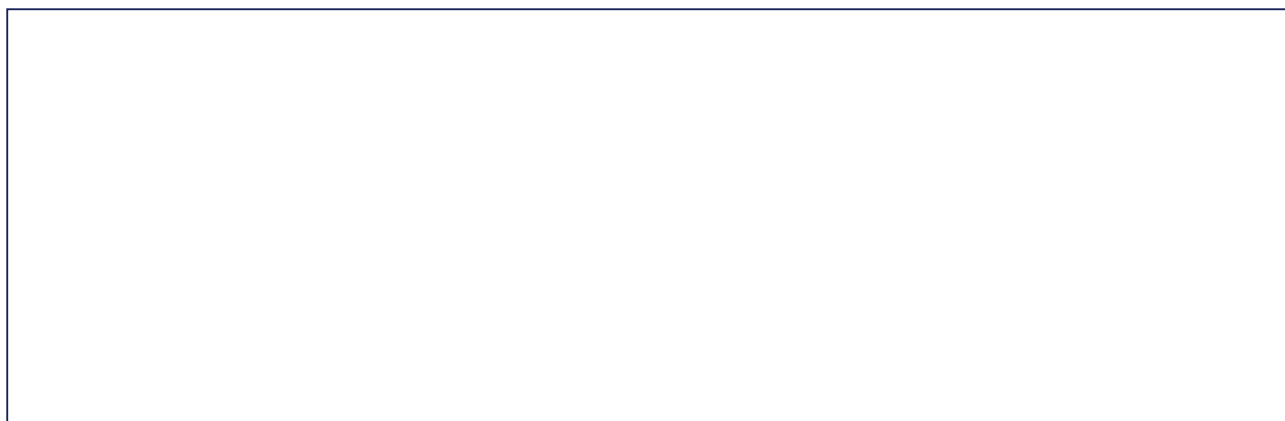
3. 3. The warm water vapour rises high up into the sky. (1 mark)

4. 4. As the vapour cools down, it turns back into tiny water droplets to form clouds (condensation). (1 mark)

5. 5. The clouds become heavy and dark as they fill with more water. (1 mark)

6. 6. Finally, the water falls back to the ground as rain, which is called precipitation. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a diagram of the water cycle. Label the steps using the words from the word bank to show Nova how the rain returns to the rainforest floor.



Extension challenge: Choose two of the sentences above and rewrite them using a different time conjunction (e.g., 'Afterwards', 'Subsequently', or 'Following this'). Why do you think explanation texts need to be in a specific order?