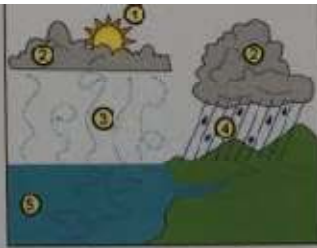


water cycle



the continuous circular process in which the water of the Earth evaporates from the oceans, condenses, falls to the Earth as rain or snow, and eventually returns to the oceans through run-off in rivers or streams

evaporation



the process of water heated by the sun and turned into a gas called water vapor

precipitation



the process of water falling from the sky from clouds as rain, snow, sleet, or hail

condensation



the process of water vapor being cooled and forming a water droplet

runoff



water that is not absorbed by the soil and runs down a mountain or hill to lower ground, making gullies

collection



where rain water gathers together such as lakes, oceans, or rivers

water vapor



water in the form of a gas that you can't see, feel, or smell (steam is the only water vapor that you can see)

groundwater



water that seeps into the soil and is the source of springs and wells

dew



water droplets condensed from the air, usually at night, onto cool surfaces

aquifer



an underground bed
or layer of porous
rock, sediment, or
soil that holds water

sun



the energy source of the
water cycle

reservoir



a natural or artificial place
where water is collected
and stored for use,
especially for supplying a
community or irrigating
land