1. What must occur before clouds can form?
   A. Water vapor must get warmer.
   B. Water vapor must lose heat energy.
   C. Precipitation must begin to fall and run off.
   D. Transpiration must add water vapor to the atmosphere.

2. In which way are evaporation and condensation similar?
   A. Both cause decreases in air temperature.
   B. Both cause increases in air temperature.
   C. Both are caused by the warming of the atmosphere.
   D. Both are caused by changes in heat energy.

3. Which process allows green plants to control the amount of water stored in their leaves?
   A. photosynthesis
   B. condensation
   C. respiration
   D. transpiration

4. After a rain, a puddle of water remains on a sidewalk. After a day of sunshine, the puddle is gone. Which process is most responsible for the disappearance of the puddle?
   A. precipitation
   B. transpiration
   C. evaporation
   D. condensation
5. Which of the following best explains how condensation occurs?
   A. Heat energy from the sun is increased, causing water vapor to condense.
   B. Water travels to the sun, and then condenses into clouds.
   C. Water in the air always turns to liquid when it comes in contact with a surface.
   D. Heat energy from the sun is decreased, causing the water vapor to cool and condense.

6. What causes ocean water to evaporate in the water cycle?
   A. energy from the Sun
   B. energy from ocean waves
   C. energy from Earth’s rotation
   D. energy from Earth’s moon

7. Which part of the water cycle changes water to water vapor?
   A. evaporation
   B. precipitation
   C. condensation

8. Which will most likely evaporate the quickest?
   A. a puddle on a hot day
   B. a puddle on a cold day
   C. a puddle on a snowy day

9. Snowfall is an example of which process?
   A. condensation
   B. precipitation
   C. evaporation

10. An increase in heavy clouds would most likely result in which process?
    A. evaporation
    B. precipitation
    C. transpiration
11. Which would most likely increase on a hot, sunny day?
   A. runoff
   B. condensation
   C. transpiration

12. Which would most likely produce more precipitation?
   A. decreased runoff
   B. increased evaporation
   C. decreased transpiration

13. Which is an example of precipitation?
   A. hail
   B. clouds
   C. water vapor

14. Which statement is true of evaporation on a cloudy day?
   A. Evaporation does not occur on a cloudy day.
   B. Evaporation occurs at a faster rate on a cloudy day.
   C. Evaporation occurs at a slower rate on a cloudy day.

15. Rain, sleet, snow, and hail are examples of which process in the water cycle?
   A. condensation
   B. evaporation
   C. precipitation

16. Which is most likely the result from an increase in sunlight?
   A. decreased condensation
   B. increased evaporation
   C. increased runoff
17. Which would *most likely* cause more runoff?
   A. decrease in transpiration
   B. increase in precipitation
   C. decrease in precipitation

18. How do plants contribute to the water cycle?
   A. Plants cool the air and create condensation.
   B. Plants warm the air and create precipitation.
   C. Plants give off water through transpiration.
   D. Plants give off water in the form of runoff or groundwater.

19. Which *best* explains why the sun is needed in order to produce rain?
   A. The sun cools the clouds, which causes them to hold less rain.
   B. The sun cools ocean water, which causes more clouds to form.
   C. The sun heats the clouds, which causes them to hold more rain.
   D. The sun warms ocean water, which causes more clouds to form.

20. Why is the sun’s energy necessary for the water cycle?
   A. It is the heat source that turns water into vapor.
   B. It is the light source that turns water into vapor.
   C. It is the heat source that turns vapor into water droplets.
   D. It is the light source that turns vapor into water droplets.

21. Which two processes increase the amount of water vapor in the atmosphere as a result of heat from the sun?
   A. surface run-off and transpiration
   B. condensation and precipitation
   C. evaporation and condensation
   D. transpiration and evaporation
22. Mike observes solid ice pellets falling from the sky. Which type of precipitation is he most likely seeing?

A. fog  
B. rain  
C. sleet  
D. snow

23. Which process of the water cycle returns condensed water to the earth’s surface?

A. evaporation  
B. precipitation  
C. transpiration  
D. condensation

24. A container is placed in front of a heat lamp. After a few hours, water droplets begin to form on the container. Which part of the water cycle does this best demonstrate?

A. evaporation  
B. precipitation  
C. transpiration  
D. condensation

25. Which factor speeds up the process of evaporation during the water cycle?

A. low humidity  
B. low air pressure  
C. high air pressure  
D. high temperature
26. Which term **best** describes the flow of water over land?
   
   A. runoff  
   B. precipitation  
   C. transpiration  
   D. condensation  

27. During a dry season, which part of the water cycle contributes to the loss of moisture in soil?
   
   A. runoff  
   B. evaporation  
   C. transpiration  
   D. condensation  

28. Which will increase transpiration?
   
   A. increase in evaporation  
   B. decrease in evaporation  
   C. increase in the sun’s energy  
   D. decrease in the sun’s energy  

29. On a hot summer day in North Carolina, Lindsay swims in an outdoor pool for several hours. Once she leaves the pool, her skin immediately begins to dry. Which **best** explains why her skin dries so quickly?
   
   A. condensation  
   B. transpiration  
   C. precipitation  
   D. evaporation
30. Which happens to water vapor when the sun’s heat is taken away?
   A. It turns into a liquid.
   B. It turns into a gas.
   C. It turns into runoff.
   D. It turns into a solid.

31. Which parts of the water cycle change liquid into vapor?
   A. condensation and transpiration
   B. evaporation and condensation
   C. evaporation and transpiration
   D. transpiration and runoff

32. Which most accurately explains the way clouds form?
   A. Warm water vapor hits warm air, changing the gas into a liquid, and forming a cloud.
   B. Warm water vapor hits cold air, changing the gas into a liquid, and forming a cloud.
   C. Warm water vapor hits warm air, changing the gas into a solid, and forming a cloud.
   D. Warm water vapor hits cold air, changing the gas into a solid, and forming a cloud.