

1 The water cycle.

Look at the diagram of the water cycle on page 2 of the Classbook. The following text has been left out of the diagram.

Look at the arrows in the diagram and write **a**, **b**, **c** or **d** next to the correct text below.

The water vapour rises and begins to cool down. As it cools, it condenses into tiny drops of water which make clouds.

The water returns to the sea in rivers.

The clouds continue to rise and cool until the water droplets fall to earth as rain or snow.

The sun heats the seawater which evaporates into the air as water vapour.

2

Guess the meaning.

Look closely at the sentences in activity 1 above to help you decide the correct word for this context.

rise clouds condense evaporate

- ① To means to change from water vapour to water.
- ② To means to change from water to water vapour.
- ③ are made from water droplets.
- ④ To means the same as to go up.

3

People and the water cycle.

Helen has written a short report for her school magazine. First, **skim** the text and tick your predictions below. Then **scan** the report and answer the questions below the text.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ☐ fishing | ☐ rain |
| ☐ water cycle | ☐ sharks |
| ☐ litter | ☐ poisons |
| ☐ coral reefs | ☐ fertiliser |



People and The Water Cycle



There are many ways to pollute the water cycle. Sewage, chemicals from industry, oil, fertilisers, litter, detergents, hot water and animal waste can all pollute the water cycle.

Fertilisers are bad for the water cycle. Farming uses about 90% of water resources in the world and farmers use fertilisers. The chemicals in fertilisers are washed into rivers and lakes. These chemicals make plants in the water grow and they use the oxygen in the water. When the oxygen in the water gets very low, the animals in the water die.

Poisons such as paints, bleach, oil and detergents are all harmful to the water cycle. When they enter the water cycle they can poison and kill fish and other living things.

Litter travels down rivers to the oceans. In London, people throw 1000 tonnes of rubbish into the Thames River every year. This rubbish can travel into the ocean.

When we add things to the land or water they will end up in the water cycle. Therefore, everyone should look after the water cycle.

1. Write down eight things that pollute the water cycle.

2. How much water do farmers use?

3. What happens when the oxygen in the water gets low?

4. Which river has 1000 tonnes of rubbish thrown in it each year?

5. Who should look after the water cycle?

6. Which verb tense did Helen use to write the report? Why?

