

Clouds

Gap fill

Listen to the story and fill in the blanks.

Look _____ the sky and you might see clouds. Some look like _____ animals or pieces of _____ art. Others are long lines that _____ across the sky. Some are black and move fast. With all that _____ taking place up there, we might ask, what is a cloud?

A cloud is a group of _____ drops. Sometimes, there are tiny _____ of ice, too. A drop is a small amount of water mixed with a bit of _____ in the air. When _____ of drops stick together, they _____ a cloud.

There are four main _____ of clouds. The _____ ones are called cirrus. They look like white feathers. Alto clouds are in the _____ of the sky. They look like a white or gray _____. Alto clouds usually block a lot of sunshine. There are two major types of low clouds. The large gray ones that fill the sky are stratus clouds. Occasionally, they bring rain or snow. Cumulus clouds generate unique shapes. The _____ kind of cloud is nimbostratus. They are gray or black and bring _____ showers.

Why do clouds look white or gray? Cloud color _____ on a couple of factors: _____ and water drops. Light from the sun has seven colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and _____ .

When light comes in _____ with water drops, all seven colors are _____. The mixed colors look white to the human eye. White light leaves the _____ of the cloud. That is why clouds look white. Our _____ see the white light.

Some clouds are gray or black. When many drops form a cloud, it becomes _____. Thick clouds block light, which means _____ travels to the bottom. That means the bottom of the cloud looks dark. Thick clouds also mean _____ is coming soon.

Next time you go outside, look up and try to _____ what's happening in the _____ .

Synonym match

Match the words or phrases.

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. block | a. extend |
| 2. factor | b. create |
| 3. form | c. element |
| 4. stretch | d. cling |
| 5. stick | e. obstruct |

True or false

Choose the correct answer.

1. Clouds form when bits of pollution stick together. T or F
2. Cirrus clouds block sunshine. T or F
3. Cloud color depends on light and water drops. T or F
4. Thick clouds indicate rain is on the horizon. T or F
5. We don't see a cloud but instead the light leaving a cloud. T or F

Clouds

Anagrams

Move letters. Make a new word.

RTEHGEOT

RAEETNGEE

EAFRETHSS

NDSPDEEE

SEISNHNUU

NODIGII

ESL discussion questions

Talk about the story

-
1. What is a cloud?
 2. Describe four types of clouds.
 3. Why do some clouds appear white or gray?
 4. What makes a cloud appear black?
 5. Describe the connections between cloud type and weather.
-

Writing practice

Put the words in the correct order.

1. are / main / of / four / There / categories / clouds

2. in / amount / mixed / a / drop / of / bit / A / water / air / of / a / the / pollution / small / with / is

3. a / Alto / lot / sunshine / block / clouds / of / usually

4. on / of / water / color / Cloud / light / couple / depends / drops / and / factors / a

5. a / they / form / drops / of / billions / together / stick / When / cloud
