

Quick Vocabulary

Lesson 1

atmosphere thin layer of gases surrounding Earth

ionosphere region within the mesosphere and thermosphere containing ions

liquid matter with a definite volume but with no definite shape

ozone layer area of the stratosphere with a high concentration of ozone

stratosphere atmospheric layer directly above the troposphere

troposphere atmospheric layer closest to Earth's surface

water vapor gaseous form of water

Lesson 2

conduction transfer of thermal energy by collisions between particles of matter

convection transfer of thermal energy by the movement of matter from one place to another

process ordered series of actions

radiation transfer of energy by electromagnetic waves

reflect to return light, heat, and sound after striking a surface

stability describes whether circulating air motions will be strong or weak in the atmosphere

temperature inversion layer of cooler air is trapped by a layer of warmer air above it

Quick Vocabulary

Lesson 3

jet stream narrow band of high winds

land breeze wind that blows from the land to the sea

polar easterlies cold winds that blow from the east to the west near the North and South Poles

sea breeze wind that blows from the sea to the land

trade winds steady winds that flow toward the equator from east to west

westerlies steady winds that flow from west to east

wind movement of air from high-pressure to low-pressure areas

Lesson 4

acid precipitation results from sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides combining with moisture in the atmosphere

air pollution contamination of air by harmful substances

particulate matter mixture of dust, acids, and other chemicals that can be harmful to health

photochemical smog interaction between sunlight and chemicals in the air