**Year 8**

**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Explanatory Writing model**

**Read this extract from an article on how to improve your ability to listen carefully then highlight**

**1) the topic sentence of each paragraph.**

**2) features of explanatory text.**

 **Unveiling the Water Cycle Wonders**

The water cycle is a natural and constant process that ensures the continuous circulation of water on Earth. In this exploration, we will unravel the stages of the water cycle and understand its vital role in maintaining life on our planet.

 The Evaporation Marvel

The water cycle begins with evaporation. When the sun's warmth kisses the surface of oceans, lakes, and rivers, it transforms liquid water into water vapor. This invisible vapor rises into the atmosphere, creating a dance of molecules that marks the commencement of the water cycle. Thus, the sun plays the lead role in this aqueous spectacle.

 Journey through Condensation

As the water vapor ascends, the atmosphere cools it down. This cooling effect leads to condensation, where the water vapor transforms back into tiny water droplets. These droplets gather on dust particles in the air, forming clouds. The condensation stage is like nature's art gallery, where clouds take shape, constantly shifting and transforming against the canvas of the sky.

 The Precipitation Performance

Clouds, once saturated with water droplets, reach a point where they can no longer hold the moisture. This triggers precipitation, where water falls back to Earth in various forms—rain, snow, sleet, or hail. This precipitation provides the essential nourishment for plants, replenishing rivers, lakes, and underground aquifers.

 Groundwater and Runoff

A significant portion of precipitation seeps into the ground, becoming groundwater. Plants absorb this groundwater through their roots, and it also contributes to the formation of underground water reservoirs. Excess water that doesn't infiltrate the soil becomes runoff, flowing into rivers and eventually returning to the oceans. This completes the water cycle's journey, ready to start anew.

In conclusion, the water cycle is a masterpiece of nature, seamlessly connecting oceans, atmosphere, and land. Each stage, from evaporation to precipitation, plays a crucial role in maintaining Earth's water balance. As we witness raindrops fall or marvel at fluffy clouds in the sky, let's appreciate the perpetual ballet of the water cycle that sustains life on our beautiful blue planet.