

2/15 Ch. 7.1

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weather - condition of the atmosphere at a certain time; place... (p184)

(p185)

Variables of weather are:

- temperature
- wind speed + direction
- precipitation (freezing, liquid, frozen)
- humidity (relative humidity)
- air pressure (fall = active rising = fair)  
L H
- visibility ↘

cloud cover or lack of clouds

Water cycle

Precipitation - from clouds to ground

Runoff - on ground flow to lower area  
creeks, rivers, pond, lakes  
oceans

some water absorbed into ground, etc

Over time sun heats earth - evaporation

Evaporation - liquid to gas → clouds

Condensation - gas to liquid → precip

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what tool measures relative humidity?

claim →

A psychrometer measures relative humidity.



Claim -

. A psychrometer is the tool that measures relative humidity. The tool measures the difference in two thermometers, a wet-bulb and a dry-bulb thermometer. To determine how much humidity is in the air compared to the amount it can hold, one compares the readings of the two thermometers. The larger the difference in temperatures, the less humidity in the air.

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Air mass - area of air with two common characteristics: moisture and temperature

Figure 1

moisture	[	maritime - from water (wet air)
		continental - from land (dry air)
temp	[	polar - (cold) <sup>northern</sup> 90°N and southward <sup>southern</sup> 60°S and Northward
		tropical - (warm) forms in tropics NH = 23½°N and southward SH = 23½°S + northward

US typical air masses:

most	*	mP = North Atlantic + North Pacific
		mT = most in US → South Pacific + South Atlantic
least	*	CP = North Pole "Jet Stream"
		CT = least (Texas / Mexico area)