Matching and Short Answer:

**The Water Cycle**

1. Match the lettered items on the right to the proper stage on the water cycle diagram. Please clearly write the letter in the bubble provided under each item.

2. Write 2-3 sentences describing each stage in the space provided:

- **Run Off**
- **Evaporation**
- **Condensation**
- **Infiltration**
- **Accumulation**
- **Precipitation**
**ANSWER KEY**

**Questions 7 – 18:** Key for matching questions and example sentences for each short answer component:

**A. Precipitation** - is when water falls from the clouds. Examples of precipitation include rain, snow, sleet (ice pellets), and hail (large frozen rain drops). Different areas of the world have different precipitation patterns depending on their climate.

**B. Accumulation** - means that water accumulates or makes puddles. Examples of accumulation include puddles, lakes, rivers, oceans, and groundwater. Water always flows to the lowest place it can move toward.

**C. Infiltration** – occurs when water seeps through the ground and enters the water table. Proper infiltration through clean soil cleans water by filtering it through different layers of soil. Some poisons in the soil can be carried into the water table.

**D. Condensation**- happens when clouds start to form. Examples of condensation include clouds, dew, and steam. Water molecules gather around fine particles in the air like dust. Clouds and the water they contain are carried on the prevailing wind currents.

**E. Evaporation**- happens when the sun dries up the puddle and the water turns into water vapor. Evaporation is usually a very slow process (boiling water is an exception) and takes patience to observe.

**F. Run Off** – occurs when the ground cannot absorb the water that is falling on it. Runoff can cause erosion of soil, and it can carry away the most important nutrient-rich topsoil with it. Runoff can also carry away pesticides and other poisons, contaminating all the places it later accumulations.