

# Expository Writing Frame

(Title) Waters Run to the Sea  
by

(Name) Dr. Evelyn Nelson-Weaver

(Topic Sentence) A severe thunderstorm developed in the warm waters of the  
(Introduce Subject) Pacific Ocean before moving east across California and heading  
over the Rocky Mountains. The travels of the water in this storm  
can be explained through the four parts of the water cycle:  
evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection.

(1<sup>st</sup> Step) First, the thunderstorm was born far out in the Pacific  
(Show It) Ocean . Slowly the storm moved east toward California as the  
(Prove It) winds continued to grow stronger. The rain field also increased  
causing the storm to get larger. The conditions in the Pacific off  
the southern coast of California were excellent for development  
of strong storms. Water temperatures were over 80 degrees and  
the humidity was high. The hot sun caused the warm ocean water  
to evaporate. Then this water vapor added to the force of the  
storm.

(2<sup>nd</sup> Step) Next, the water vapor from the ocean rose inside the  
(Show It) thunderstorm, getting colder, and forming clouds. This is called  
(Prove It) condensation. The higher you go above the earth's surface the

colder the air temperature gets. The troposphere starts at the Earth's surface and extends 5 to 9 miles high. As you move up in this layer, the temperature can drop to -52 degrees Celsius.

(3rd Step)

(Show It)

(Prove It)

Finally, the storm hit San Diego on the west coast of California. As the storm moved onshore the heavy precipitation began. The precipitation came in the form of blinding rain. Low lying areas in San Diego quickly flooded as the ground became saturated. Some people worried that as the storm moved east over the mountains, mud slides would occur, but this did not happen. However, the thunderstorm did fill the rivers and caused waterfalls to overflow their normal boundaries. Some of this water seeped into the ground but much of it kept traveling in the rivers.

(Sum It Up)

(Closing Idea)

In conclusion, the thunderstorm began by the evaporation of waters in the Pacific Ocean and spread precipitation all across southern California. The storm finally blew itself out over the high peaks of the Rocky Mountains. The rivers collected the storm's last drops of water and deposited the water into the sea. Then the water cycle began all over again.