

American Meteorological Society Certification Practice Test Questions and Answers

1. What is a derecho?

- A) A tropical squall system
- B) A widespread, long-lived wind storm produced by a fast-moving convective system
- C) A type of cold front
- D) A severe thunderstorm limited to one county

2. What is a cutoff low?

- A) A surface low with no associated precipitation
- B) An upper-level low that has separated from the main westerly flow
- C) A shallow low formed by surface heating
- D) A low-pressure system over the ocean only

3. What is the thermal wind relationship?

- A) Wind speed at the surface equals wind speed aloft
- B) Vertical wind shear is related to horizontal temperature gradients
- C) Temperature increases with height in the stratosphere
- D) Wind direction rotates clockwise with height in all situations

4. What is the Bergen School cyclone model?

- A) A tropical cyclone intensification theory
- B) The Norwegian model describing extratropical cyclone life cycle
- C) A forecasting algorithm for winter storms
- D) A mesoscale convective system model

Answers: 1-B 2-B 3-B 4-B

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