The Water Cycle: Global Distribution and Stores

Use the text to answer these questions.

Oceanic water

1. Approximately how much water (volume and depth) is stored as oceanic water?
2. What percentage of the Earth’s surface do the oceans cover?
3. What pH are the oceans and why has this changed over time?

Cryospheric water

1. Does sea ice affect global sea level?
2. What are ice shelves and where are they found?
3. How are ice sheets different to ice caps?
4. Where are ice sheets found?
5. Get one fact each on the Antarctic and Greenland ice sheets
6. Do ice sheets affect sea level?
7. Describe the characteristics of ice caps.
8. Why are Alpine glaciers important in the Himalayas?

Terrestrial water

1. Define the 4 classes of terrestrial water.
2. What is groundwater?
3. What is biological water?
4. Which terrestrial water sources are most accessible?

Atmospheric water

1. Why is atmospheric water vapour important?
2. What happens to the amount of water vapour air can hold as temperature goes up?
3. Why is air over the poles dry?
4. Explain what will happen if there is an increase in water vapour.
5. What are clouds and how do they form?