



Student/Classroom: _____ Examiner: _____ Assessment Date: _____

Blankets of Air Above Us 403

Sopris West Six Minute Solutions Passage 403

Blankets on our beds help keep us warm at night. Our earth has blankets of air **(that)** do the same thing. In the **(atmosphere)** above us, there are four blankets **(of)** air that help keep us warm **(and)** safe on Earth.

The first blanket **(of)** air closest to Earth is called **(the)** troposphere. The troposphere is where we **(live)**. It contains the air we breathe **(and)** the warmth we need. The troposphere **(has)** most of our weather in it. **(Seventy-five)** percent of the atmosphere's total mass **(is)** found in this layer. It also **(has)** most of the water vapor of **(the)** atmosphere. The seasons of the earth **(occur)** in this first layer.

The second **(blanket)** of air in our atmosphere is **(the)** stratosphere. The stratosphere has a very **(important)** part that protects us. That part **(is)** the ozone layer. The ozone part **(of)** the stratosphere keeps the sun's harmful **(rays)** away from the earth. The stratosphere **(does)** not have much moisture. Therefore, it **(does)** not have many clouds. For that **(reason)**, airline pilots like to fly in **(the)** stratosphere.

The third blanket of air **(is)** the coldest layer in the atmosphere. **(It)** is called the mesosphere. Its name **(means)** "in between." The mesosphere becomes colder **(as)** its altitude increases. There are many **(strong)** winds in the mesosphere. These winds **(blow)** from west to east in the **(winter)**. In the summer, they blow from **(east)** to west.

The last layer of **(air)** around our earth is called the **(thermosphere)**. Its name means "warm place." It **(is)** the highest and the largest layer. **(This)** layer is very hot. Its temperature **(can)** be thousands and thousands of degrees. **(It)** is made up of gases. These **(gases)** have temperatures that vary. At the **(top)** of the thermosphere is where space **(begins)**.

The atmosphere of our earth is **(made)** up of these four blankets of **(air)**. Each one of them is important **(for)** life on Earth.



Student Name: _____ Classroom: _____ Date: _____

Blankets of Air Above Us 403

Sopris West Six Minute Solutions Passage 403

Blankets on our beds help keep us warm at night. Our earth has blankets of air (**strong, that, air**) do the same thing. In the (**atmosphere, them, as**) above us, there are four blankets (**away, of, harmful**) air that help keep us warm (**and, our, vary**) safe on Earth.

The first blanket (**reason, of, it**) air closest to Earth is called (**the, our, protects**) troposphere.

The troposphere is where we (**us, live, gases**). It contains the air we breathe (**around, blanket, and**) the warmth we need. The troposphere (**summer, has, first**) most of our weather in it. (**Mesosphere, Seventy-five, Blankets**) percent of the atmosphere's total mass (**most, is, largest**) found in this layer. It also (**is, highest, has**) most of the water vapor of (**clouds, these, the**) atmosphere. The seasons of the earth (**there, west, occur**) in this first layer.

The second (**each, coldest, blanket**) of air in our atmosphere is (**contains, warmth, the**) stratosphere. The stratosphere has a very (**the, important, of**) part that protects us. That part (**is, we, the**) the ozone layer. The ozone part (**has, this, of**) the stratosphere keeps the sun's harmful (**thermosphere, rays, that**) away from the earth. The stratosphere (**does, between, atmosphere's**) not have much moisture. Therefore, it (**does, hot, winds**) not have many clouds. For that (**and, reason, therefore**), airline pilots like to fly in (**third, the, found**) stratosphere.

The third blanket of air (**for, is, temperature**) the coldest layer in the atmosphere. (**It, Troposphere, Moisture**) is called the mesosphere. Its name (**means, percent, these**) "in between." The mesosphere becomes colder (**as, blow, last**) its altitude increases. There are many (**thousands, winter, strong**) winds in the mesosphere. These winds (**keeps, from, blow**) from west to east in the (**are, fly, winter**). In the summer, they blow from (**east, on, four**) to west.

The last layer of (**air, seasons, airline**) around our earth is called the (**thermosphere, at, place**). Its name means "warm place." It (**blankets, degrees, is**) the highest and the largest layer. (**Occur, This, There**) layer is very hot. Its temperature (**layer, can, rays**) be thousands



and thousands of degrees. **(Water, Earth, It)** is made up of gases. These **(gases, begins, important)** have temperatures that vary. At the **(total, pilots, top)** of the thermosphere is where space **(beds, in, begins)**.

The atmosphere of our earth is **(made, that, help)** up of these four blankets of **(air, up, do)**. Each one of them is important **(for, becomes, part)** life on Earth.