

How Drought Begins

Read each drought stage below. Write a number from 1 to 8 in the box next to each one to show the correct order from first to last. Use the answer key at the bottom of the page to check your work.

A

Farmers begin to struggle as crops dry out and water for livestock becomes scarce. Some animals have to be moved to find food and water.

B

Rainfall returns and slowly soaks into the dry ground. Rivers and dams begin to refill, but full recovery can take months or even years.

C

Water restrictions are introduced in towns and cities. Residents are asked to limit showers, stop watering gardens, and avoid washing cars with a hose.

D

Less rain than usual falls over several weeks or months. The ground begins to dry out, and water storage facilities such as dams and reservoirs start to drop.

E

The land begins to recover. Plants start to grow back, rivers return to normal levels, and water restrictions are lifted.

F

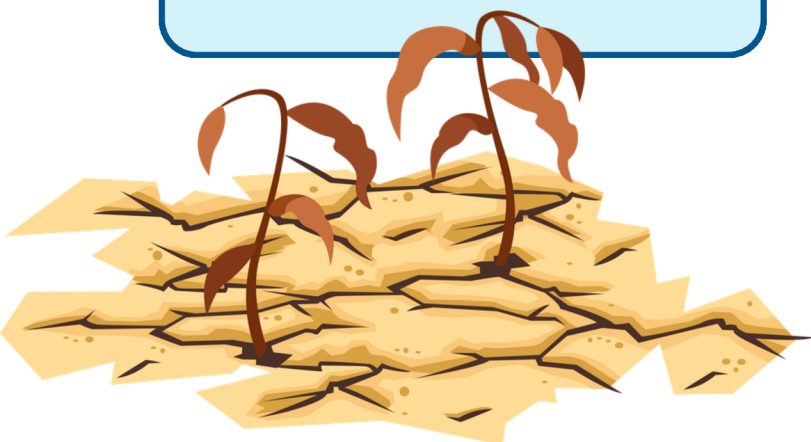
Rainfall across a region drops well below the usual average for a long period of time. This is the beginning of a drought.

G

The soil becomes so dry that it hardens and cracks. Dust storms may begin to form as the dry topsoil is blown away by the wind.

H

Bushfire risk increases significantly as dry vegetation spreads across the landscape. Communities are placed on high alert.



Answer Key: 1. F, 2. D, 3. H, 4. C, 5. A, 6. G, 7. B, 8. E