Hurricane Cause-and-Effect Chains Answer Key

Chain 1:

• Effect: Ocean water evaporates, adding water vapor to the air.

Chain 2:

Effect: The rising air creates low pressure at the surface.

Chain 3:

• Effect: Clouds and heavy rain showers form.

Chain 4:

• Effect: A tropical disturbance develops with organized circulation.

Chain 5:

• Effect: The disturbance grows into a tropical storm and then a hurricane.

Challenge Question (Sample Answer):

Warm ocean water is the "fuel" of a hurricane because it provides heat and moisture. This energy drives rising air, cloud formation, and strong winds. Without warm water, the storm cannot gain strength or survive.

