Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Please read the passage below and answer the writing prompt. Remember to use the RACE(restate, answer, cite, explain) strategy.

**Extreme, Wild Weather**

“It’s raining! It’s pouring! The old man is snoring!” Have you every heard that song? It is a famous tune about the weather. Weather is something that affects all of us daily. Extreme weather is something that typically affects many people, but only a few times during their lives.

Extreme weather includes flooding rains, tornadoes, blizzards, and hurricanes. People study weather so they can inform us. These are the people who give us the information we need so that we can remain safe in the case of extreme weather.

**Tornadoes**

A tornado is a storm that can cause destruction in its path. Tornadoes have been known to destroy homes and pick up cars and move them. Winds can reach up to 300 miles per hour! Tornadoes form from thunderstorms. They are most common in an area of the United States called the Tornado Alley. This area is where many tornadoes form because of the way the air moves.

Cool, dry air from the north and warm, moist air from the south meet. This causes thunderstorms, which can be severe. When the atmosphere is not stable, the winds can increase and produce a tornado.

**Waterspouts**

A waterspout is a weak tornado. It forms over water. It can happen on the ocean. It can happen on smaller bodies of water like lakes. Waterspouts are most common in the Gulf of Mexico. They have occurred in the tropics as well. Waterspouts can pick up things such as animals or tree limbs and drop them in other places. If a waterspout moves onto land, it becomes a tornado and can cause damage.

Wild weather comes in many forms. Tornadoes and waterspouts are directly related and look alike. Both weather events require attention because they can be dangerous to humans and animals. Wild weather is fascinating and can be unpredictable!

**Writing Prompt: How are tornadoes and waterspouts dangerous? Remember to use the RACE strategy. You can type below the line.**

R- restate

A- answer

C- cite (2 examples from the text)

E- explain

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