Name _____
Date _____ Period _____

Reading a Weather Map

Meteorologists use a series of symbols to provide a picture of local and national weather conditions. Use the information below to interpret the weather map.

Materials

- Map for reading the weather
- Hand lens

Procedures

1. Find the station model for Dallas, Texas and Miami, Florida on the weather map.
2. Find the barometric pressure, temperature, dew point, wind speed, wind direction and general weather conditions (such as rain, snow).
3. Determine what type of front is near Dallas and Miami.
4. In which direction are the fronts, in general, moving across the United States (the half circles and triangles point in the direction the front is moving)?
5. Record information and answers to the conclusion questions on your sheet.

Weather Map Symbols

Sky Cover	Wind	Fronts	Selected Weather Symbols
clear	Calm	cold front / warm front	Rain
1/8	1-2 knots (1-2 mph)	stationary front / occluded front	Rain Shower
scattered	3-7 knots (3-8 mph)	trough	Thunderstorm
3/8	8-12 knots (9-14 mph)	radar intensities 1 2 3 4 5 6	Drizzle
4/8	13-17 knots (15-20 mph)	tornado (T) #300 T 300	* or ←← Snow
5/8	18-22 knots (21-25 mph)	severe thunderstorm (S) #287 S 287	Snow Shower
broken	23-27 knots (26-31 mph)		Freezing Rain
7/8	48-52 knots (55-60 mph)		Freezing Drizzle
overcast	73-77 knots (84-89 mph)		Fog
obscured	103-107 knots (119-123 mph)		Haze
missing	Shaft in direction wind is coming **from**		Smoke
			Dust or Sand
			Blowing Snow

Conclusion Questions

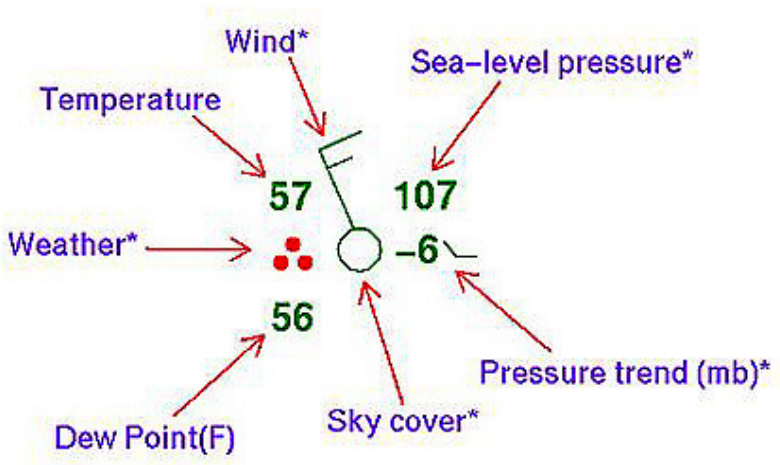
1. Locate the pressure system over California. Predict what will happen to the weather in Texas as this system moves to the east.

_____
_____
_____
_____

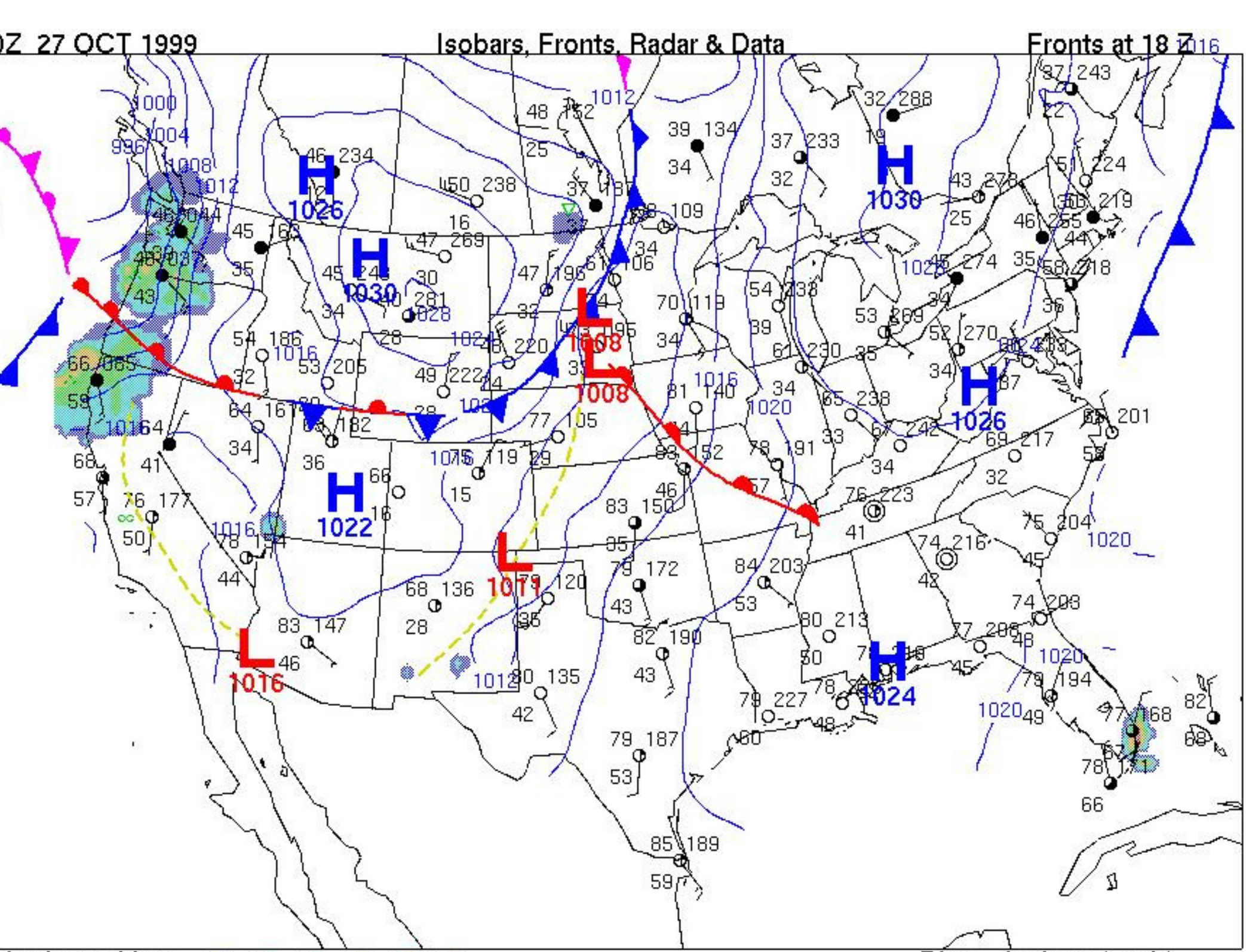
2. The prevailing westerlies are winds responsible for much of the weather across the United States. Based on this, would you expect South Carolina to continue to have clear skies? Explain your reasoning and evidence to support your answer.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

3. The direction line on the station model indicates the direction from which the wind blows. The wind is named for that direction. Infer what the name of the station below would be given the station information.



Wind Speed _____
Wind Direction _____
Temperature _____
Dew Point _____
General Weather _____
Sky Coverage _____


0Z 27 OCT 1999
Isobars, Fronts, Radar & Data
Fronts at 18 Z
H 1026
H 1030
H 1022
H 1030
H 1026
H 1024
L 1008
L 1008
L 1011
L 1016
cho Intensities: 1 2 3 4 5 6
Blue – Isobars (4 mb)