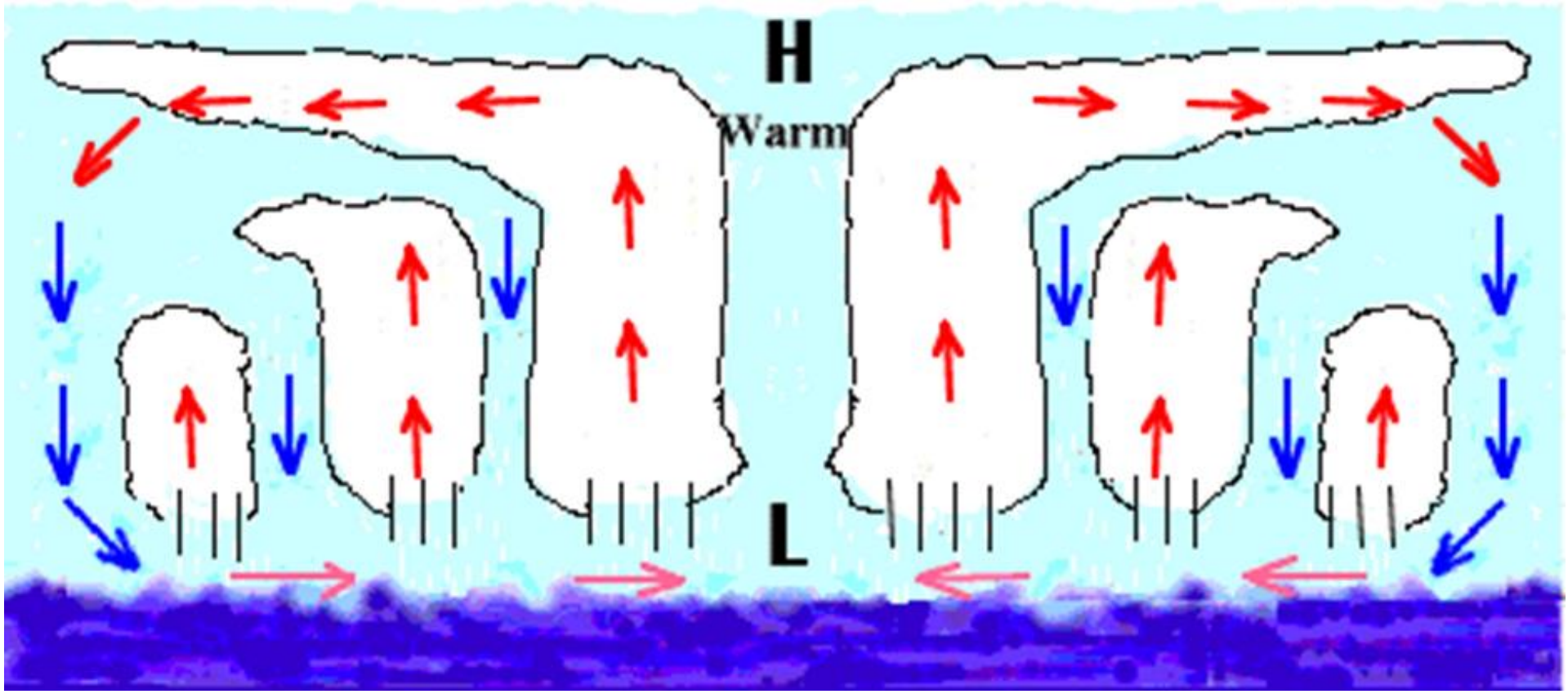
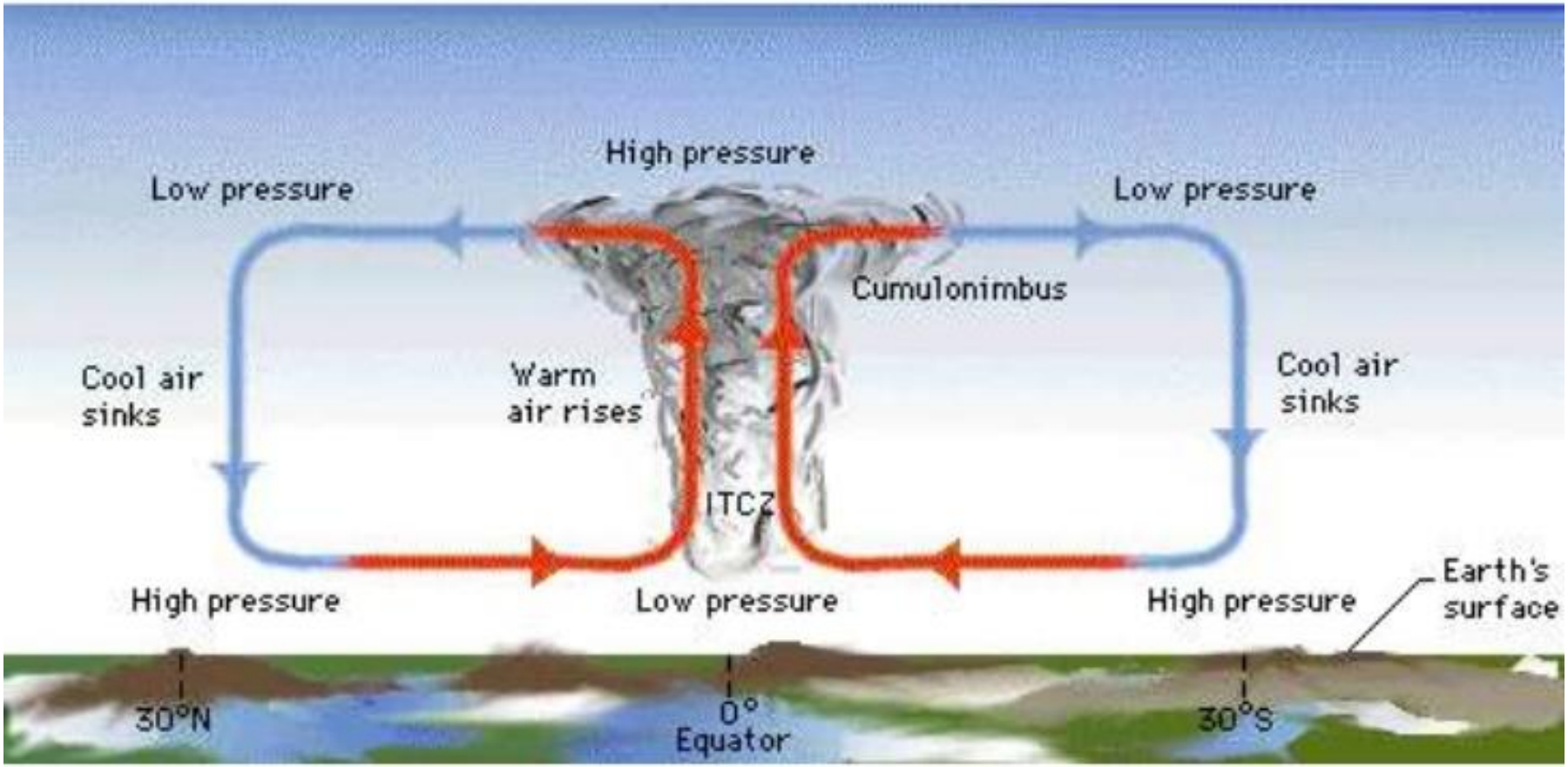

H
Warm
L

## The Pressure Gradient Force



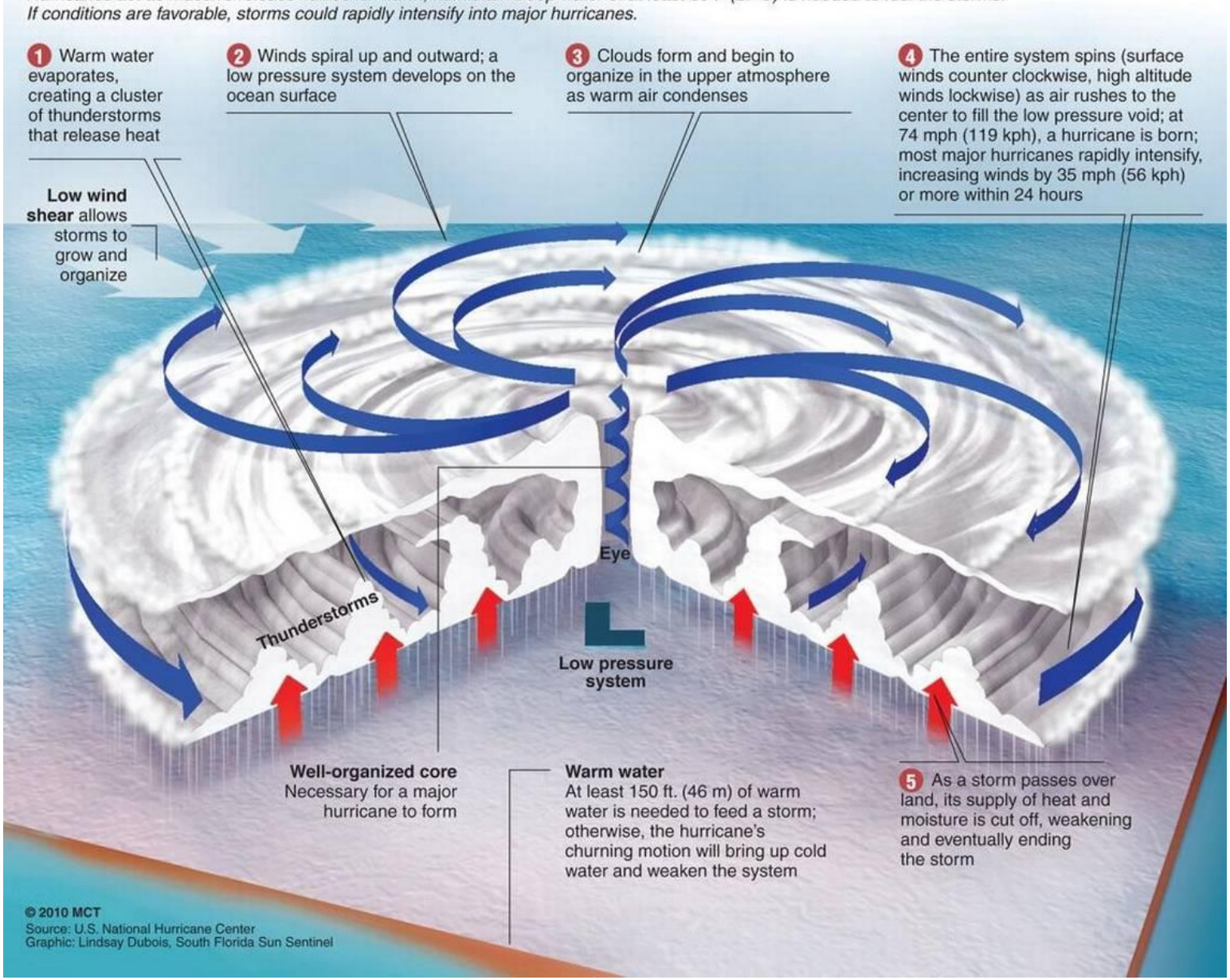

Very dry | Lots of rain | Very dry

Important points:

1. Air always moves from high pressure areas to low pressure areas
2. Low pressure areas are created at the ITCZ due to solar radiation causing evapotranspiration
3. Warming air can hold increasing amounts of water in vapor form and vice versa

# Warm waters fuel major hurricanes

*Hurricanes act as massive release valves for warm, humid air. Deep water of at least 80 F (27 C) is needed to fuel the storms. If conditions are favorable, storms could rapidly intensify into major hurricanes.*






Source: U.S. National Hurricane Center
Graphic: Lindsay Dubois, South Florida Sun Sentinel