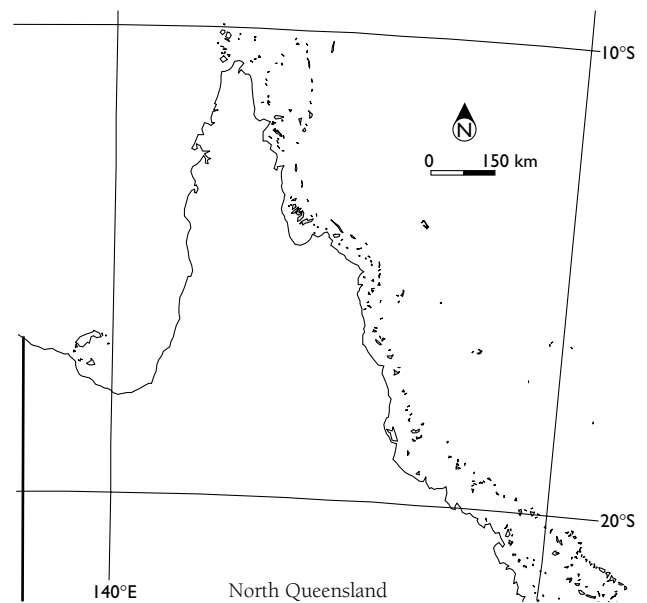


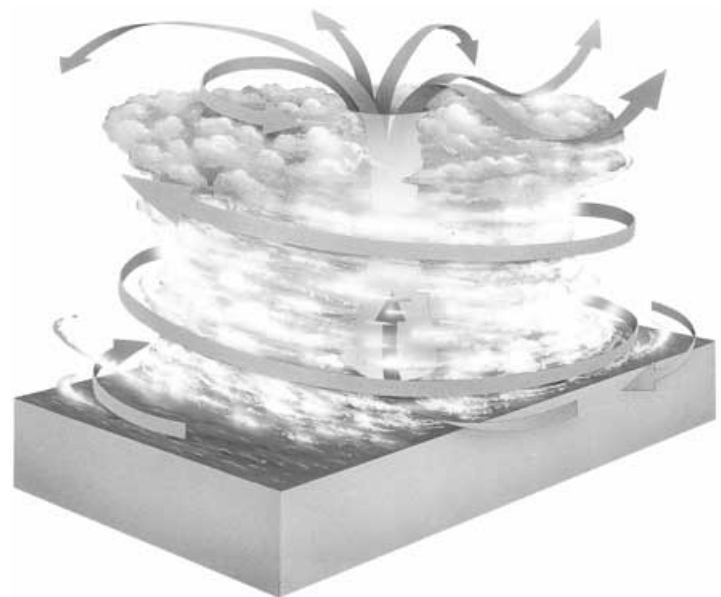
DATELINE: February 27, 2000 Tropical Cyclone Steve, a Category 2 cyclone, crossed the Queensland coast at Cairns with wind gusts up to 150 km per hour causing minor damage to property, but no casualties. Inland at Mareeba on the Atherton Tableland, flooding from the cyclone proved a major problem. The main water pumps to the town of Mareeba failed, leaving the residents without drinking water. The cyclone weakened to a tropical low as it travelled across Cape York towards Normanton. It re-intensified into a Category 1 cyclone as it moved across the Gulf of Carpentaria, crossing the Northern Territory coast on March 1.

- Use the map on page 56 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* to mark the following on the outline map of far North Queensland:
 - the towns of **Cairns, Mareeba** and **Normanton**
 - Cape York, Gulf of Carpentaria, Pacific Ocean**
 - An arrowed line showing the path of the cyclone
- Refer to pages 19 and 56 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* and the Dateline to fill the following blanks:

Tropical cyclones form over _____ with temperatures greater than _____ and in latitudes less than _____ north and south of the _____. Cairns is located at latitude _____ which places it in a cyclone-prone area. Cyclones can unleash winds of up to _____ kilometres per hour although Cyclone Steve had wind gusts of only _____ kilometres per hour, making it a Category _____ cyclone. The average number of coastal crossings by cyclones just north of Cairns from 1959 to 1990 is _____. A cyclone called _____ crossed the coast just north of Cairns in 1999.



- How do cyclones form?
Refer to page 19 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* to add the following labels to the diagram at right of cyclone formation.
Cumulo-nimbus clouds form, warm air spirals up quickly, cool air flows into centre replacing warm rising air, air flows out quickly allowing more air in below, 'eye' of cyclone.
- Using information in the Dateline and information about Cyclone Vance on page 105 of the *Jacaranda Atlas*, complete the following table comparing the two cyclones.



Tropical cyclone

	TC Steve	TC Vance
State/region		
Category		
Maximum wind gusts		
Towns affected		
Lives lost		

What do you consider to be the major difference between these cyclones and TC Tracy in 1974? Refer to page 19 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* for some details on TC Tracy.