13.11:Clouds and Fog

Three main categories of cloud type:

- convective clouds
- frontal clouds
- orographic clouds

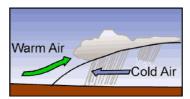
Convective Clouds

• warm moist air rises to a higher altitude and as the air cools, the moisture condenses

Warm Air Rising

Frontal Clouds

• formed when the leading edge of a large air mass meets another air mass of different temperature



Orographic Clouds

- formed as clouds move up the side of a mountain and cool.
- The moisture condenses on the windward side.



Cloud Types

Two main types

- Cumulus-billowy, rounded shape
- Stratus-flattened layered shape

Cumulus

- tend to grow vertically
- generally indicate unstable weather

Stratus Clouds

- tend to grow horizontally
- indicate stable conditions weatherwise

Other names are added to the clouds to refer to the relative height of it:

- -cirrus are high level
- -alto are mid-level
- -nimbo means rain holding

