

Name _____

Tornado!



DIRECTIONS: In the paragraph below, either the subject or the predicate are repeated in various sentences. Combine each set of repetitive sentences to make one longer sentence without repetitive words. Write the new paragraph on the lines below.

A tornado is a dangerous rotating column of air. The dangerous rotating column of air extends from a thunderstorm in the sky, down to the ground. The most violent tornadoes are capable of great destruction. Wind speeds of the most violent tornadoes can reach up to 300 mph. Tornadoes can destroy large buildings, uproot trees and hurl vehicles hundreds of yards. Tornadoes can drive a piece of straw into a tree, like a hammer driving a nail. The path of damage left by a tornado can be over one mile wide. The path of damage left by a tornado can be up to 50 miles long. Most tornadoes form from thunderstorms. Most tornadoes form when warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico meets cool, dry air from Canada. When these two air masses meet, instability is created in the upper atmosphere. Instability in the upper atmosphere ultimately creates an invisible, horizontal spinning effect in the lower atmosphere. Air rises within the updraft. The rising air tilts the rotating air from horizontal to vertical. An area of rotation now extends through much of the storm. An area of rotation can be from two to six miles wide.
