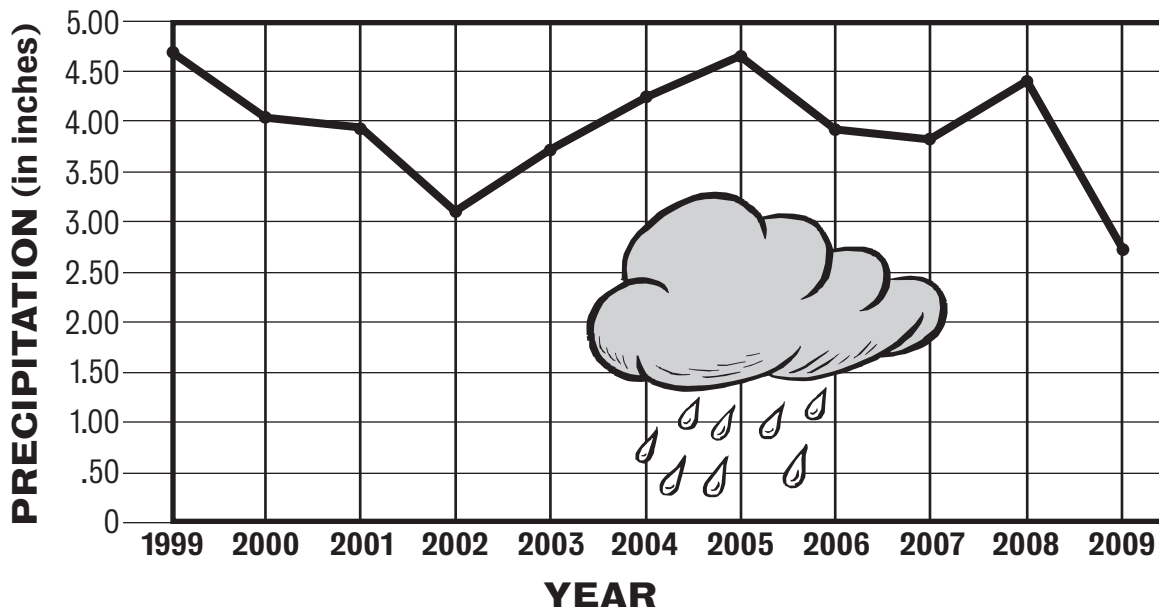


Name: _____

Dry Times

This week, you read about areas of the United States that are experiencing very dry times. Experts say that the first two months of 2009 were the driest start of any year on record. The line graph below shows the average amount of precipitation in the U.S. in January and February from 1999 to 2009. Use the graph to answer the questions.

January-February Average Precipitation in U.S., 1999-2009



SOURCE: NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER

- About how much precipitation fell in the U.S. in January-February of 2000?
 (A) 2 inches (C) 3 inches
 (B) 2.5 inches (D) 4 inches
- About how much precipitation fell in the U.S. in January-February of 2004?
 (A) 3.5 inches (C) 4.25 inches
 (B) 4 inches (D) 4.50 inches
- The January-February period in which of the years below had the most precipitation?
 (A) 2001 (C) 2005
 (B) 2004 (D) 2008
- Between which two years did the amount of precipitation in the U.S. during January-February decrease the most?
 (A) 2001-2002 (C) 2007-2008
 (B) 2005-2006 (D) 2008-2009
- About how many more inches of precipitation fell in January-February of 2008 than in that period in 2001?
 (A) 0.5 inch (C) 1.5 inches
 (B) 1.0 inch (D) 2.0 inches
- About how many more inches of precipitation fell in January-February of 2004 than in that period in 2001?
 (A) 0.25 inch (C) 1.0 inch
 (B) 0.5 inch (D) 1.5 inches

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