

Winds of change

La Nina and El Nino are phases of a natural climate phenomenon known as the El Nino Southern Oscillation. They have opposite effects on the weather over the maritime continent, which includes Singapore and Indonesia. El Nino causes drier and hotter weather here, while La Nina brings with it more rain.

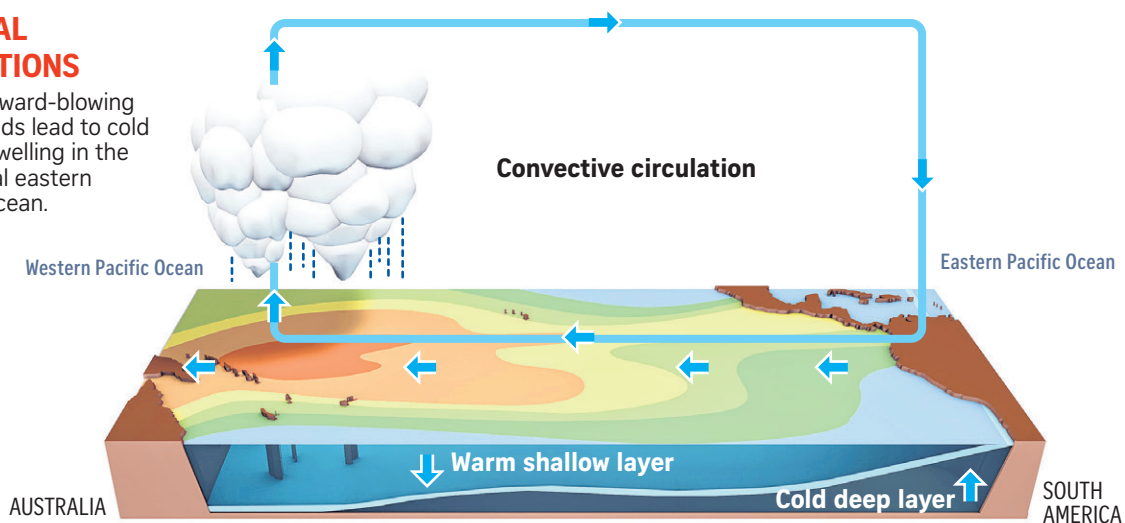
Warm ocean surface temperatures

Cooler ocean surface temperatures

Wind direction

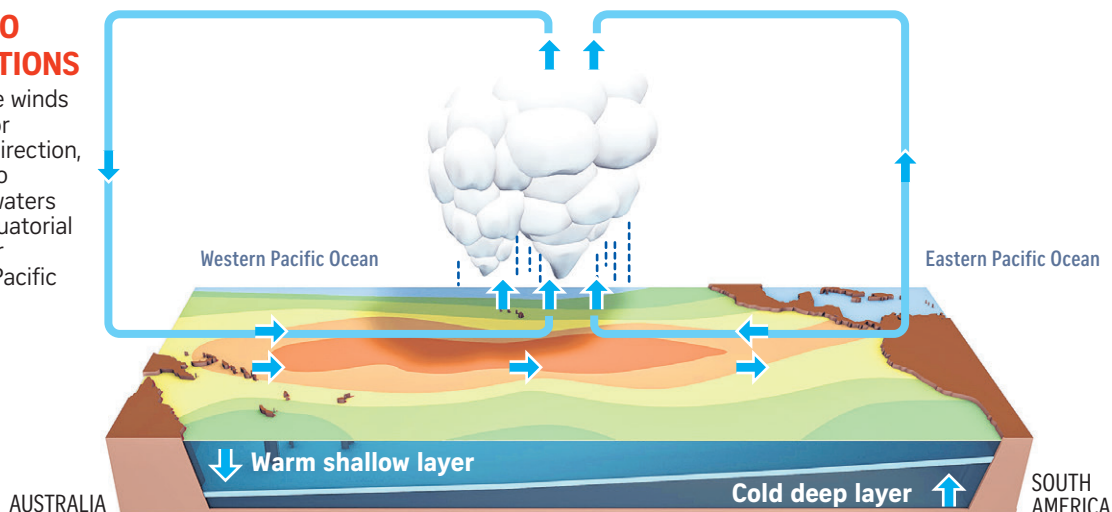
NORMAL CONDITIONS

The westward-blowing trade winds lead to cold water upwelling in the equatorial eastern Pacific Ocean.



EL NINO CONDITIONS

The trade winds weaken or reverse direction, leading to warmer waters in the equatorial central or eastern Pacific Ocean.



LA NINA CONDITIONS

Westward-blowing trade winds intensify during a La Nina event, causing more warm water to pool around the maritime continent.

