

A Year in Review

# Earth Science

# DENSITY

- Density is a mathematical representation of how much “stuff” is within a certain area- the higher the number, the more tightly packed the molecules are

■ **Less Dense**  
**(less trees per area)**

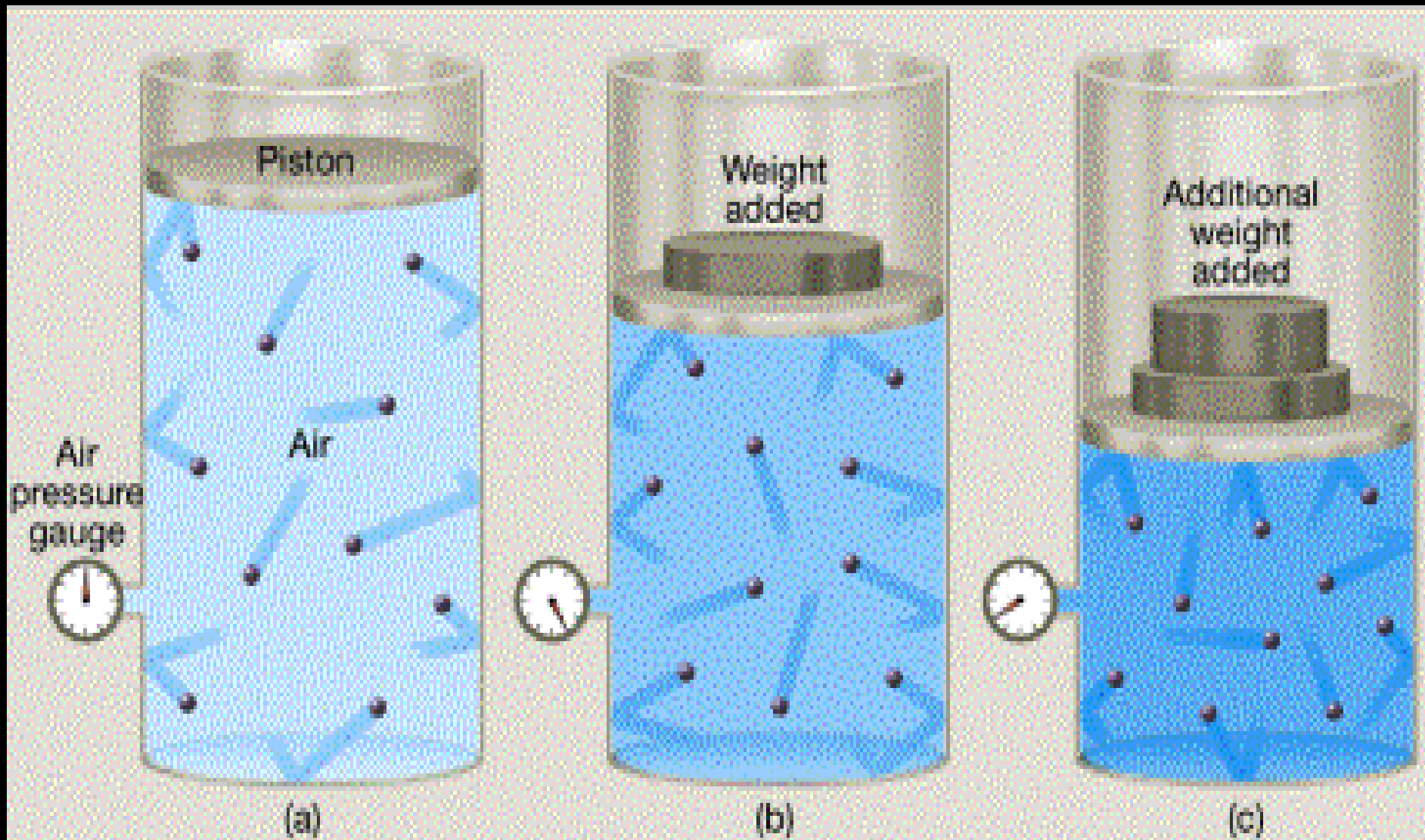


**More Dense**  
**(more trees per area)**



- If you cut an object in half or double it in size, the density will remain the same
- If you heat the object, the pressure will decrease (due to expansion) and the density will decrease (the molecules will have more room to spread out)
- If you cool the object, the pressure will increase (due to contraction) and the density will increase (the molecules will have less room to spread out)

# DENSITY VS. PRESSURE



# DENSITY VS. TEMPERATURE



HSW: Hot Air Balloons!

# Water is the Standard

- If an object is less dense than water, it will float
- If an object is more dense than water, it will sink
- If an object is the same density as water, it will hang out in the middle

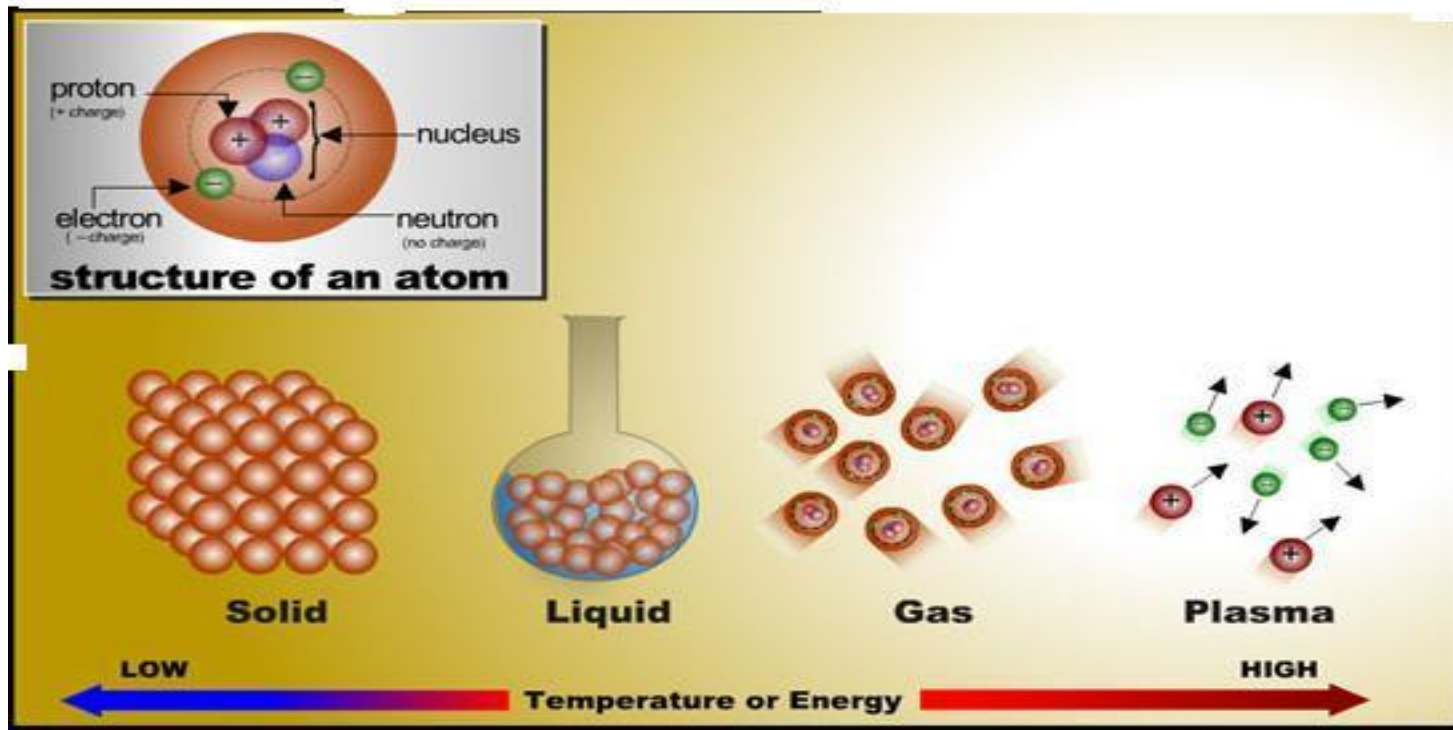
LAMP OIL  
RUBBING ALCOHOL  
VEGETABLE OIL  
WATER  
DISH SOAP  
MILK  
100% MAPLE SYRUP  
CORN SYRUP  
HONEY



PING PONG BALL  
SODA CAP  
BEADS  
CHERRY TOMATO  
DIE  
POPCORN KERNEL  
BOLT

# States of Matter vs. Density

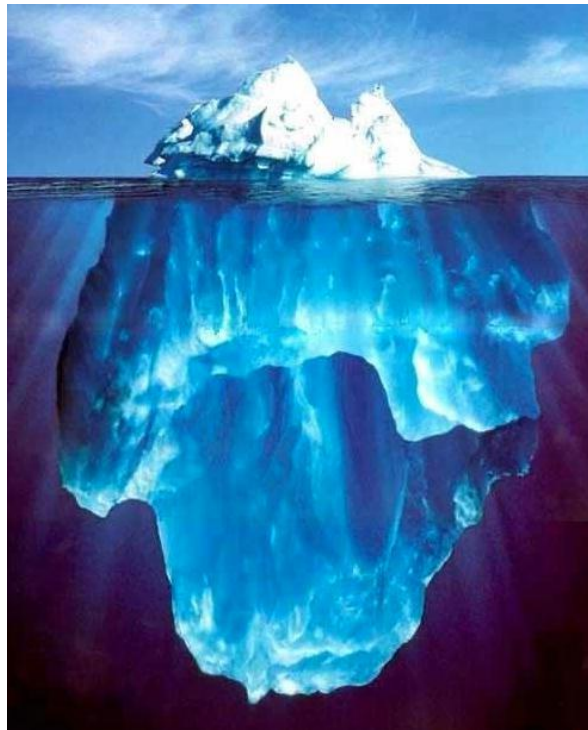
- In general, the solid form of an object is the most dense phase, liquid is in the middle, and gas is the least dense.





# EXCEPTION: Water and Ice

- Because water is unique and expands when it freezes instead of contracting, the solid form of water (ice) is less dense than the liquid form of water



Remember:  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  above the  
surface,  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  below the  
surface

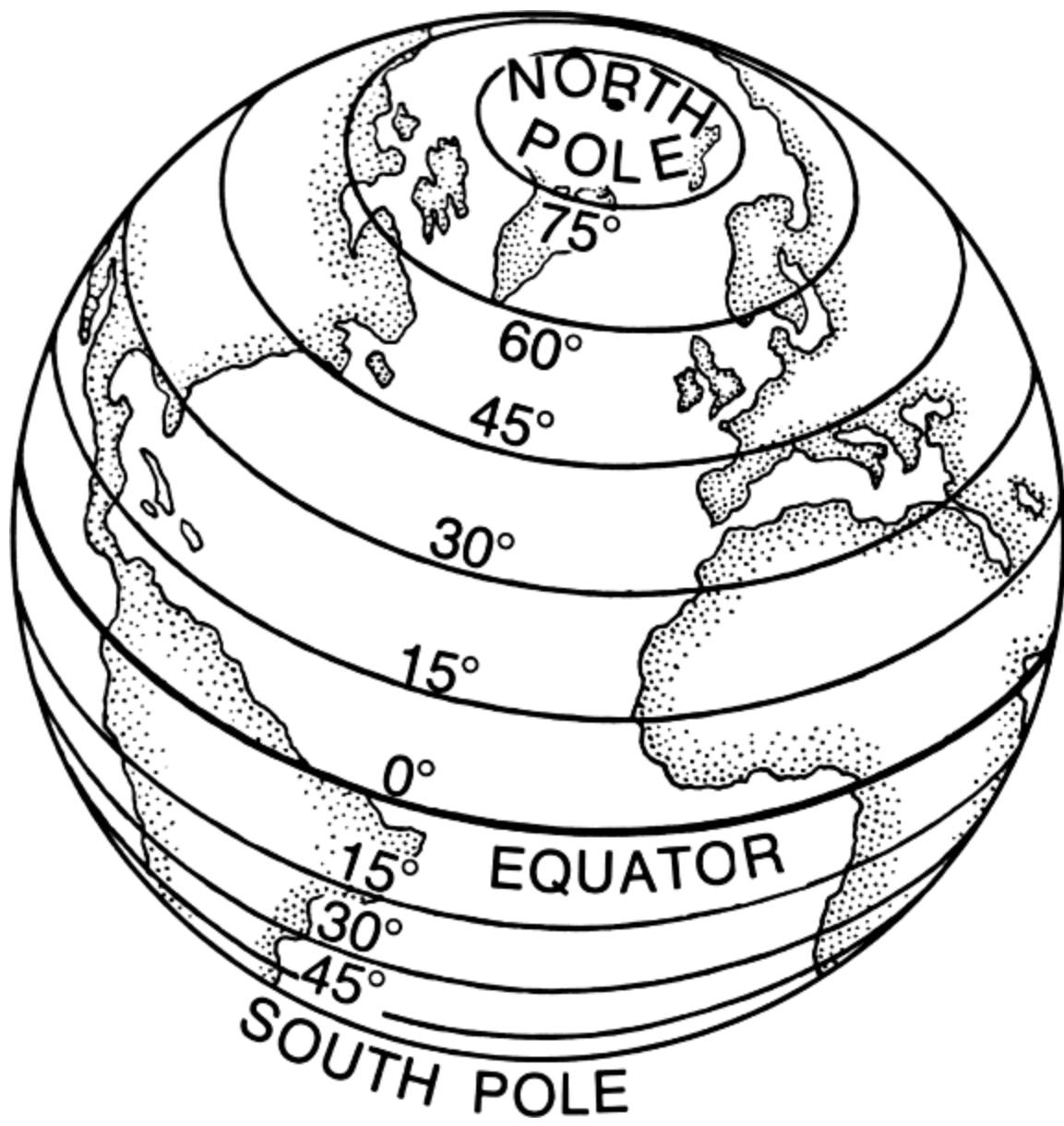
# Latitude

- Lines run east to west, measuring north and south of the Equator (0 degrees)
- Lines are parallel and equal: lines of latitude never cross and they are the same distance apart from north pole to south pole
- All locations north of the Equator have the unit "°N", with the maximum being 90°N at the north pole
- All locations south of the Equator have the unit "°S", with the maximum being 90°S at the south pole

# Latitude and Temperature

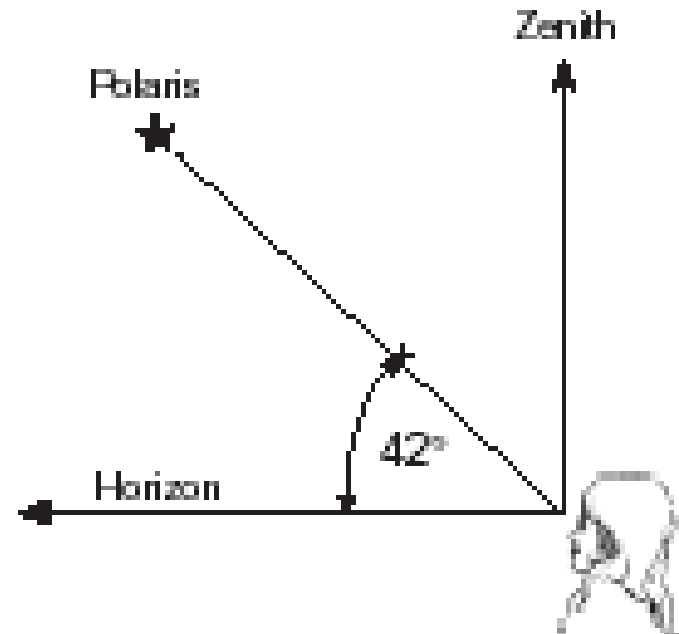
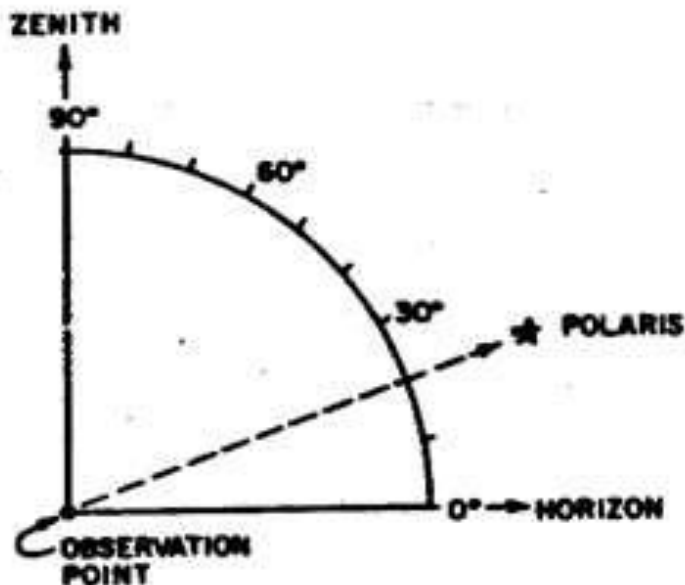
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- As latitude increases or goes from 0 degrees to 90 degrees, the average surface temperatures decreases



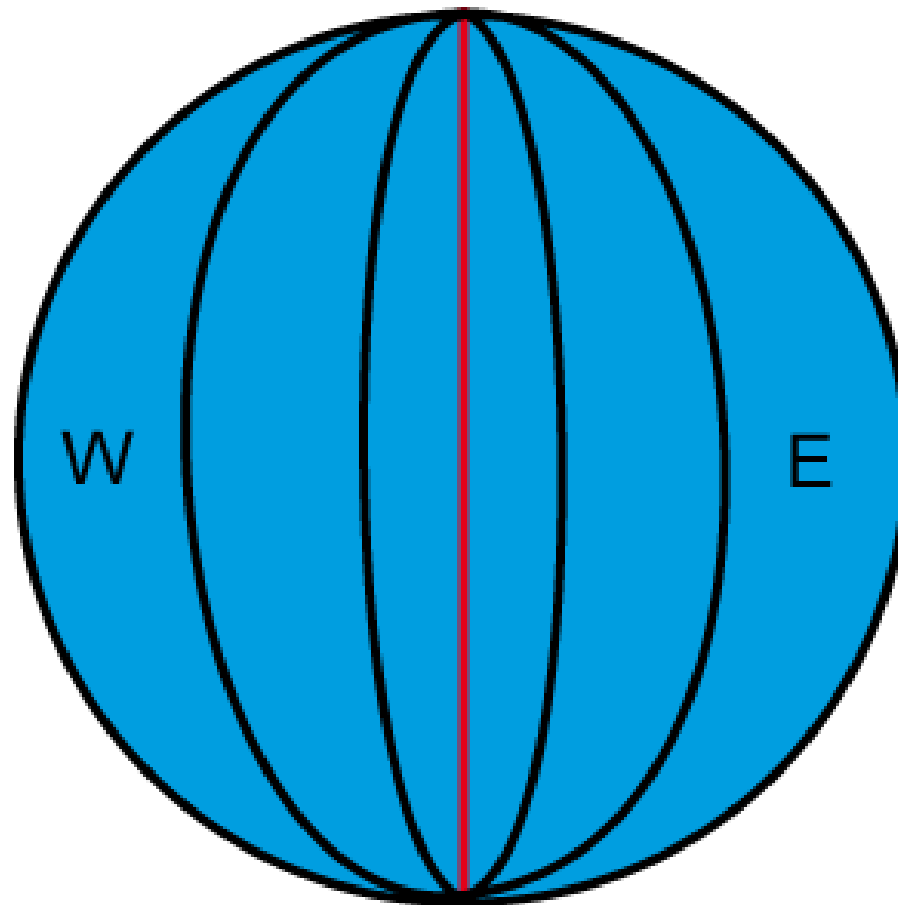
# Latitude = Altitude of Polaris

- From the Equator to the north pole, the altitude of Polaris is EQUAL to the observers latitude. Remember that the units must then be °N



# Longitude

- Run North to South and measure east and west of the Prime Meridian (0 degrees longitude)
- All lines of Longitude meet at the north and south poles
- The maximum longitude is 180 degrees at the International Dateline (no units here either)
- All points east of the Prime Meridian to the Dateline are °E and all point west of the Prime Meridian to the Dateline are °W



# Time Zones

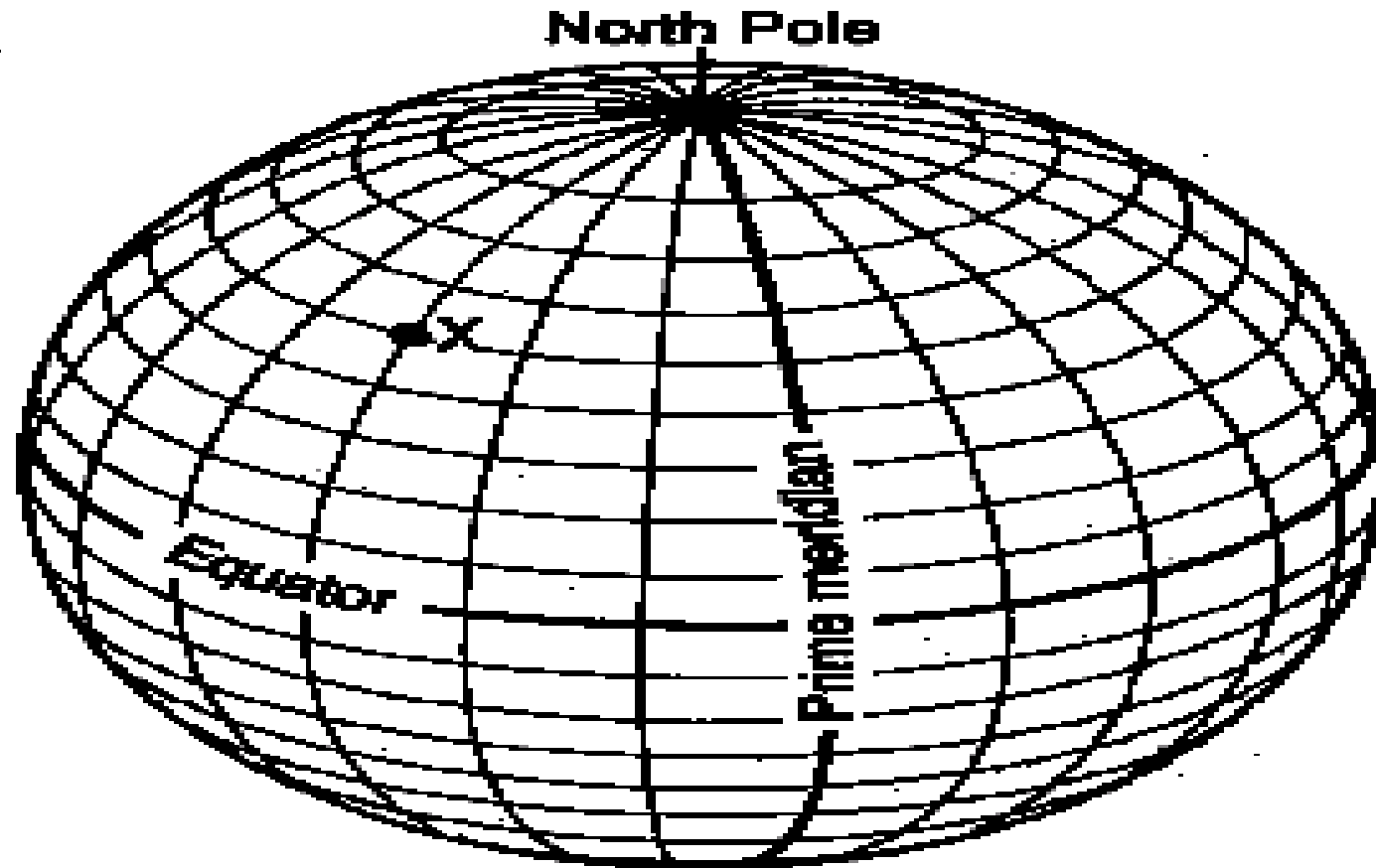
- Lines of Longitude that are 15 degrees apart are called Time Meridians and are based on Earth's speed of rotation which is 15 degrees/hour
- If an observer is 45 degrees of Longitude to the West of us in California, his/her time would be 3 hours behind ours.
- If an observer in England is 90 degrees of Longitude to the East of us, his/her time would be 6 hours earlier than ours
- **E**ast is **E**arlier



# Coorindates

- When giving the latitude and longitude of an object, **LA**TITUDE (North or South) ALWAYS comes first and **LO**NGITUDE (East and West) ALWAYS comes second
- **LA** comes before **LO**

The diagram below shows latitude measurements every 10 degrees and longitude measurements every 15 degrees.



What is the latitude and longitude of point X?

- (A)  $40^{\circ}$  S  $45^{\circ}$  E
- (C)  $60^{\circ}$  S  $30^{\circ}$  W

- (B)  $50^{\circ}$  N  $45^{\circ}$  W
- (D)  $75^{\circ}$  N  $30^{\circ}$  E

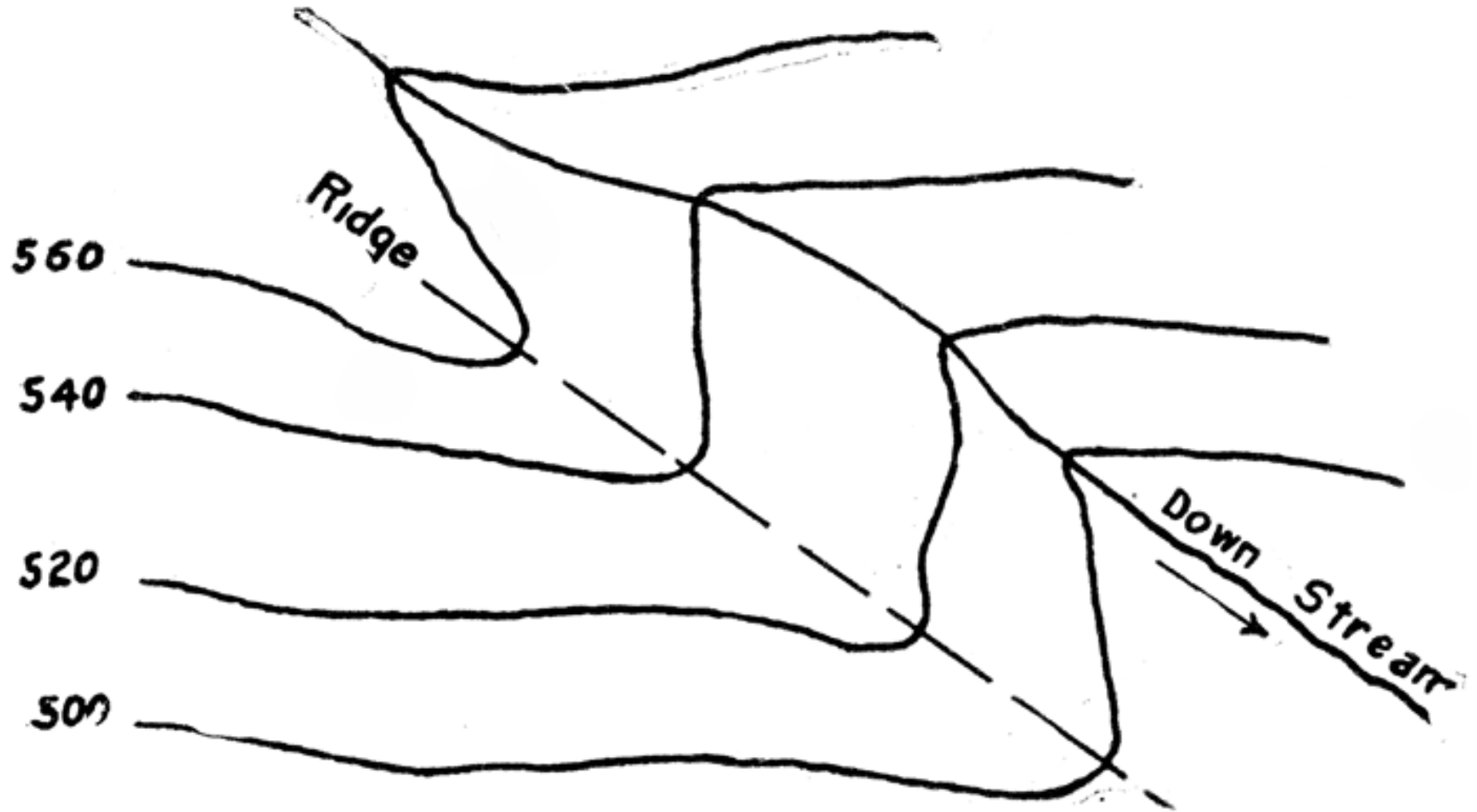
# Topography

- Mostly in the short answer section
- Profiles are common
- Finding the Gradient is also common  
(equation is on the front page of the ESRT:  
 $\text{Difference in Elevation/Distance} \dots$  Read  
contour lines with interval to find difference  
in elevation and use the map scale to find  
distance)
- The closer the contour lines, the steeper the  
slope

# Streams and Contour Lines

- Streams always flow DOWNHILL and make a “V” in the contour lines
- The point of the “V” points to where the water is coming FROM (the source)
- Imagine the water pouring out of or flowing out of the V

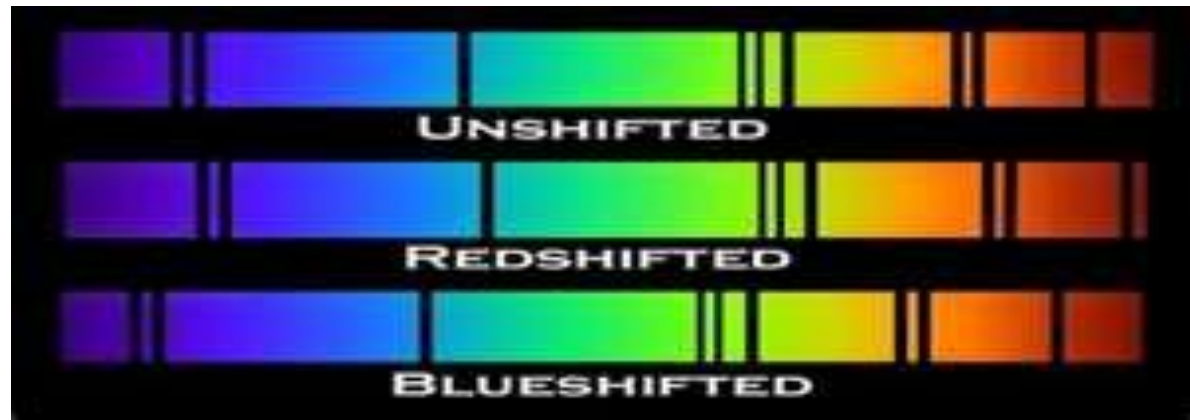
**This river is FLOWING southeast**

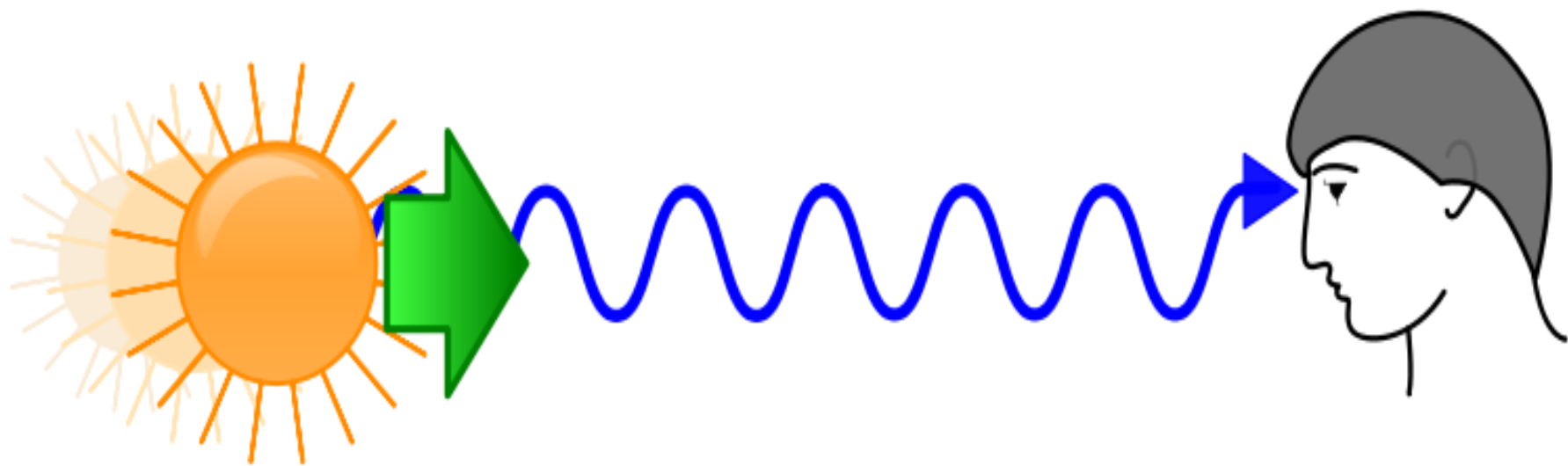
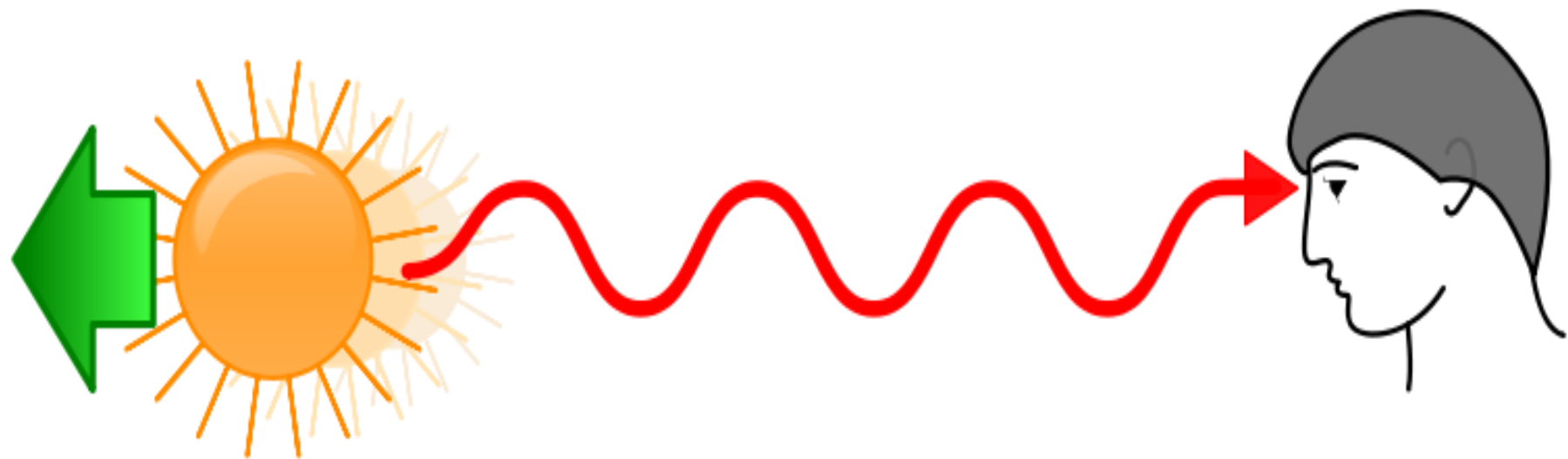


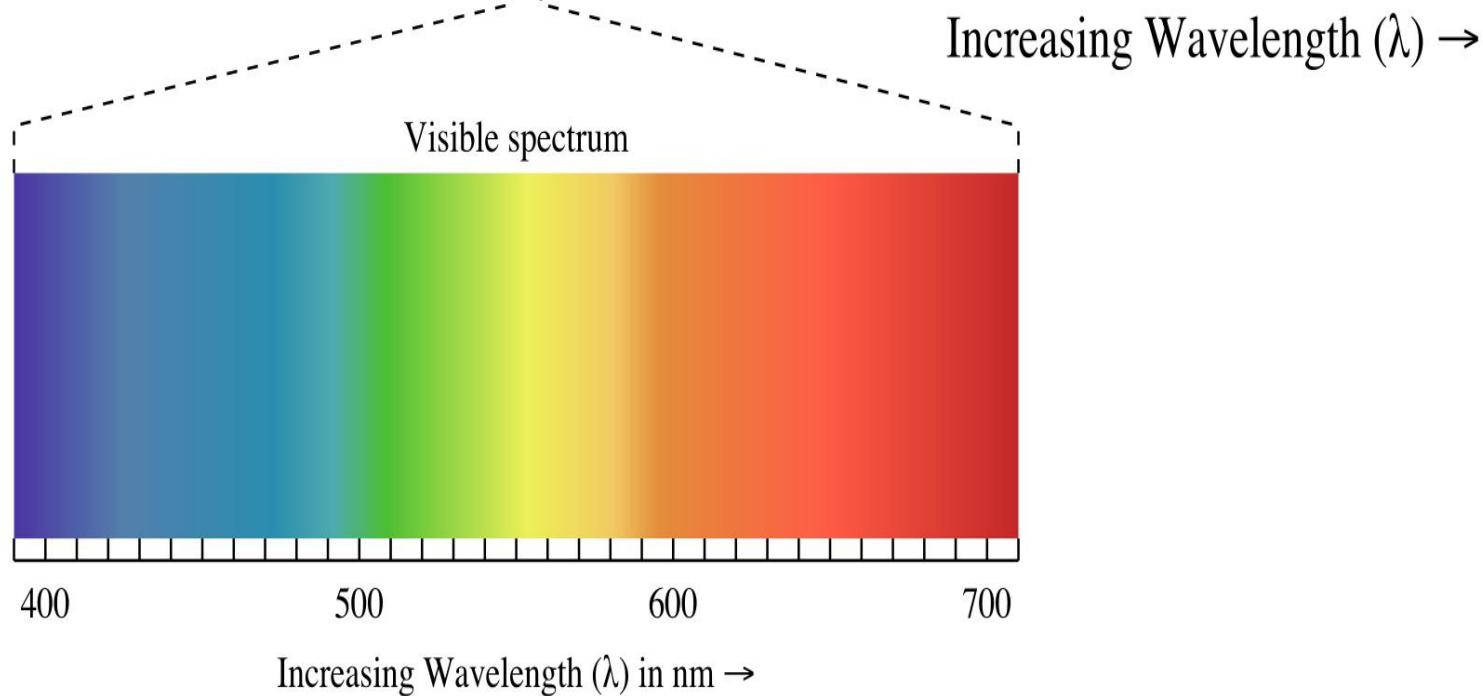
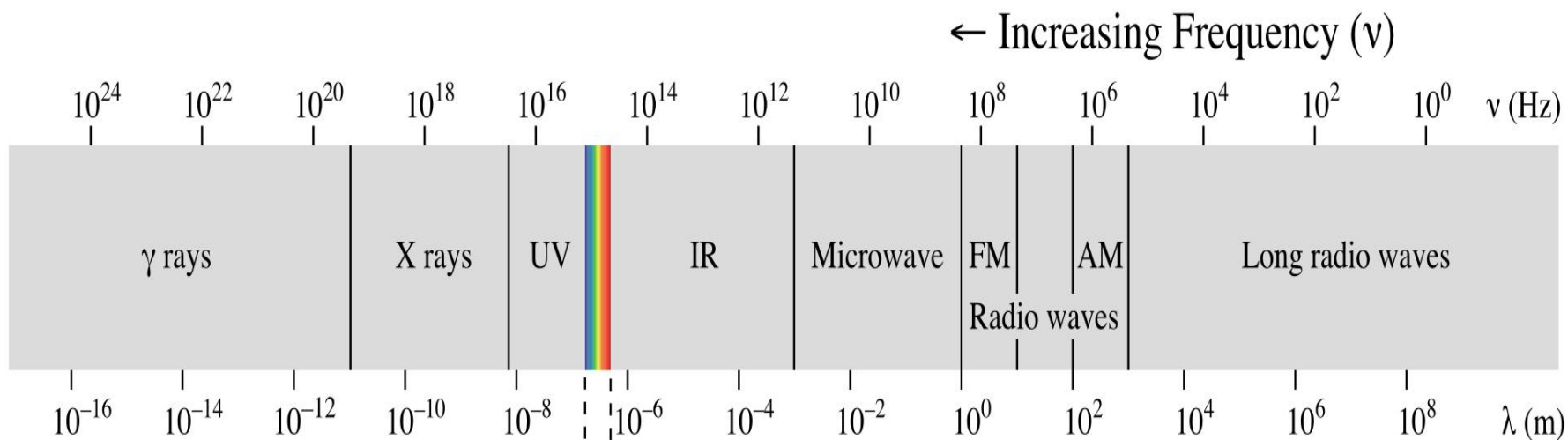
# Astronomy

IF THIS STICKER IS BLUE,  
YOU'RE DRIVING TOO FAST

- In order from LARGEST to SMALLEST and OLDEST to YOUNGEST: Don't forget your UGSS!- Universe Galaxy Solar System
- The universe is still expanding as proven by the RED SHIFT. Lines on a spectrum are shifting to the RED END







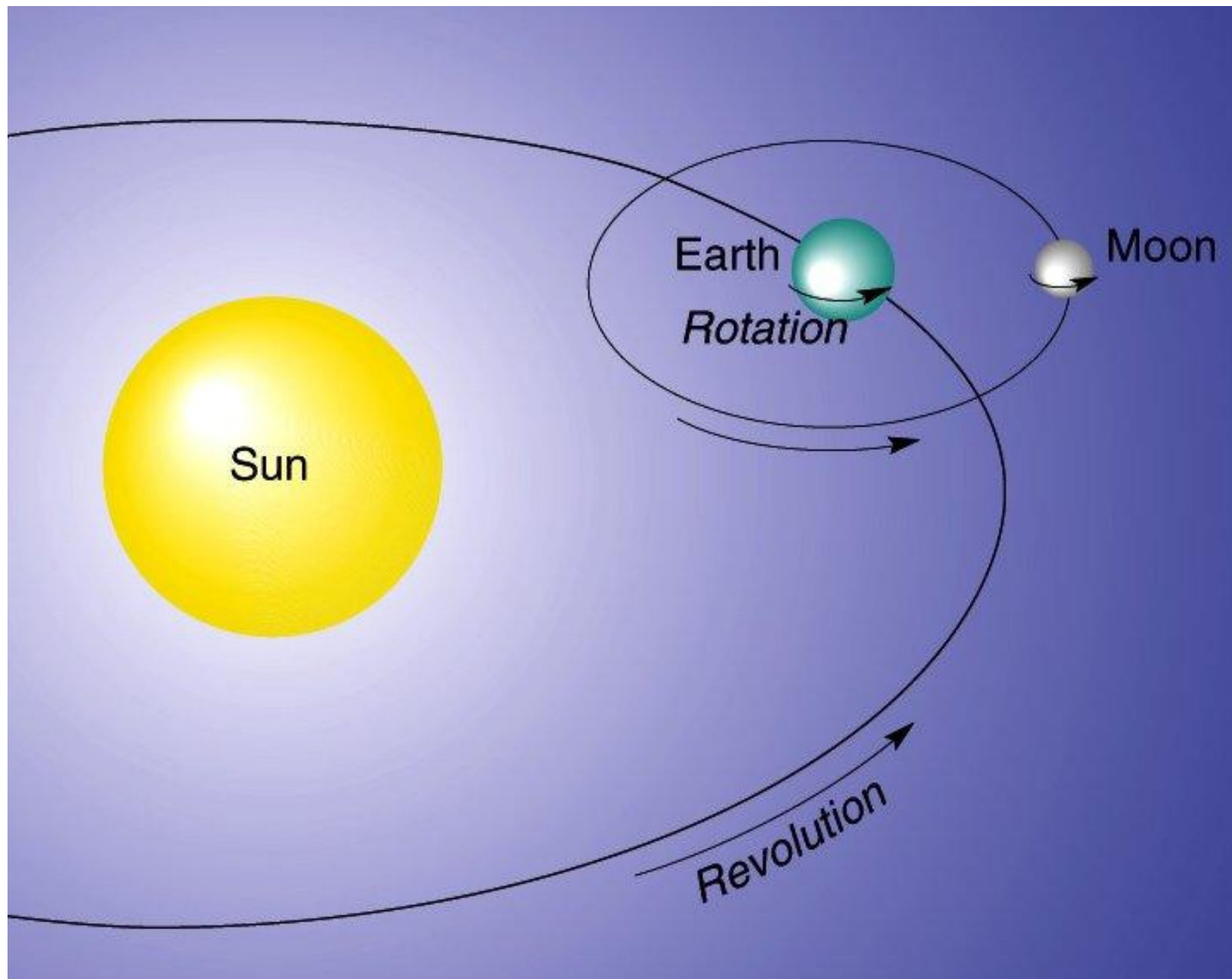


# Our Solar System

- Stars like our Sun are formed by the contraction of gases and run on nuclear fusion (the joining together of lighter elements like hydrogen to create heavier elements such as helium as well as large amount of energy)

# The Sun and the Earth

- We are closest to the Sun in January and farthest from the Sun in July. Therefore, distance from the sun has no effect on the seasons
- We rotate around our axis (once per 24 hours or 15 degrees per hour) while we revolve around the sun (once per 365.25 days or 1 degree per day)
- Earth's rotation at 15 degrees per hour causes celestial objects (stars, planets, moon, etc) to appear to rise and set. This rate also causes celestial objects to appear to move at a rate of 15 degrees per hour.
- If a star appears to move 45 degrees in the sky, then 3 hours have passed ( $45/15=3$ )



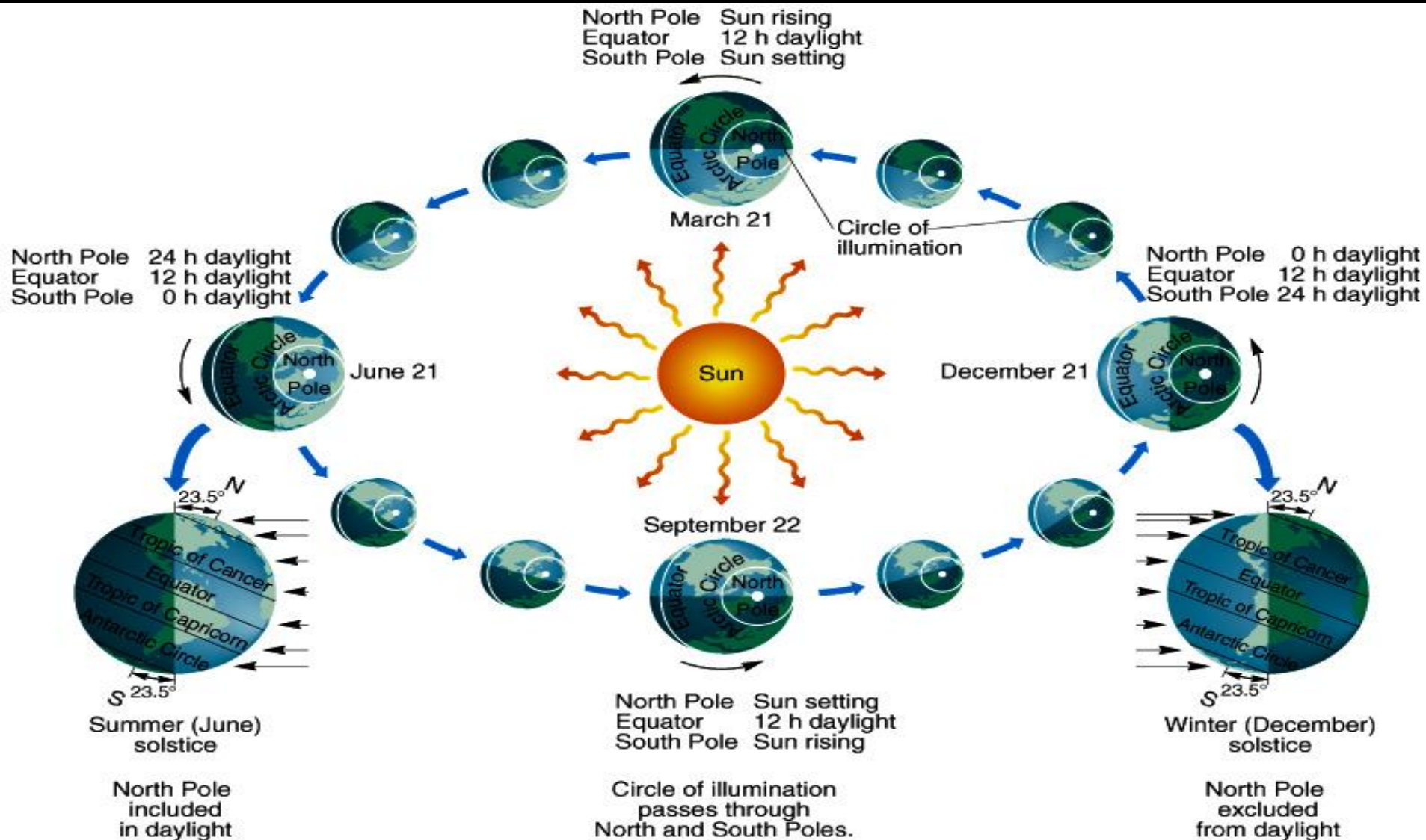
# Gravitational Pull

- The closer an object is to another object, the stronger the gravitational pull, the faster the object will move
- The larger the objects are, the stronger the gravitational pull, the faster the object will move.

# Seasons

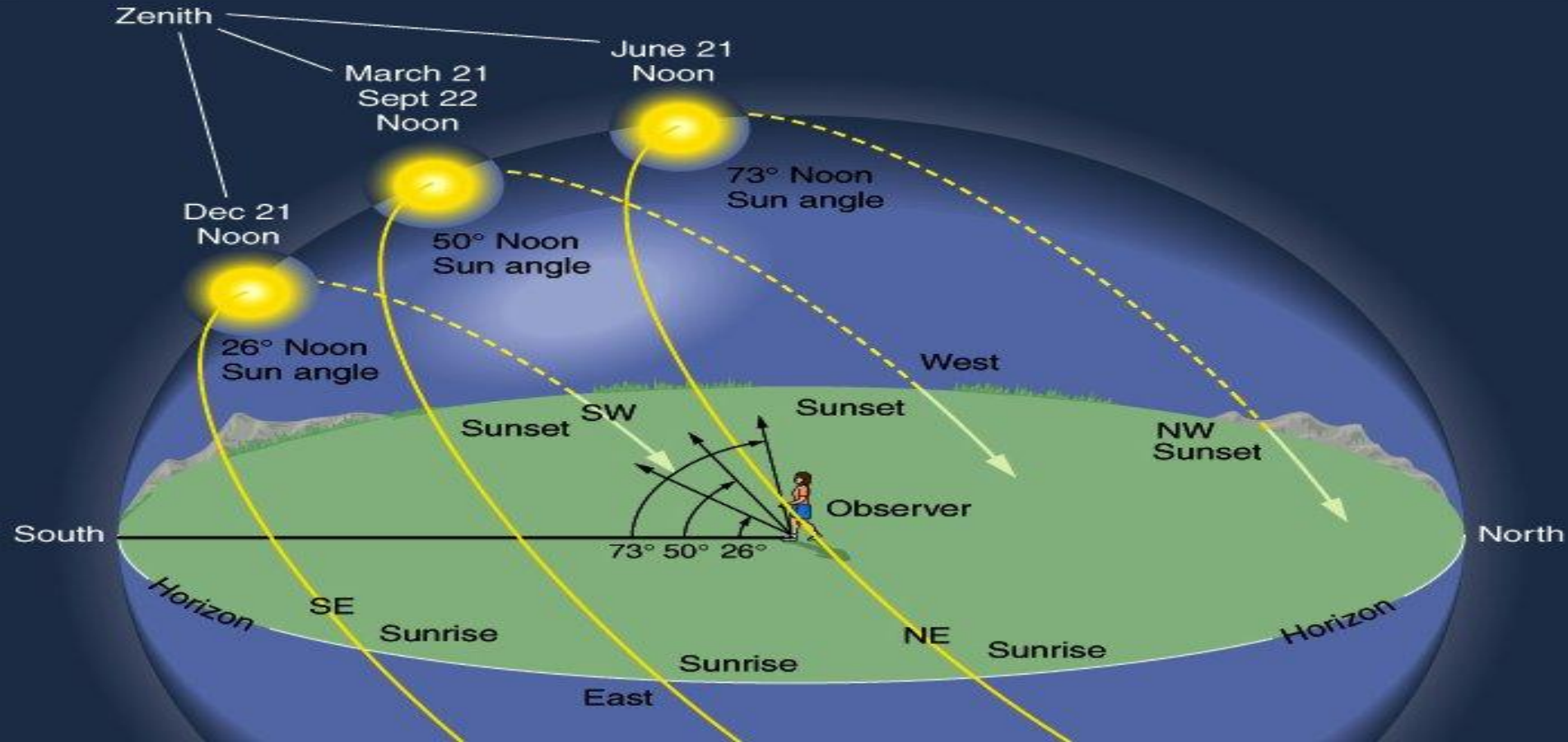
- Seasons are caused by Earth's revolution around the sun and the tilt of the Earth
- The tilt of Earth's axis is 23.5 degrees, therefore, the sun can only be directly overhead between 23.5 degrees N (Tropic of Cancer) and 23.5 degrees S (Tropic of Capricorn)
- These locations with their latitudes are given on page 4 of the ESRT

# Seasons



# Path of the Sun Throughout the Year

- The higher the angle of insolation, the longer the path, the more daylight, the warmer it is



# Moon Phases

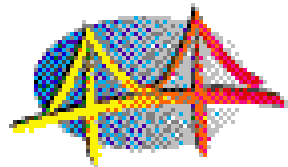
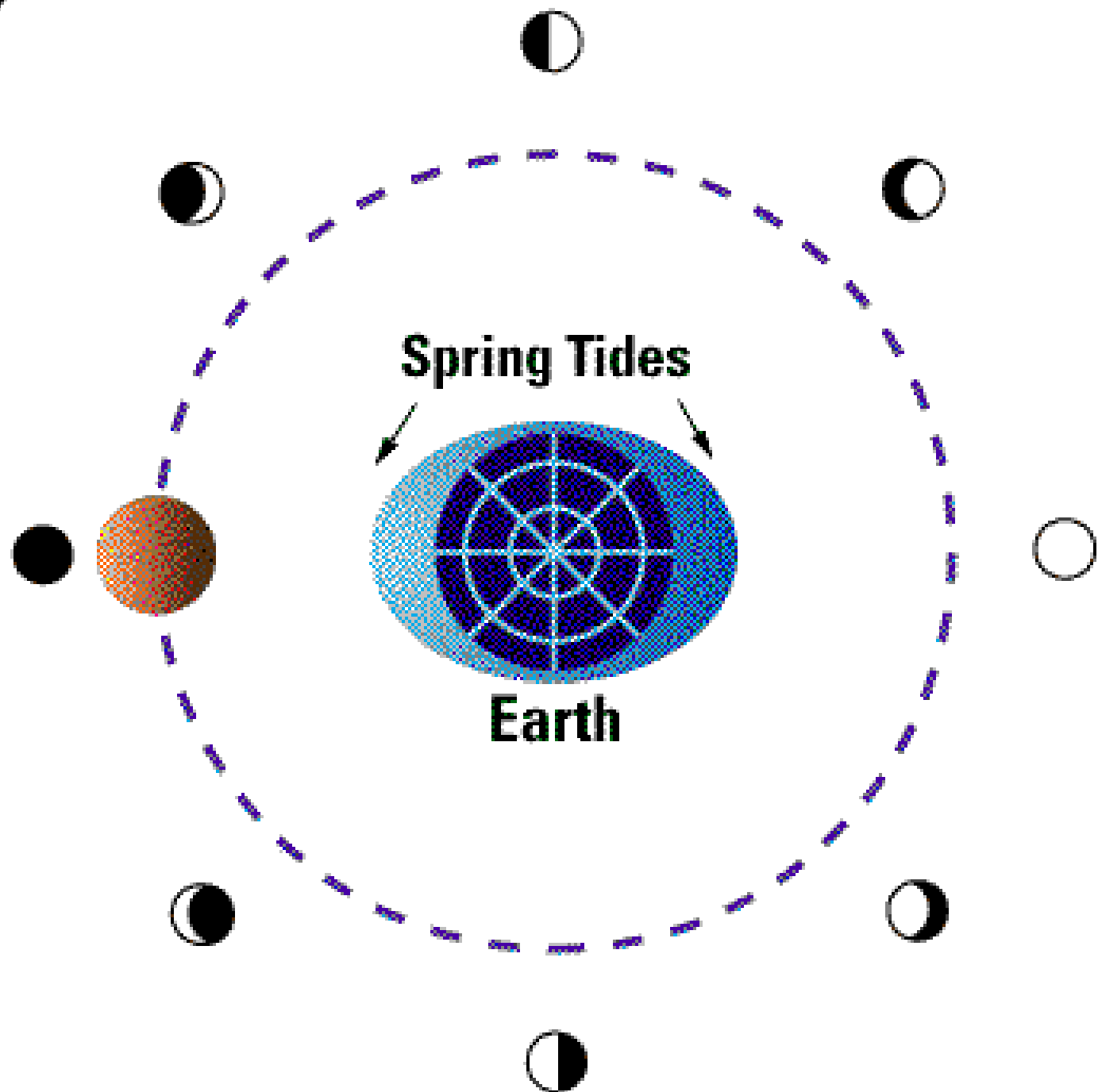
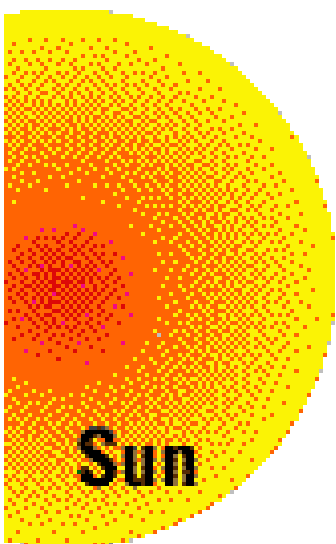
- Moon Phases are caused by the revolution of the Moon around the Earth
- It takes 29.5 days for the moon to go through all the phases once (full moon back to full moon)
- It takes 2 days LONGER for the moon to complete the phases than it takes for the moon to revolve once around Earth
- Spring tides (Highest high, lowest low) occur when the sun, the moon and the Earth are all in line



# TIDES

SPRING

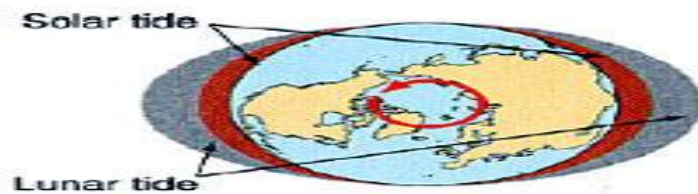
NEAP



**The Gate™**

Animation / James Irwin

**Spring Tide**



**New Moon**



**a**

**Neap Tide**



**First Quarter  
Moon**



**b**

**Spring Tide**

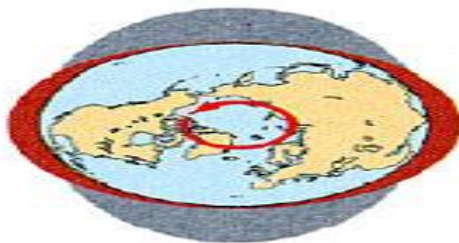


**Full Moon**



**c**

**Neap Tide**



**Third or Last  
Quarter Moon**

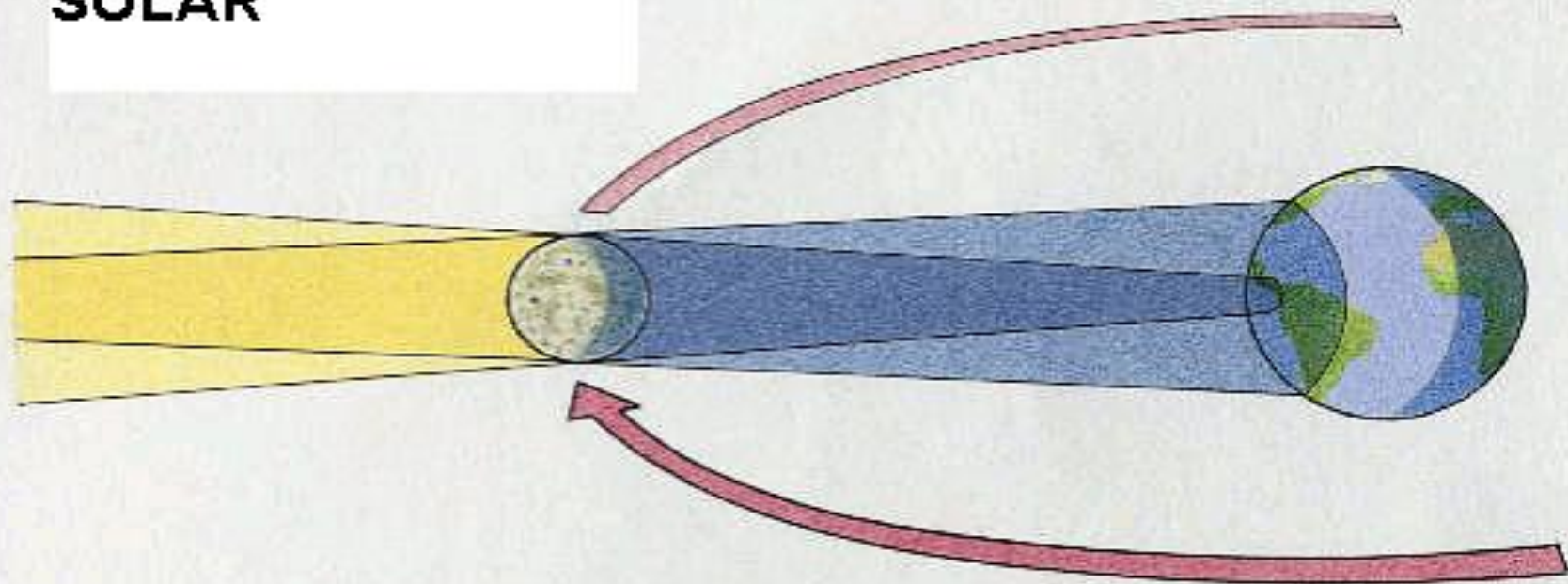


**d**

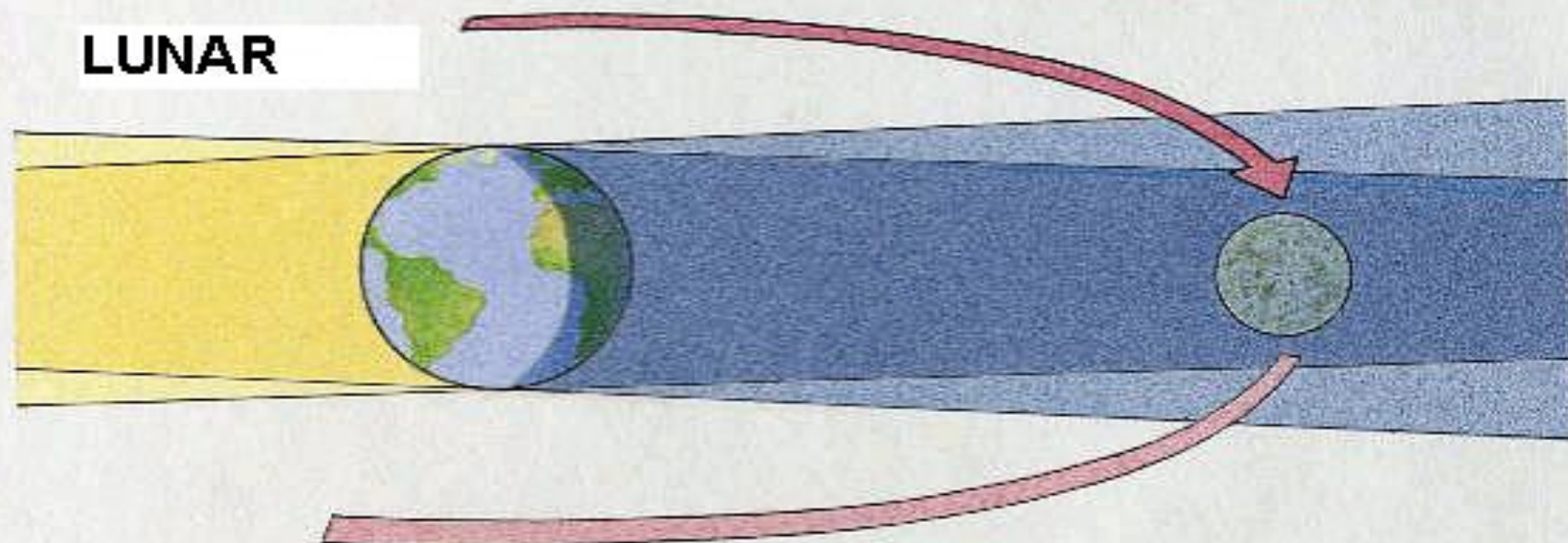
# Eclipses

- Eclipses do not occur every New and Full Moon because the moon's orbit is tilted
- The name of the Eclipse is the same as the name of the object being blocked.
- If the sun is being blocked out by the moon, then it's a solar eclipse or an eclipse of the sun
- If the Earth is blocking out the moon, it is a lunar eclipse or an eclipse of the moon
- Eclipses occur very quickly, within a couple hours from beginning to end. Phase changes take about 1 week to go from one to the next, such as new moon to 1<sup>st</sup> quarter

**SOLAR**



**LUNAR**



# Meteorology

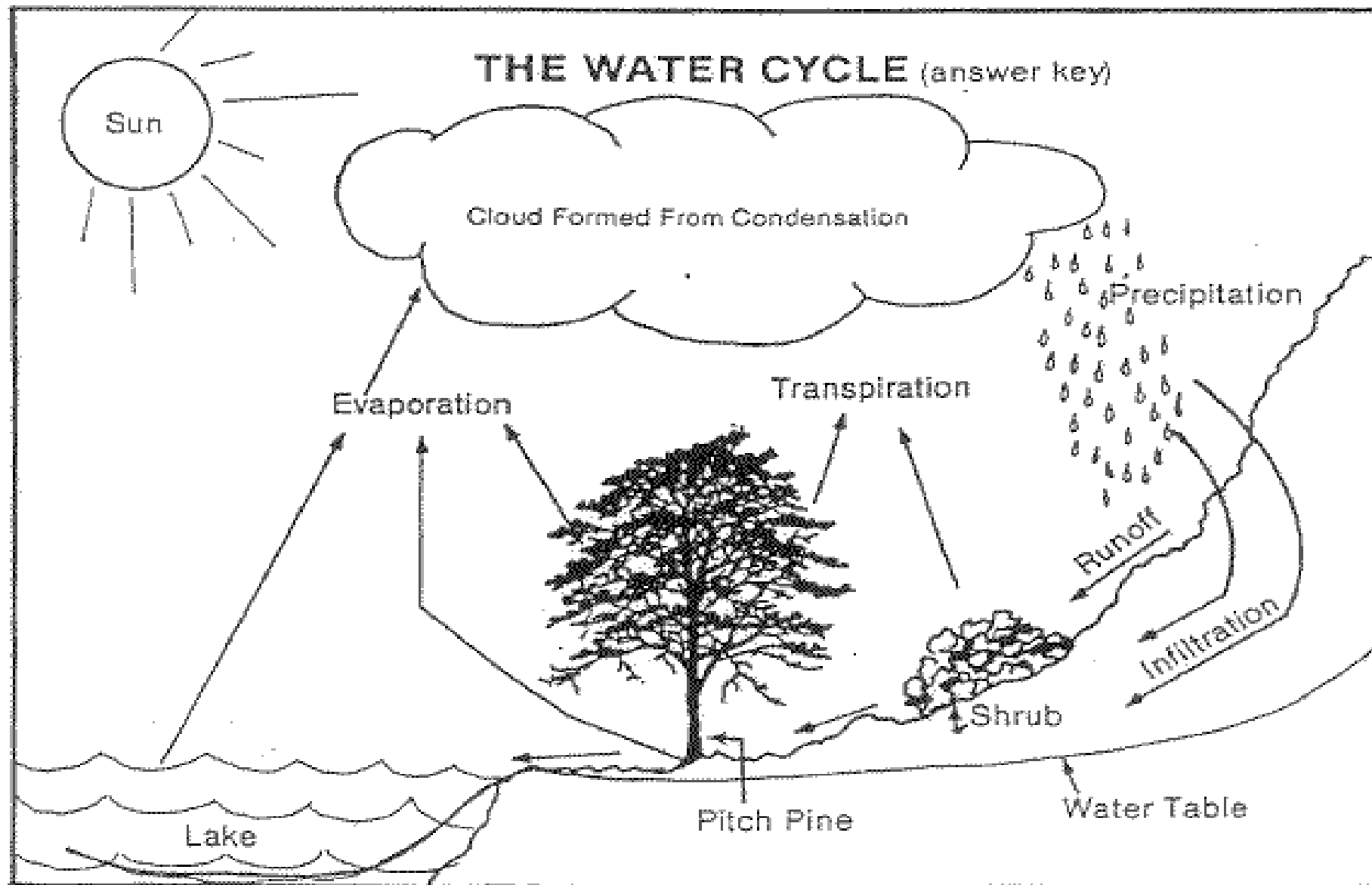
- The early atmosphere is thought to have come from volcanic eruptions
- The layers of the atmosphere are in the ESRT
- As altitude increases, moisture and pressure decrease.
- Temperature varies with altitude depending on the layer
- The troposphere is mostly nitrogen and some oxygen- ESRT page 1

# Water Cycle:

- A. Evaporation: changing from liquid to gas- adds moisture to atmosphere
- B. Transpiration: Release of water vapor from plants- adds moisture to the atmosphere
- C. Condensation: Changing from a gas to a liquid- takes moisture out of the atmosphere
- D. Precipitation: Falling of rain, snow or ice from the clouds- Takes water out of the atmosphere

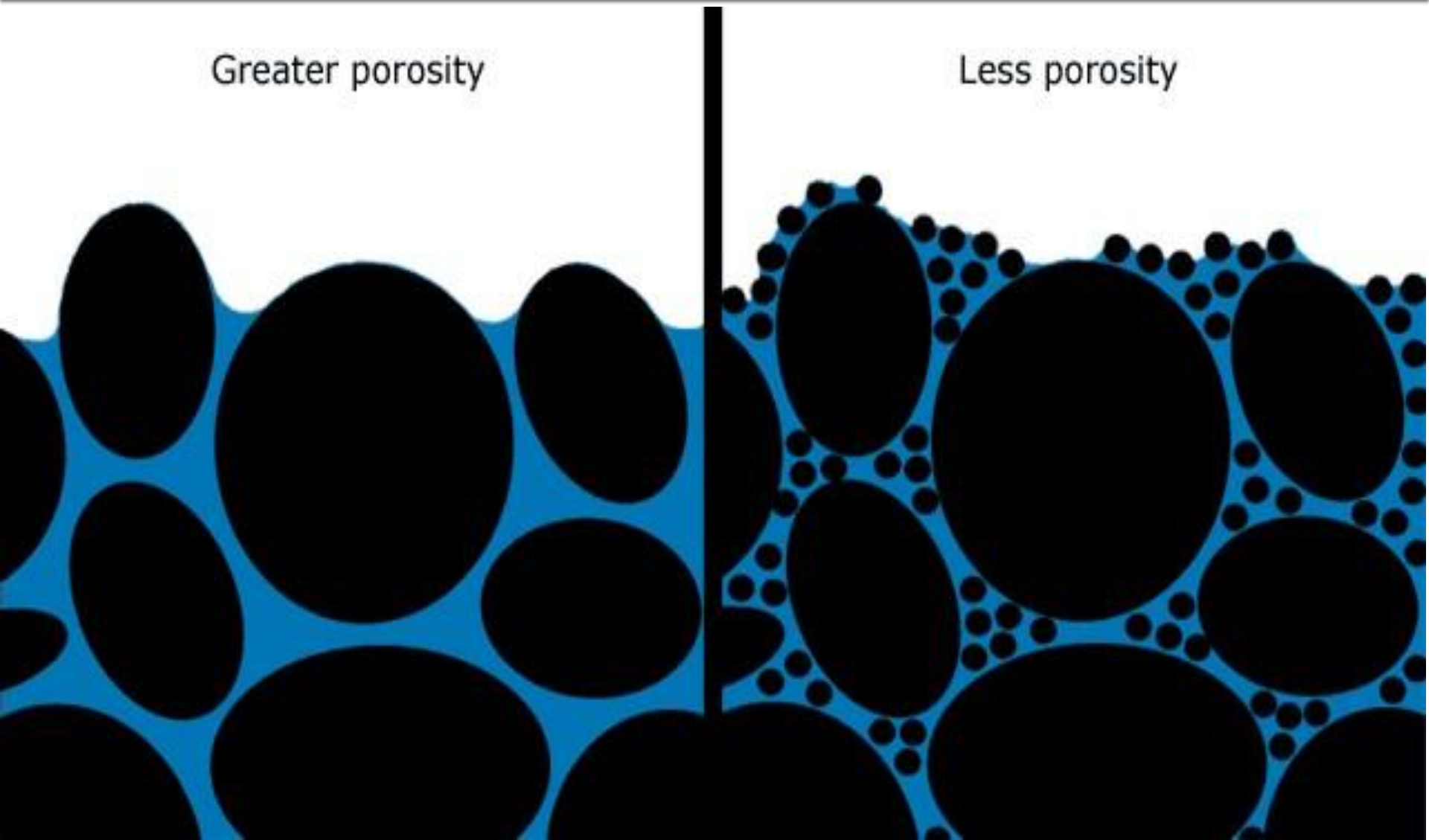
- E. Runoff- Movement of water over the ground
- F. Infiltration- Movement of water through the ground
- G. Capillary Action- Upward movement of water through the ground or through plants
- H. Permeable- Ability to travel through a material- well-connected pores
- I. Porosity- The amount of air space in a material- a material may be porous but impermeable because the pores aren't well-connected

# THE WATER CYCLE (answer key)

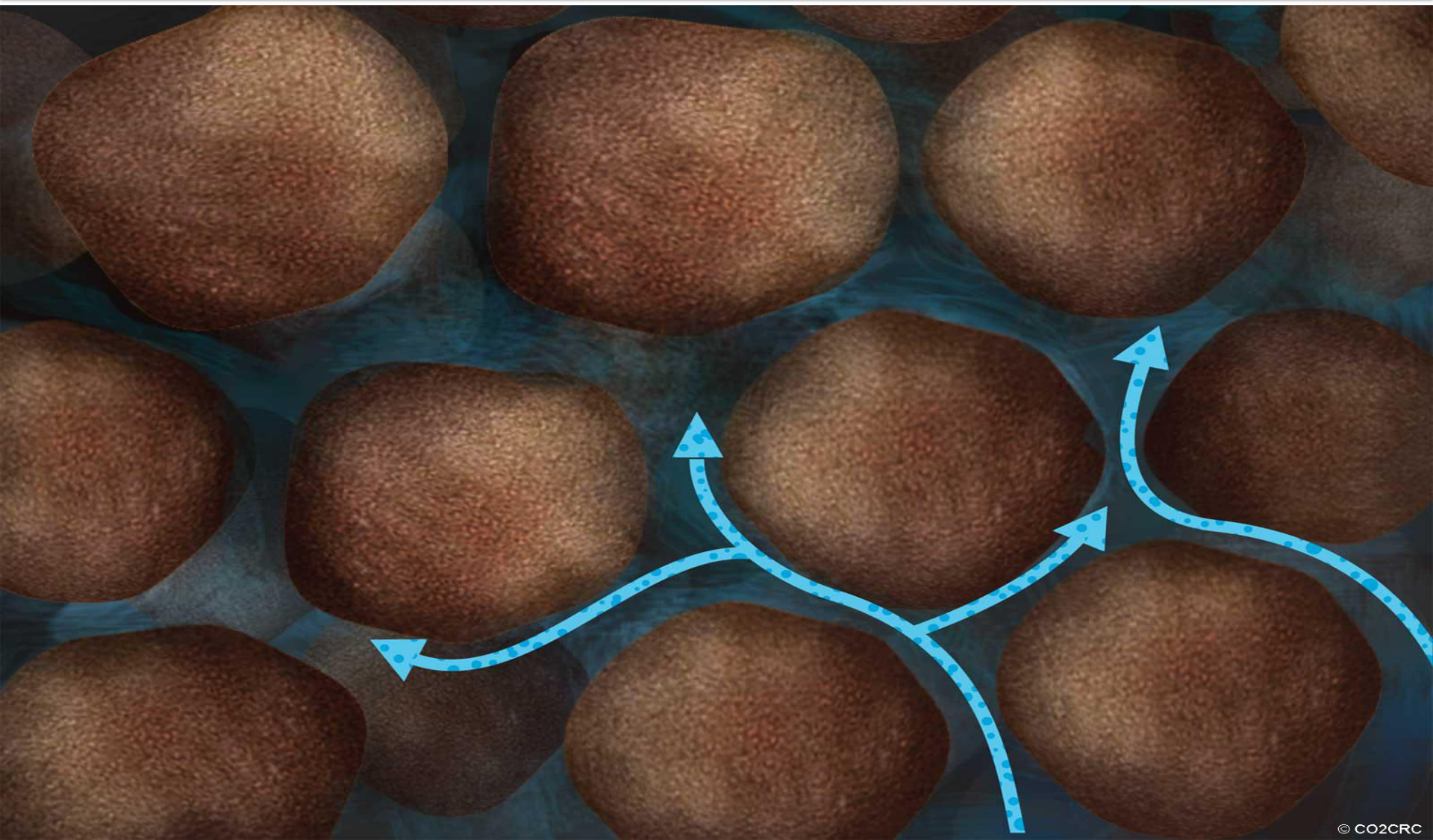




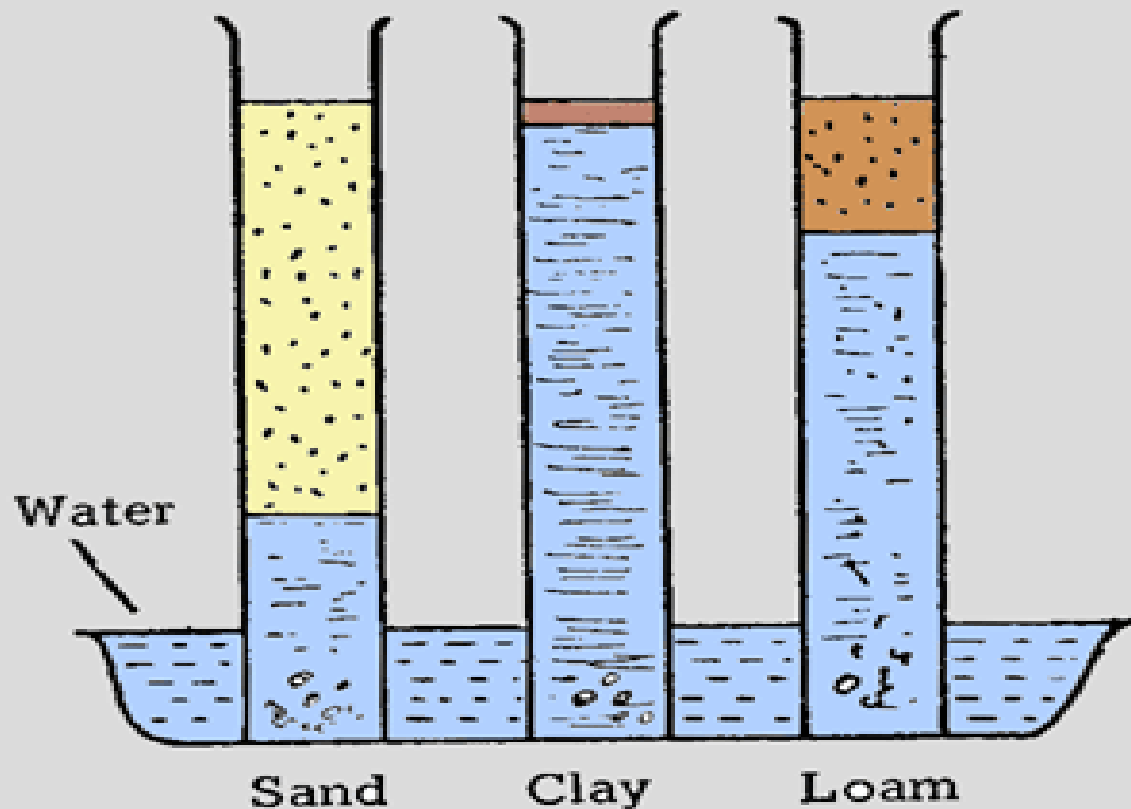
# Rounder, larger and well-sorted sediments have the most porosity



# Permeability



Capillarity works best with smaller particles- Use ESRT page 6 for dimensions/sizes of particles



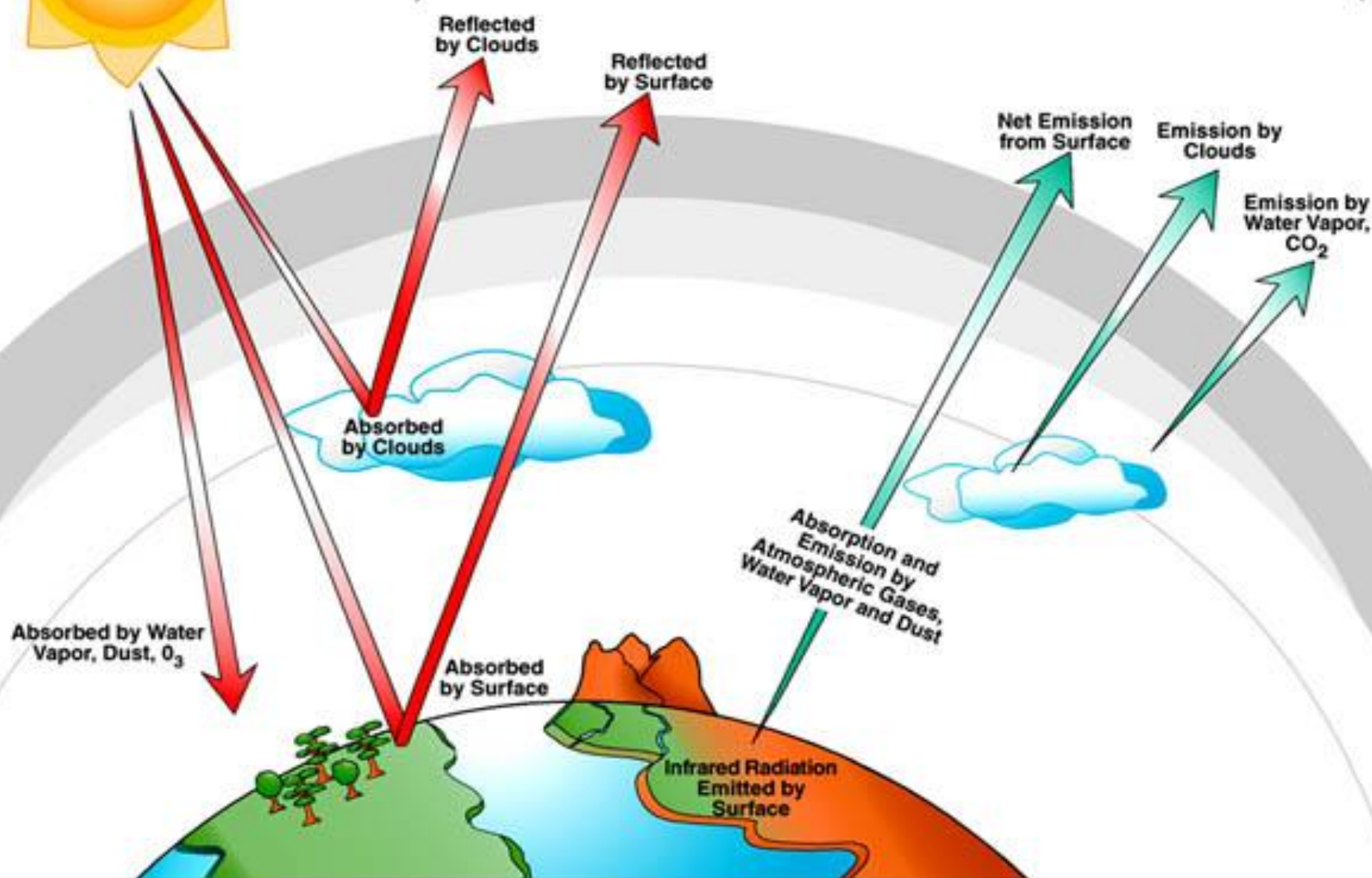
# What happens to Energy Once It Enters the Atmosphere?

- Absorbed and reflected by clouds- this makes the temperature cooler
- Ultraviolet can be absorbed by ozone in the stratosphere protecting us from skin cancer- ozone is toxic for us at ground-level
- Absorbed by the ground as ultraviolet and re-radiated as infrared (heat)
- Reflected off water/light colored/ shiny/smooth surfaces
- Absorbed by dark colored/bumpy surfaces
- Refraction- bent due to density differences

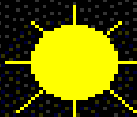


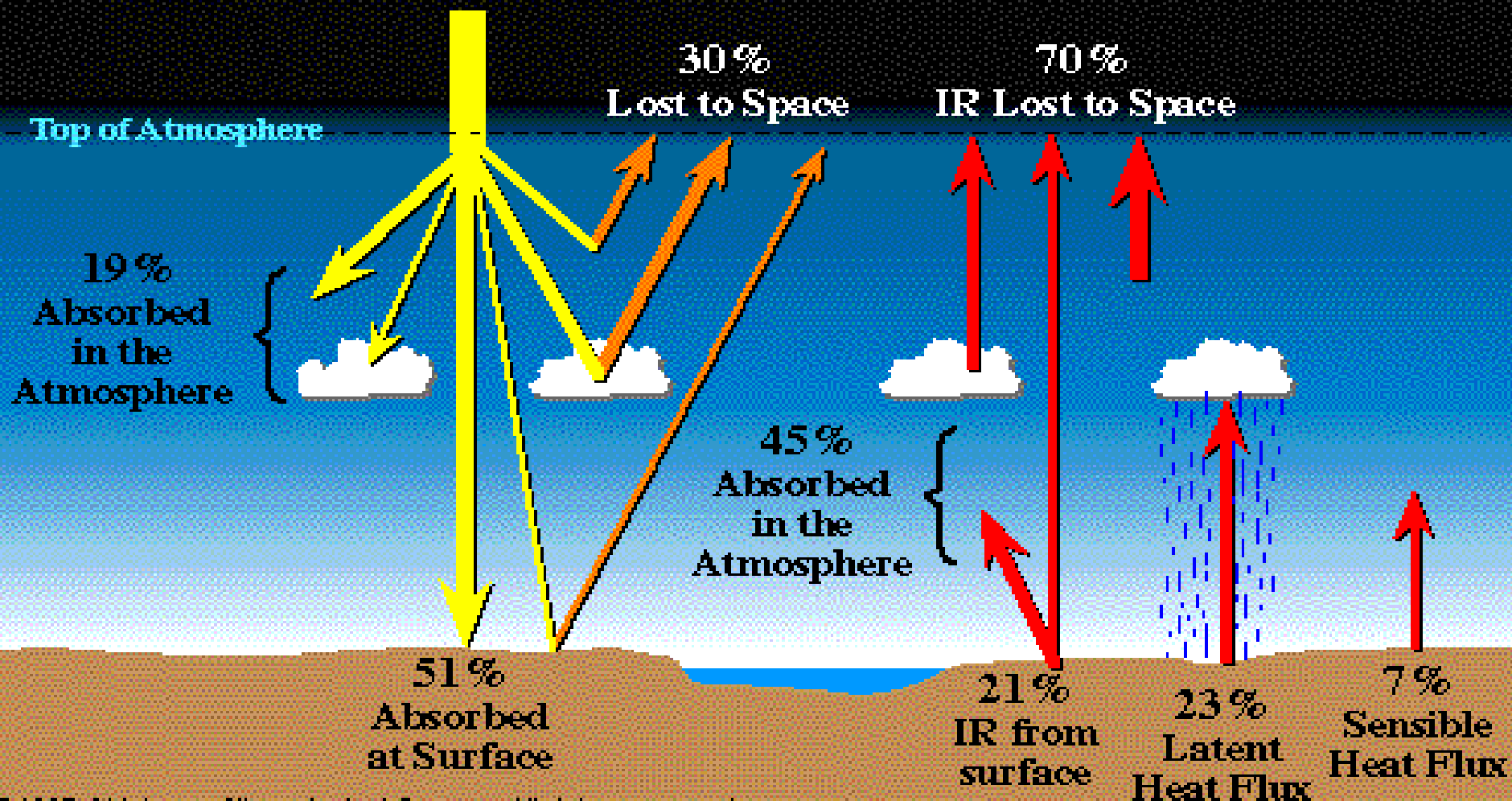
**Incoming Solar Radiation**

**Outgoing Radiation**



# The Annual Mean Global Energy Balance

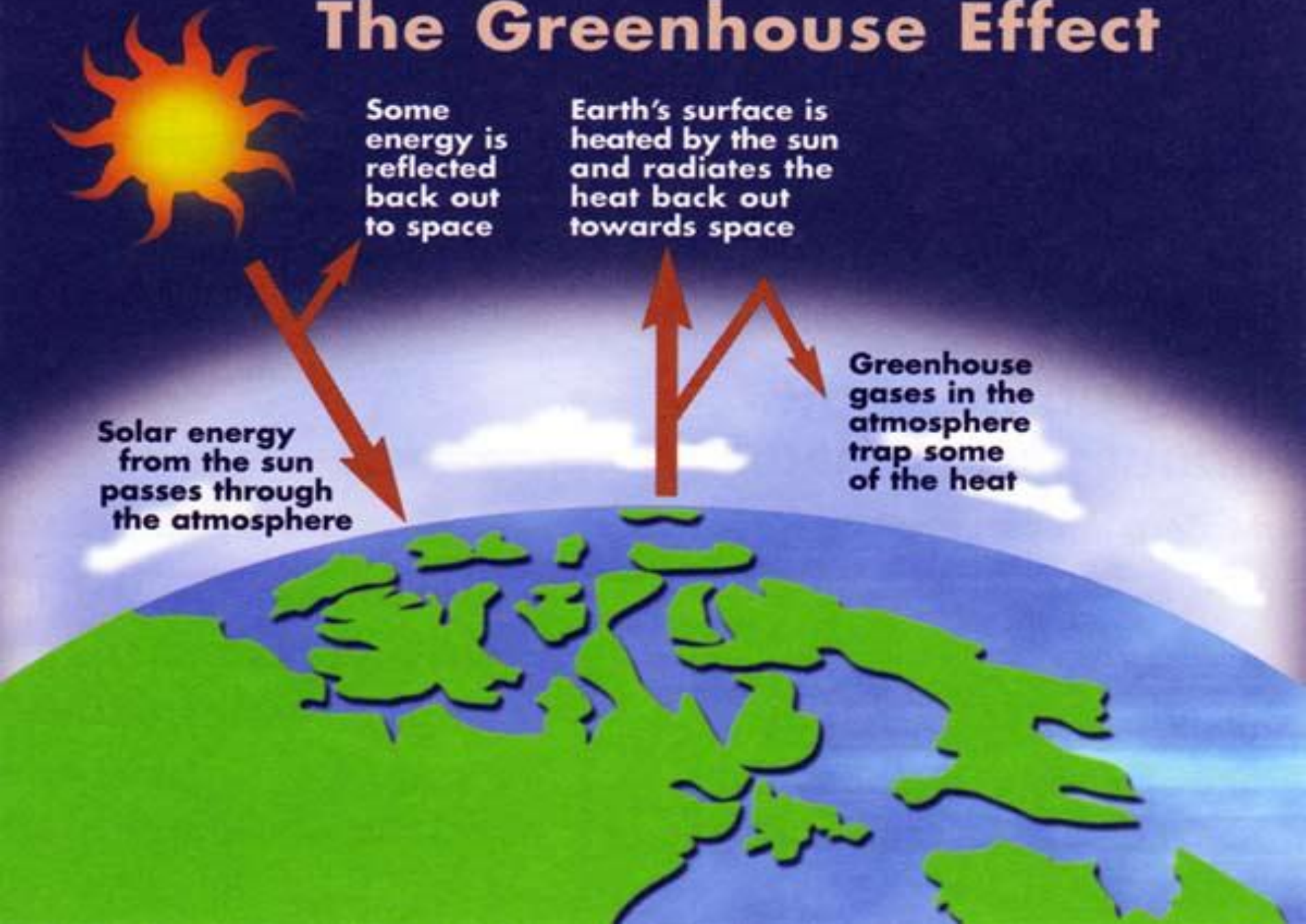
  
**Incoming Solar Radiation**  
**100 %**



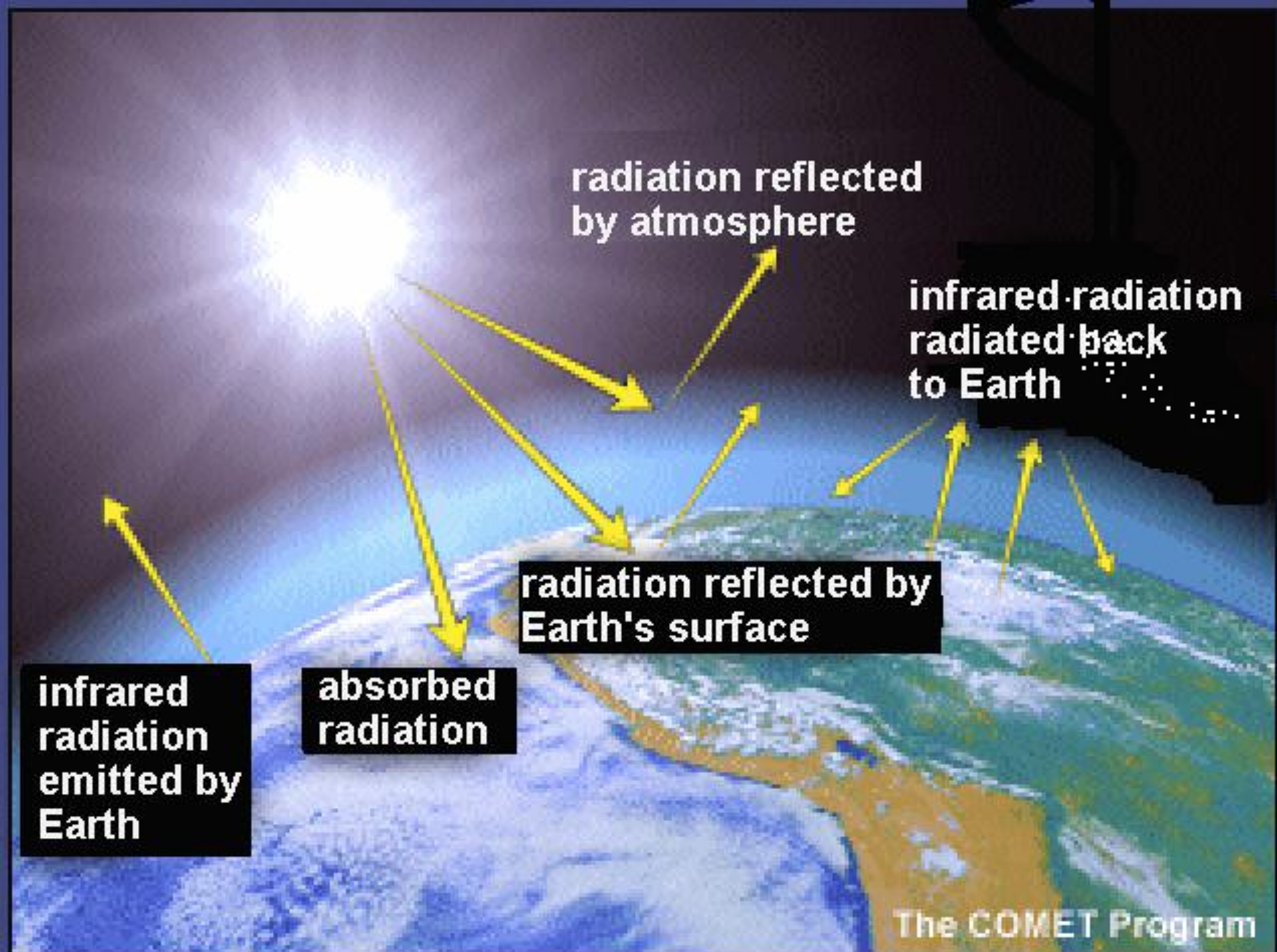
# Greenhouse Effect

- Methane, water vapor and carbon dioxide are greenhouse gases
- These gases act like a trap to some outgoing infrared radiation from Earth's surface
- As greenhouse gases increase, the temperature also increases
- A decrease in greenhouse gases or an increase in things to block out the sun (clouds, ash) causes the temperature to decrease

# The Greenhouse Effect







# Specific Heat- ESRT page 1

- The higher the specific heat, the more energy it takes to heat up one gram of the substance 1 degree Celsius.
- The bigger the number, the longer it takes to heat up and cool down

# Pressure Systems

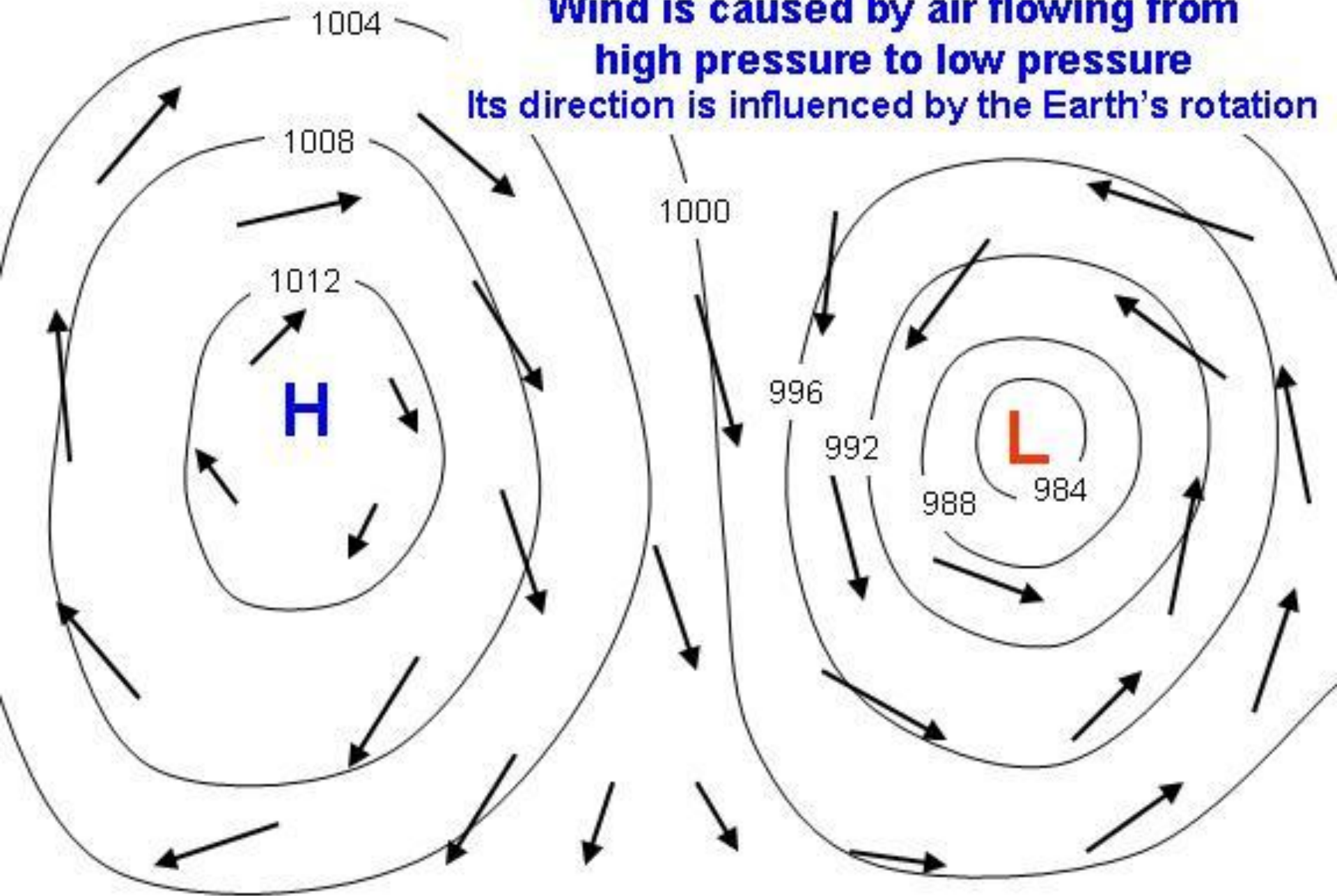
## HIGH

- Spins clockwise, away from the center
- Brings cooler and drier weather because the air sinks
- Pressure flows from High to Low

## LOW

- Spins counterclockwise and towards the center causing a clash in air masses
- Brings LOUSY weather-warmer but wetter
- Air rises because it is less dense- remember that humid air is lighter than dry air

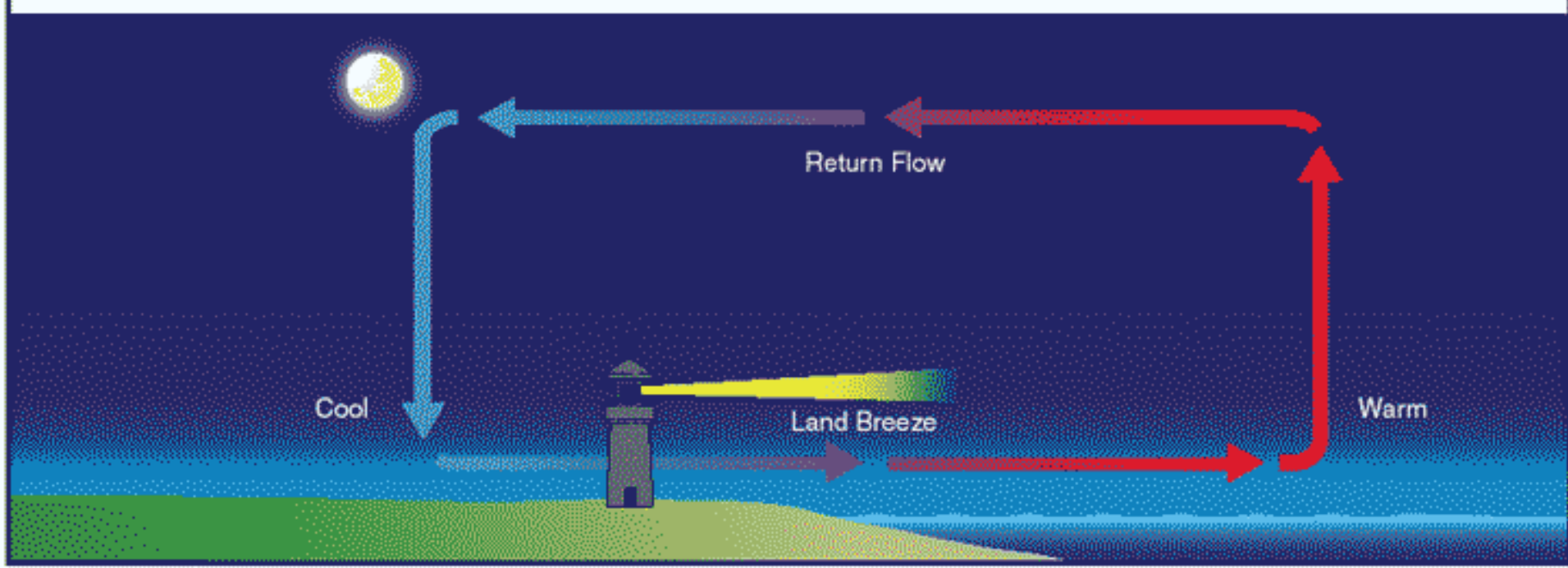
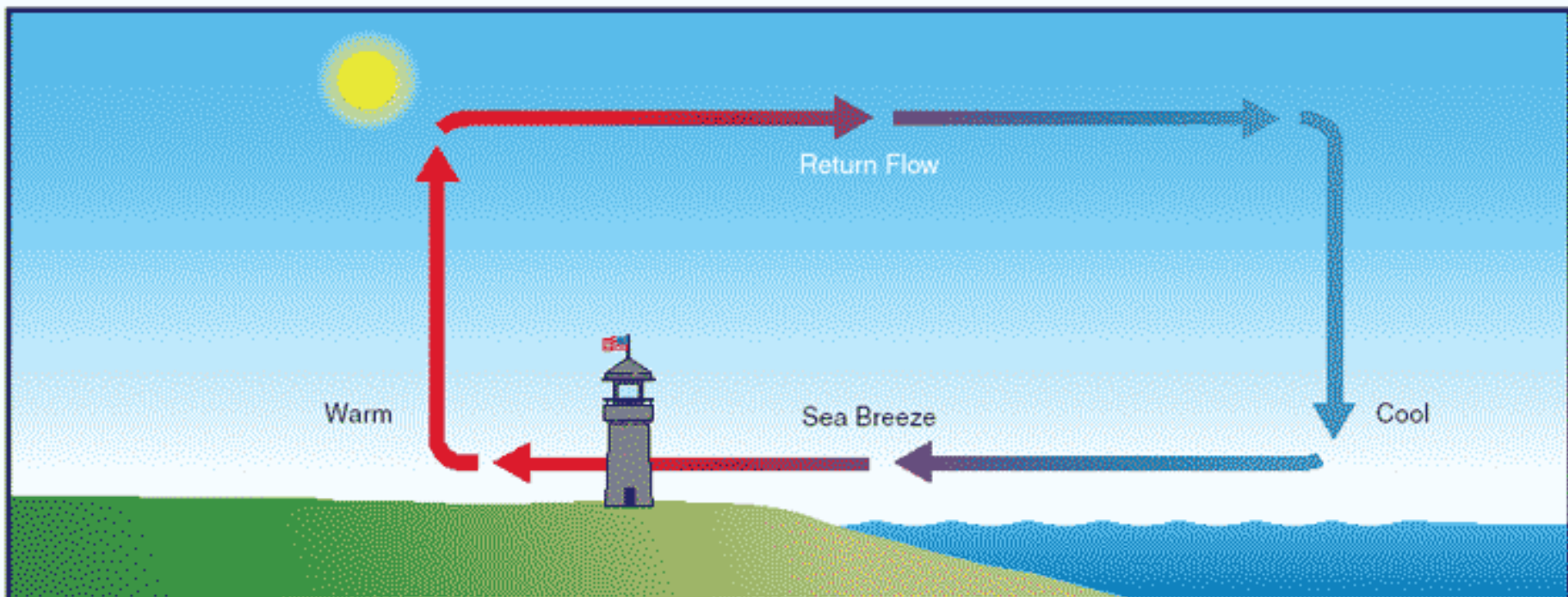
**Wind is caused by air flowing from  
high pressure to low pressure**  
Its direction is influenced by the Earth's rotation



# Land and Sea Breezes

- Sea Breeze (breeze from the sea): Occurs during the day when the water is colder and has a higher pressure than the warmer, lower pressure land (remember pressure goes from high to low)
- Land Breeze (breeze from the land): Occurs at night when the land is colder and has a higher pressure than the warmer, lower pressure water





# Coriolis Effect

- The bending or curving of the winds is the Coriolis Effect
- Without it, winds would blow straight from high pressure to low pressure
- Coriolis Effect proves that Earth rotates, as does the rising and setting of celestial objects

**Note that when a drain is opened, the pressure is decreased in the center (low pressure)**





# Air Masses- Characteristics are determined by the region over which they form

- MARITIME=SEA=MOIST (m)
- CONTINENTAL=LAND=DRY (c)
- TROPICAL=NEAR EQUATOR=WARM (T)
- POLAR=FROM CANADA=COLD (P)
- Continental Arctic: Very cold, Very dry air mass
- Fronts separate air masses

# WARM AND COLD FRONTS

## COLD

- Cold air replacing warm air
- Symbols point in the direction of movement
- Creates clouds by forcing warm air up
- Tends to have relatively quick, heavy precipitation followed by cooler, drier air.
- As a cold front passes, the pressure increases

## WARM

- Warm air replacing cold air
- Symbols point in the direction of movement
- Creates clouds by going up and over the cold air that is in place
- Tend to have relatively long, light precipitation followed by warmer, more humid air
- As a warm front passes, the air pressure decreases (warmer, wetter air has less pressure)

# Temperature, Pressure and Humidity

- The higher the temperature, the lower the pressure, the more moisture the air can hold
- The lower the temperature, the higher the pressure, the less moisture the air can hold
- The closer the temperature is to the dew point, the higher the humidity
- When temperature and dew point are equal, the relative humidity is 100%
- When temperature and dew point are not equal, use the ESRT!

# Station Models

- Abbreviated form of weather data
- Wind flag points in the direction that the wind is coming FROM
- Whole wind feather = 10 knots.
- Half a feather = 5 knots
- Remember to convert to or out of millibars
- To put pressure ON a station model: Use last 3 numbers
- To take OFF a station model: Look at the first number: 6 or greater add a 9, 5 or less add a 10- put a decimal between last two numbers and add units (mb)

# Weather Instruments

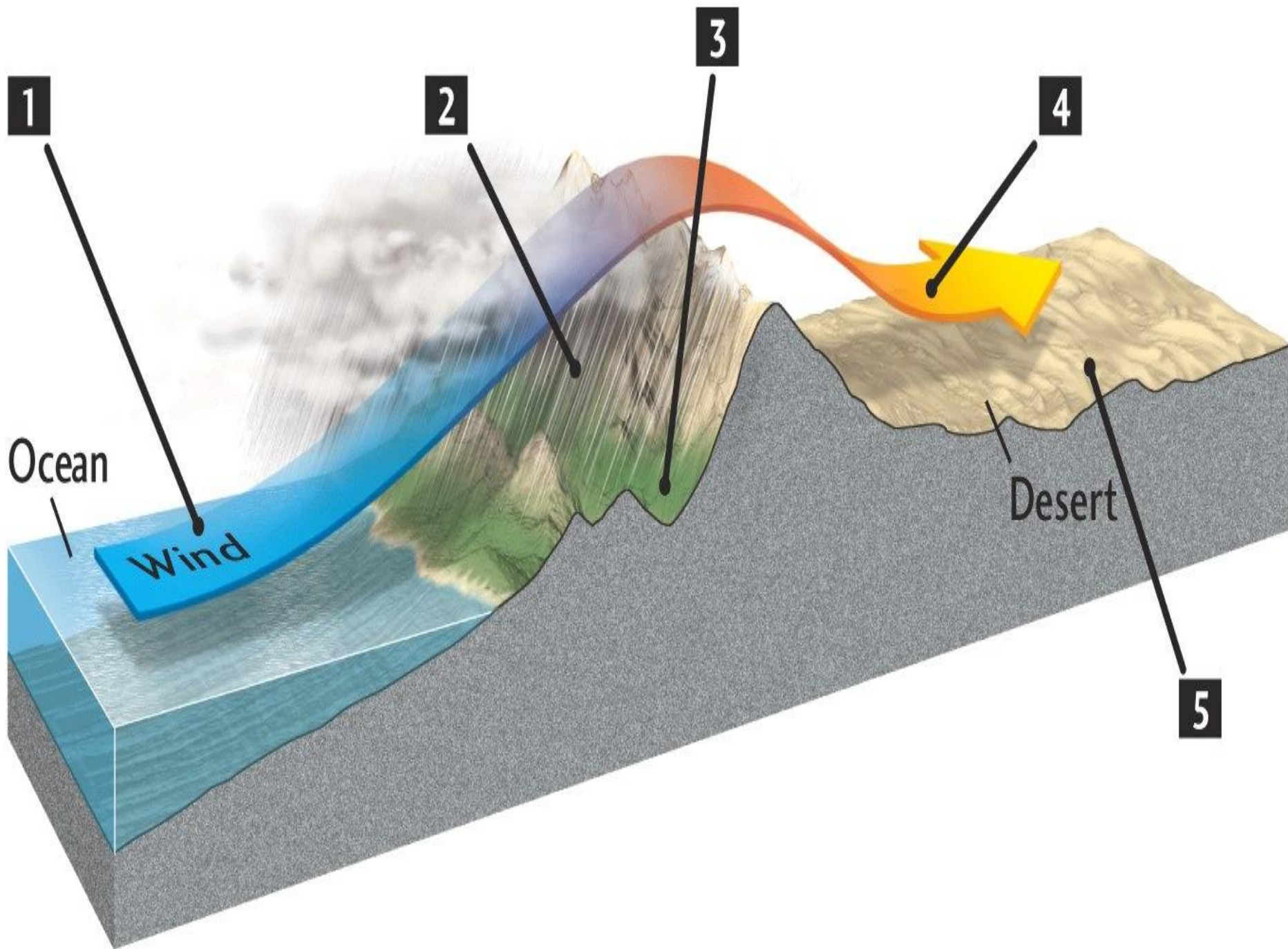
- Anemometer: Wind Speed
- Wind Vane: Wind Direction
- Barometer: Air Pressure
- Thermometer: Temperature
- Psychrometer: Humidity or Water Content
  - a. Remember: as air evaporates, it takes energy from the surface, making the surface colder. The drier the air, the faster liquids evaporate, the lower the wet-bulb temp. on the psychrometer

# Climate

- Ocean currents have a strong effect on climate. Always use the ESRT for questions about currents or if two locations at the same latitude are given
- Locations at the same latitude will have the same angle, duration and intensity of insolation. They are also the same distance from the equator
- Also check prevailing wind map towards the back of the ESRT

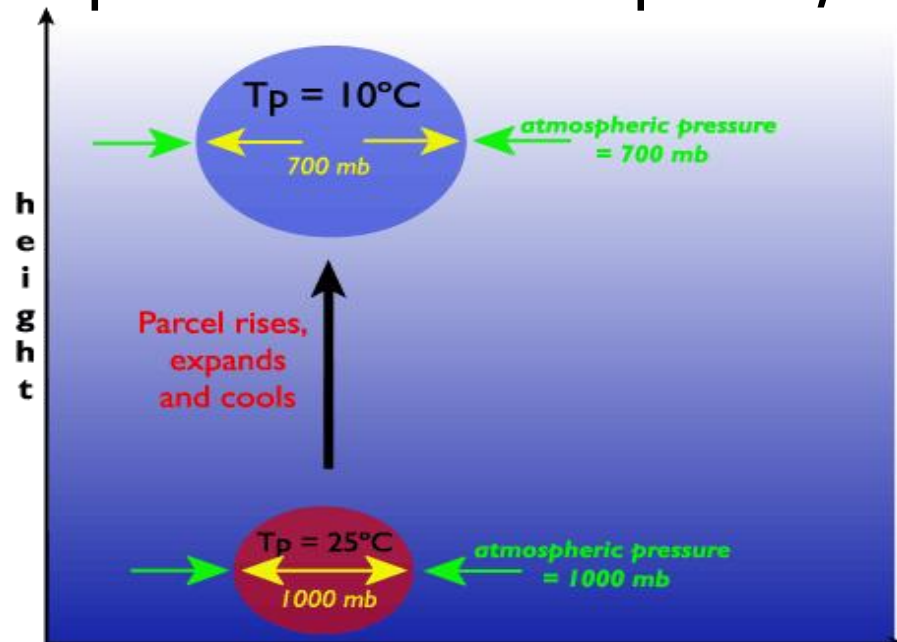
# Other Factors

- Higher the elevation, the colder the temperature
- Locations closer to a large body of water will have moderated temperatures: warmer winters and cooler summers
- Windward sides of mountains (faces the prevailing winds) will have colder, wetter climates
- Leeward sides of mountains will have warmer, drier climates





- As air rises, it expands due to less pressure, cools due to the spreading out of heat energy and may reach the dew point.
- When temperature = dew point, clouds form



# Geology

- Physical Weathering: Changes the size or shape of something without changing what it is made of
  - a. Examples: Abrasion, Frost Action, Exfoliation, Plant Action
- Chemical Weathering: Changes what the object is made up of
  - a. Examples: Oxidation (rusting), Hydrolysis (interaction with water), Dissolution (acid rain)

- The longer something has been subjected to weathering and erosion, the smaller and rounder it will be
- Anything that changes in speed in a relatively short amount of time will sort sediments: largest first, smallest last.
  - a. Examples: Wind and Running Water
- Anything that does not change energy will NOT sort sediments
  - a. Examples: Glaciers and Gravity

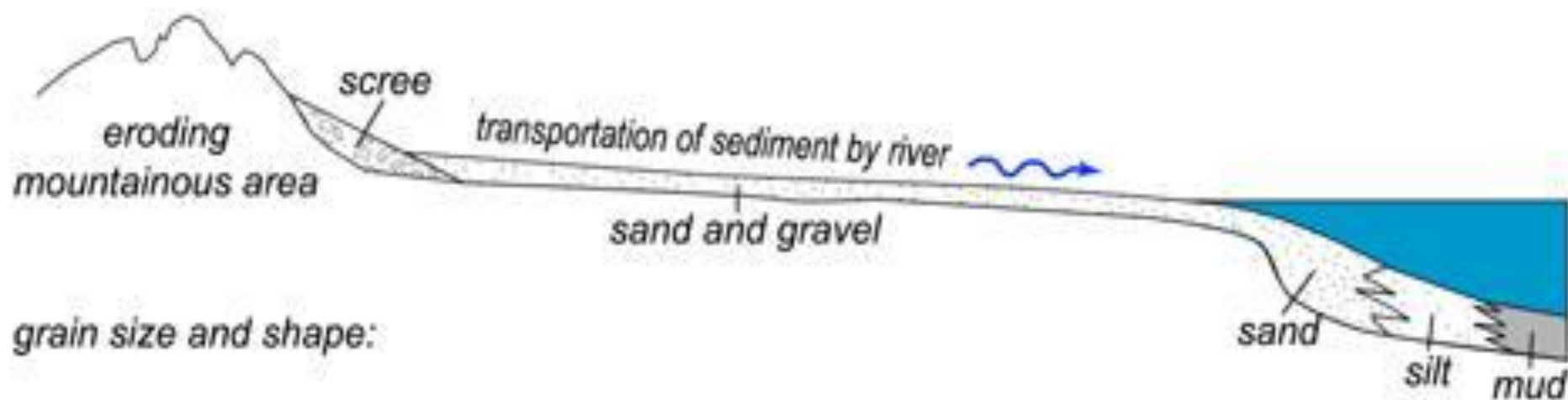
# SEDIMENT TRANSPORTATION & SORTING

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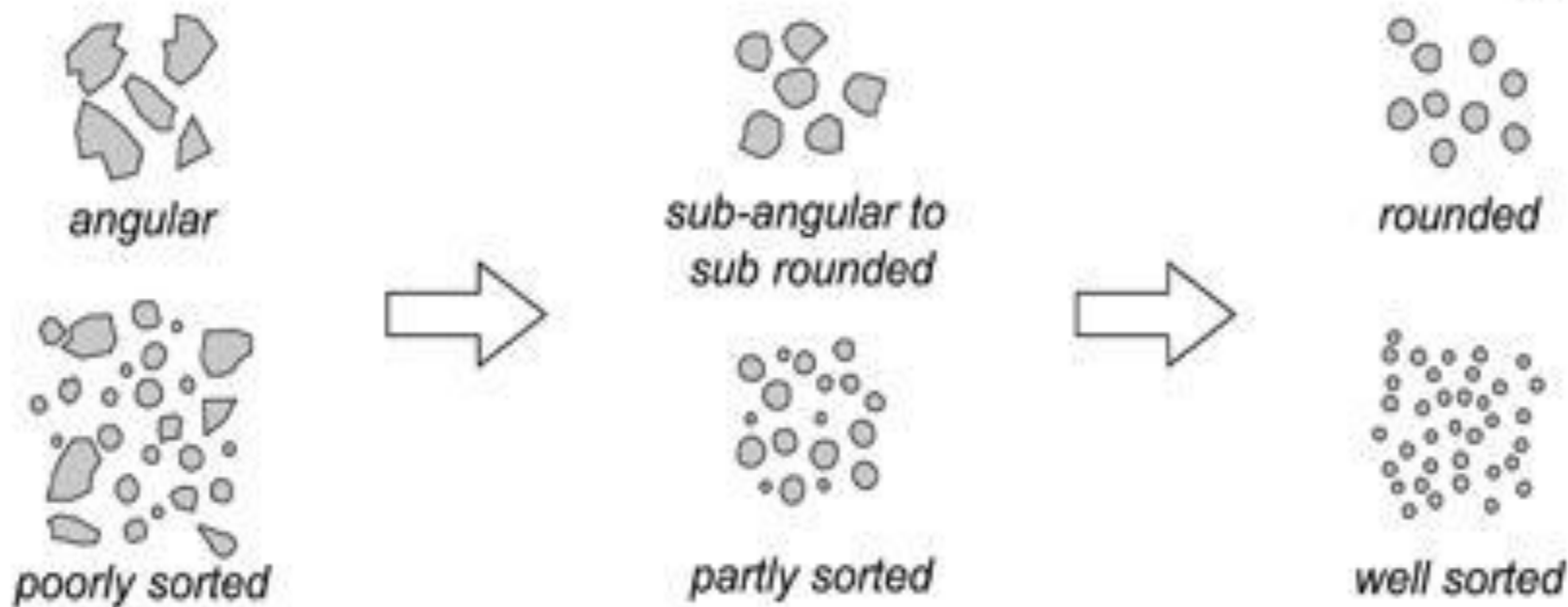
SOURCE

TRANSPORTATION

DEPOSITION



grain size and shape:



# Rivers

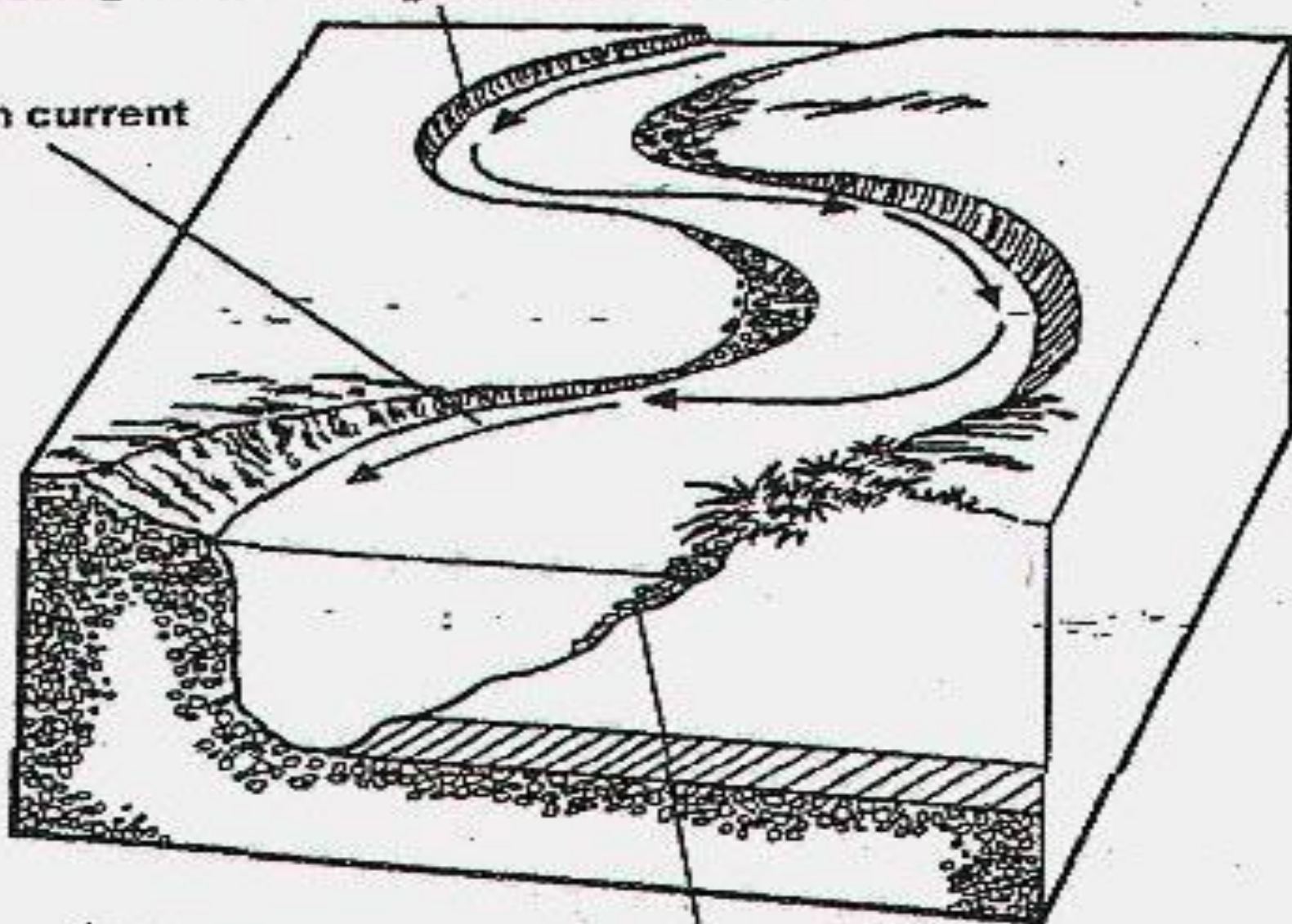
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- Discharge: Volume or amount of water-  
increases with precipitation and melting of  
frozen precipitation

- Rivers flow the fastest on the outside of the bend/meander and slowest on the inside- think of going down a slide! You go towards the outside of the curves because it's faster. If you go towards the inside, you'll go slower or get stuck....or in Earth Science-Speak, get deposited or left off!
- Outside Curve=Faster= Higher Erosion (moving away), Lower Deposition (leaving off)
- Inside Curve = Slower= Lower Erosion, Higher Deposition
- Straight part of channel: Flows fastest in the middle just below the surface

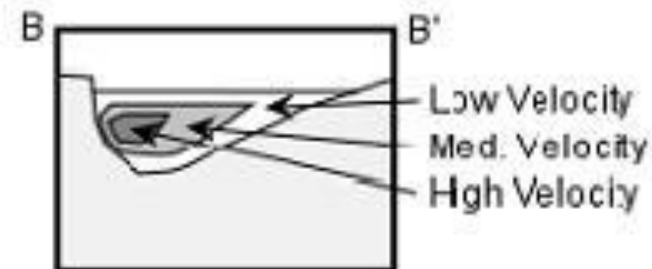
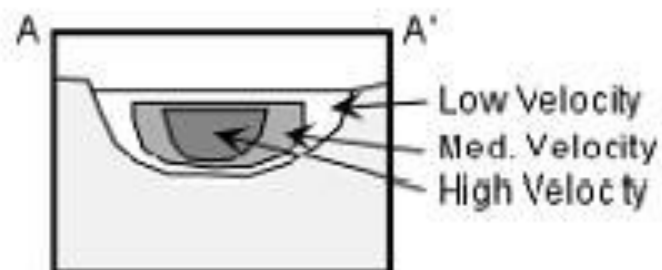
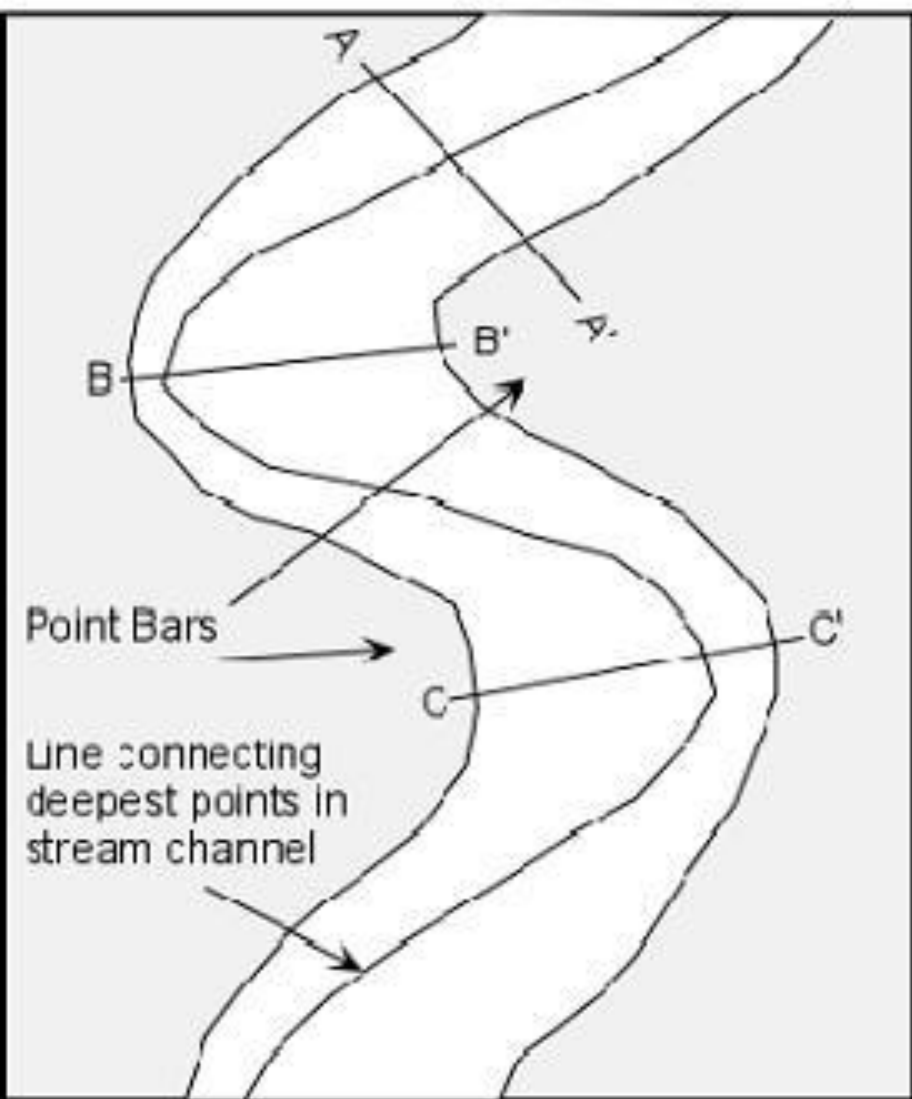
**Main current erodes outside bend of the meander causing undercutting and bank collapse**

**Main current**



**Eroded material from outside bend of the meander is deposited as a point bar on inside of the bend**

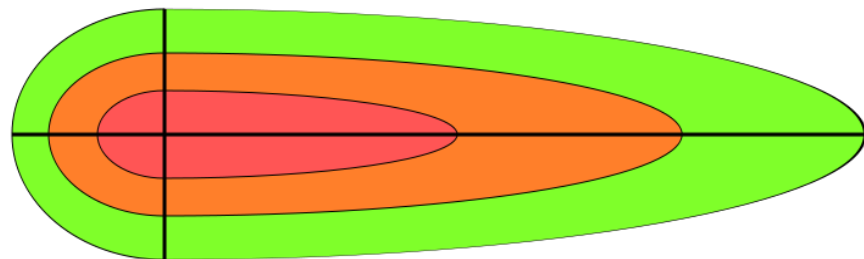
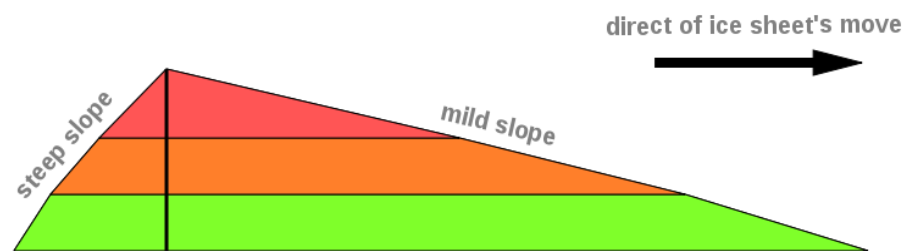
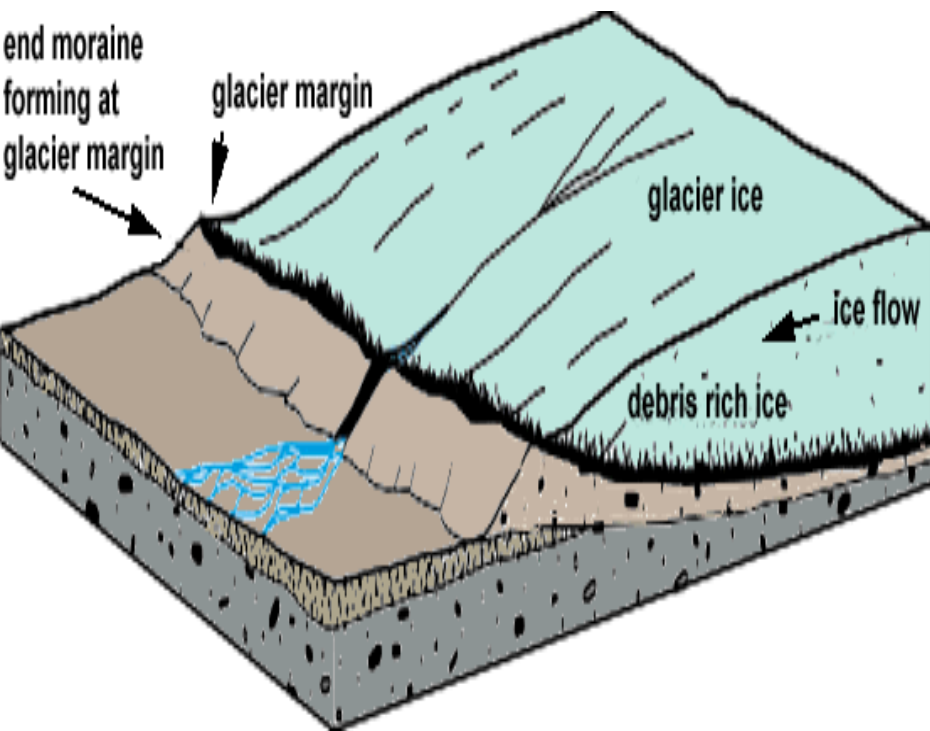






# Glaciers

- The last glacier to cover NYS occurred relatively recently (use your ESRT!)
- Glaciers formed Long Island (two moraines-moraines form where glaciers stop moving for a period of time) and the Finger Lakes
- Evidence of Glaciers in NYS are: U-Shaped valleys, Erratics (large random boulders away from streams and rivers), striations (scratch marks) and drumlins (rounded, steep side faces direction from which the glacier came)



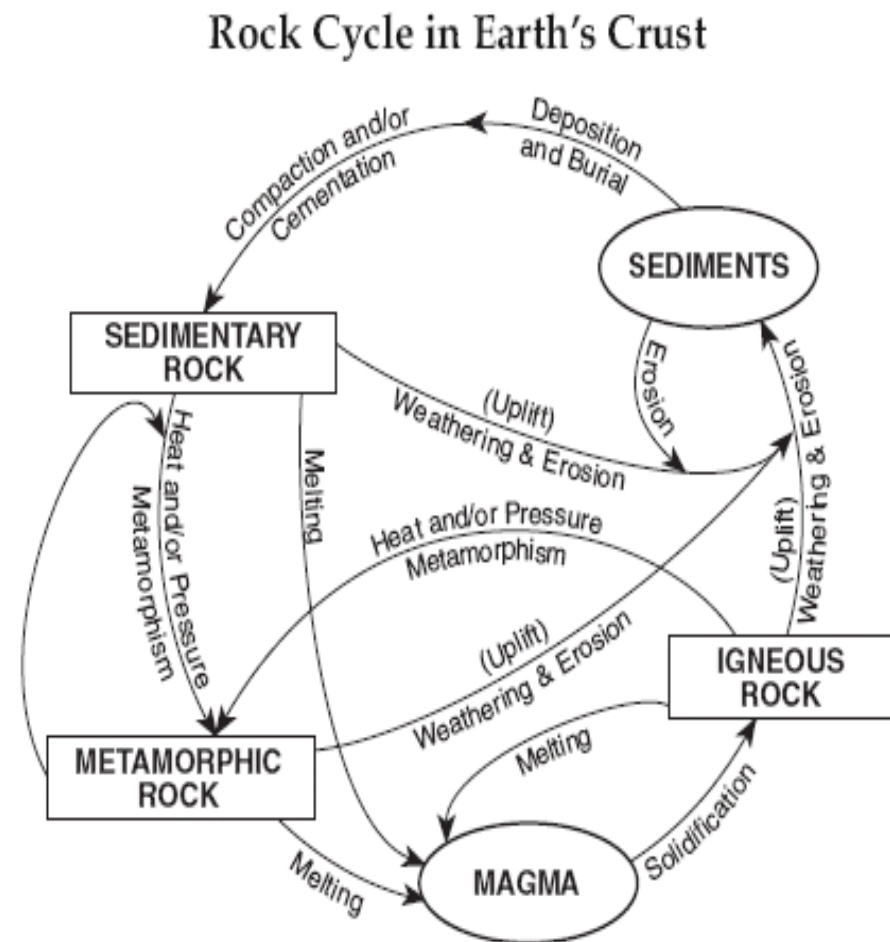
# Rocks

- Sedimentary: Forms from the compaction and cementation of sediments- Check out ESRT page 7!
  - a. Coal: dead plants->peat->buried ->compacted  
->coal
  - b. Sedimentary are the only rocks to have fossils
  - c. Sediments are usually deposited in water environments like lakes, oceans, streams and rivers
- Metamorphic- “change form”- changing of a rock due to heat or heat/pressure without melting. Distorts rocks, destroys any fossils
  - a. Foliation, banding and mineral alignment is a key characteristic

- Igneous: Solidification of molten/liquid rocks. Air pockets and glassy texture are key characteristics

# Rock Cycle- ESRT page 6

- Boxes=Rock Type
- Ovals= "Ingredients"
- Arrows=Processes





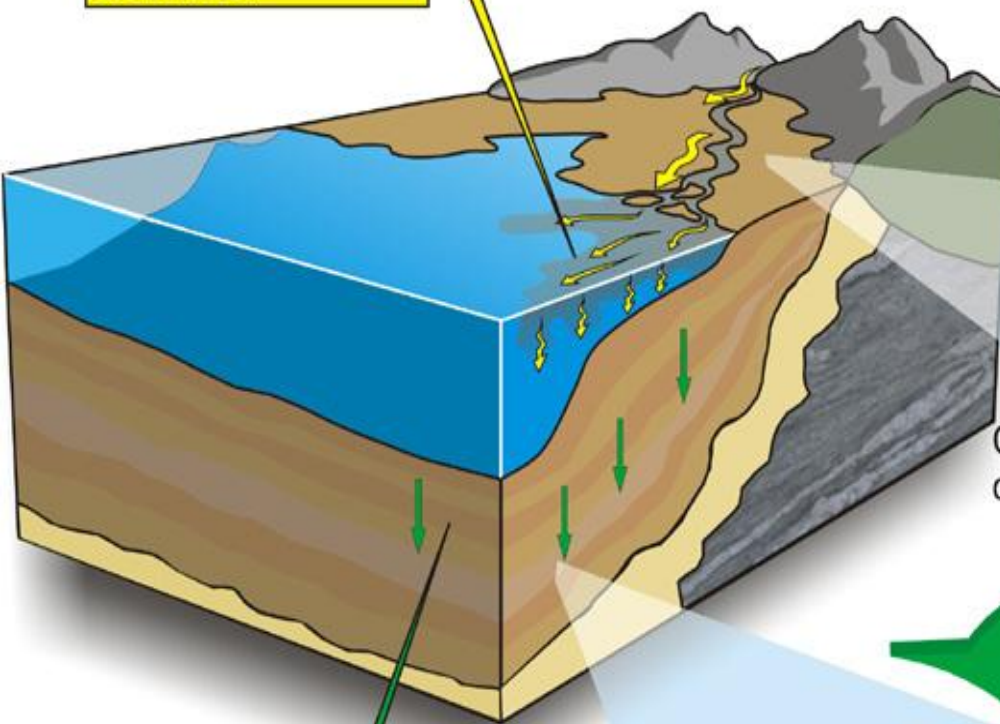


# Sedimentary- ESRT 7





Interplay of weather, water, and gravity cause erosion, transportation, and deposition of **sediments**.



Weight of overlying sediment causes compaction and cementation forming **sedimentary rocks**.

Compaction and cementation

Rippled sand dunes south of Lake Athabasca

**Sediment**

Tourism Saskatchewan

Ripple marks in sandstone near Uranium City

**Sedimentary rock**

Saskatchewan Industry and Resources

Erosion, transportation, and deposition



# Metamorphic- ESRT 7

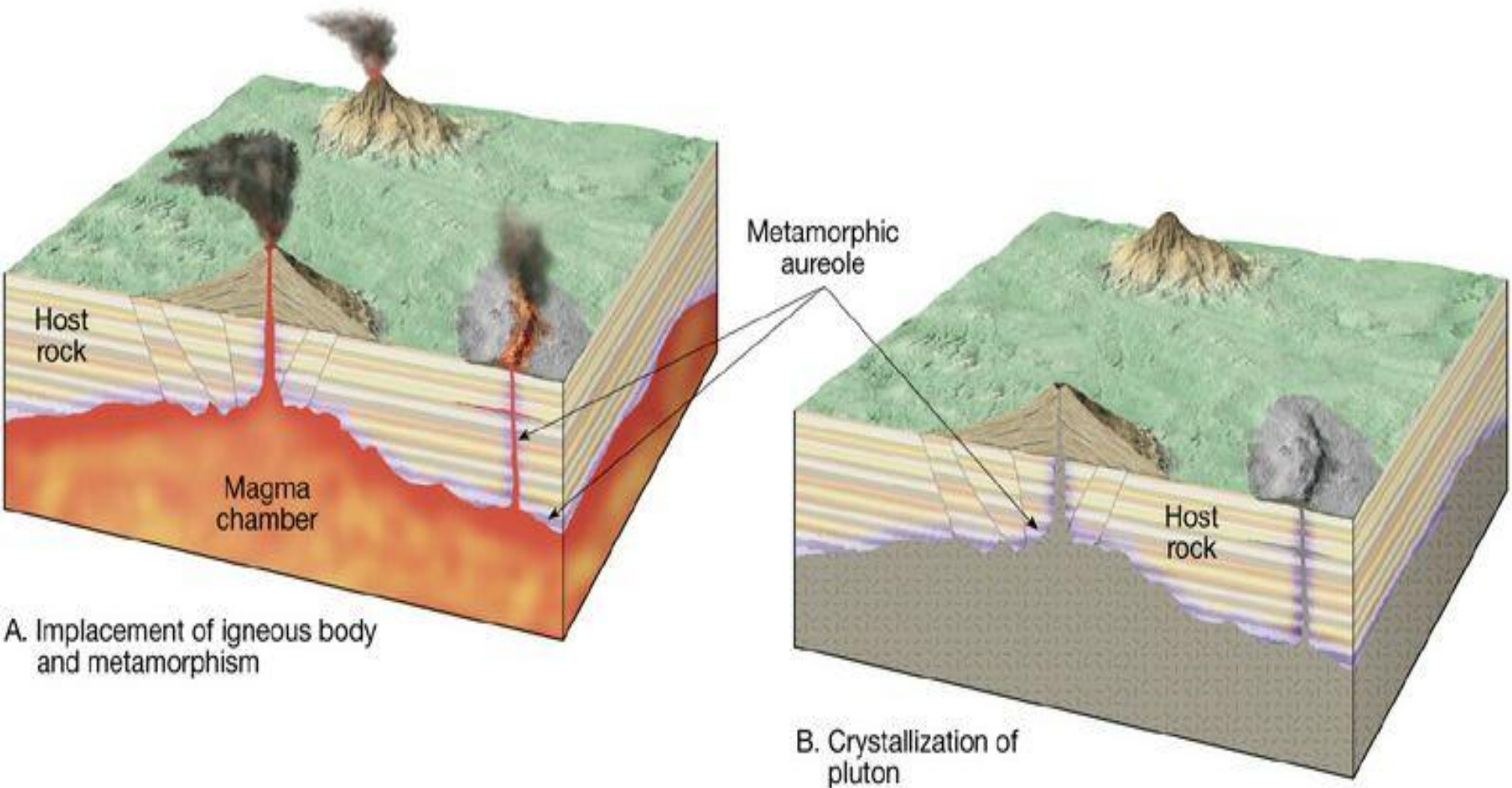
## CONTACT

- Occurs at the border of an intrusion and pre-existing rock
- Marked with lines

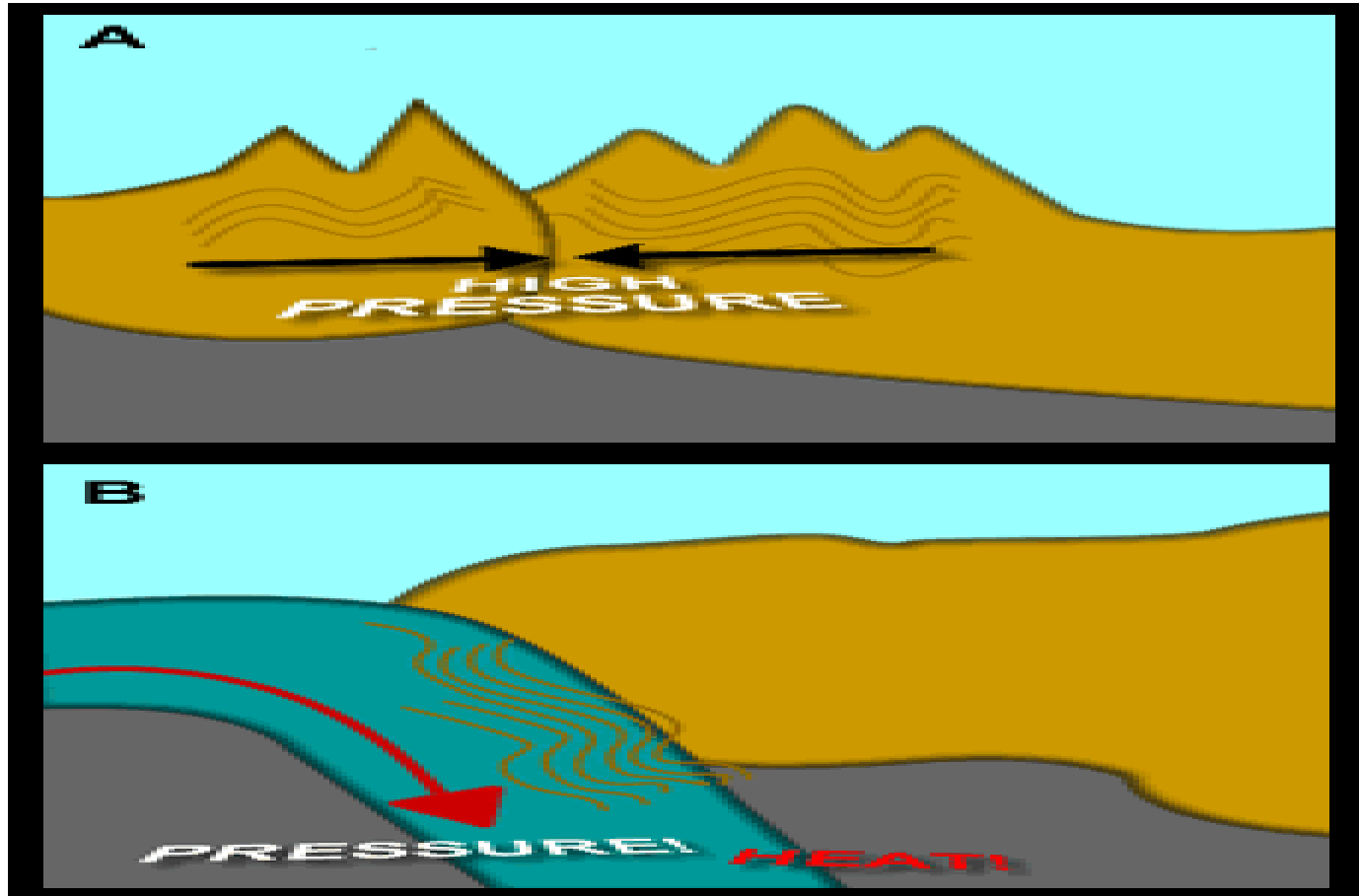
## REGIONAL

- Usually caused by the “squeezing” together of land masses or sinking of an oceanic plate under a continental plate

# Contact Metamorphism- HEAT ONLY



# Regional- Heat and/or Pressure



# Banding and Foliation



# Igneous- ESRT 6

## INTRUSIVE

- Forms IN the ground
- Cools slowly, so larger crystals
- Has coarse to very coarse texture, which is a measure of crystal size

## EXTRUSIVE

- Forms EXTERNALLY or outside of the ground
- Cools quickly so very small crystals if any
- Has glassy or fine texture
- May be vesicular with gas pockets

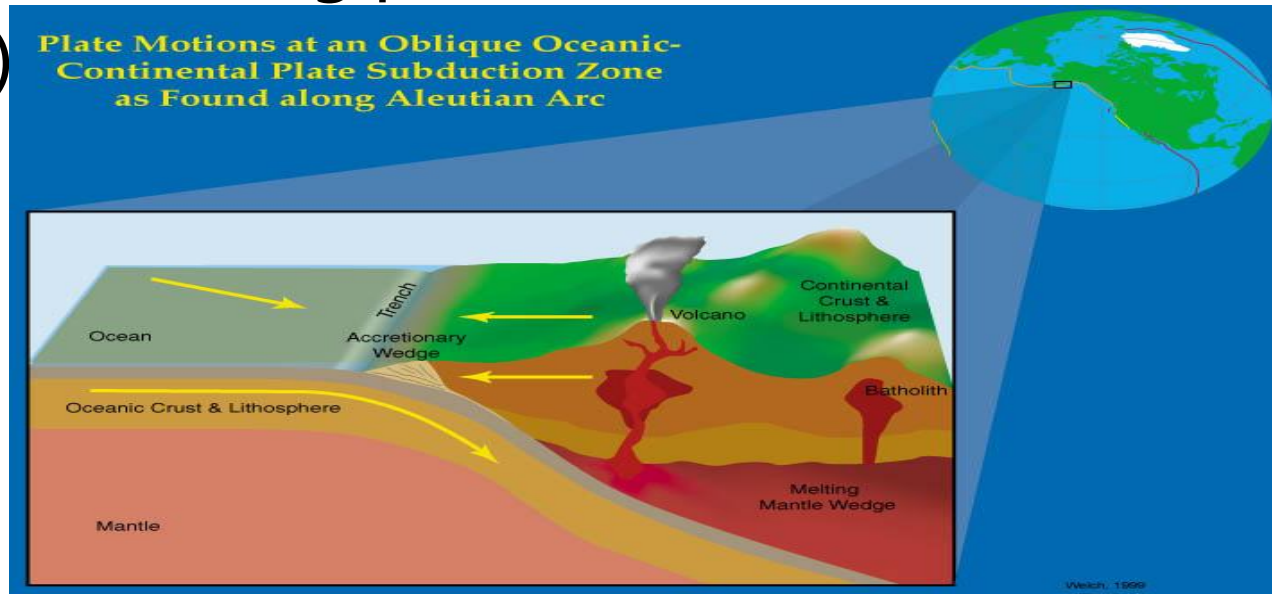


# Igneous

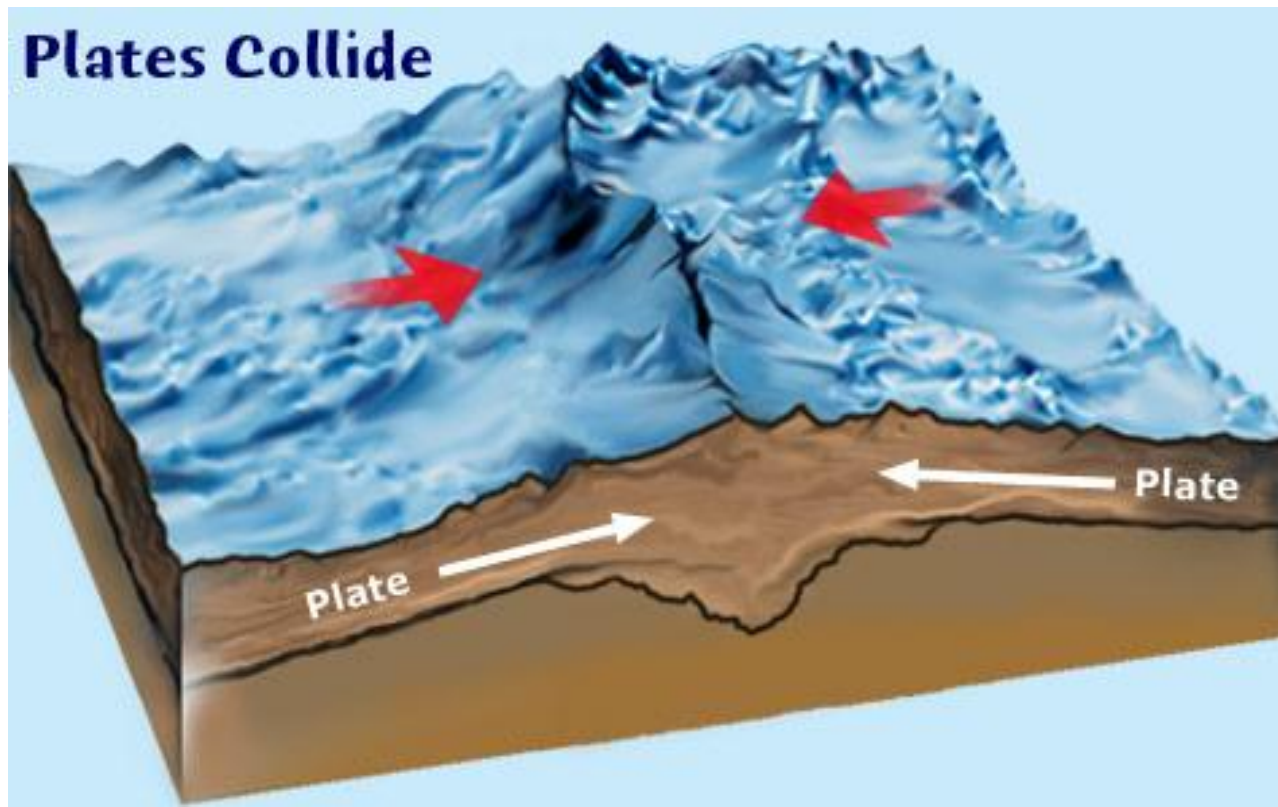


# Earthquakes and Volcanoes

- Typically occur along plate boundaries- ESRT page 5
- Subduction Boundary: Two plates collide, denser one sinks (usually oceanic), forms volcano on over-riding plate (the one that doesn't sink)

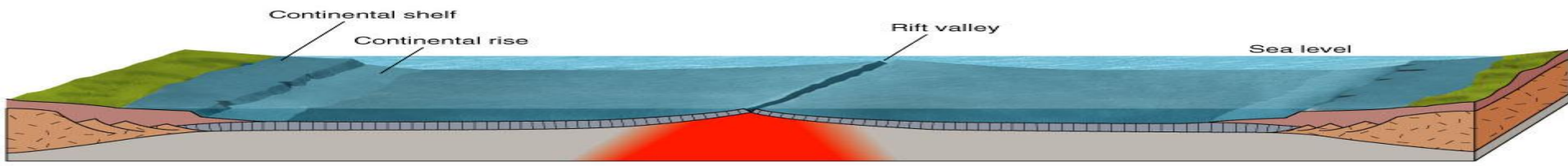
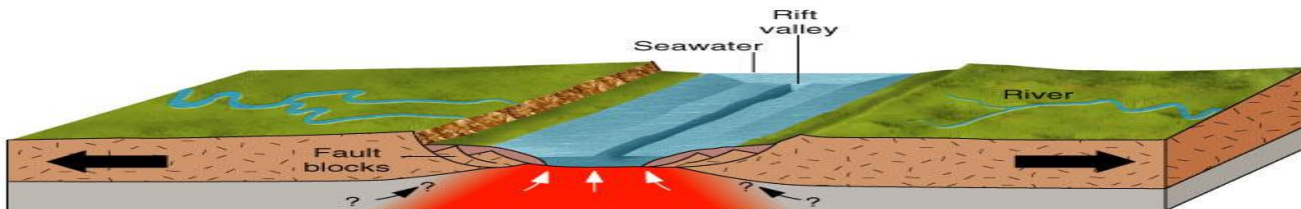
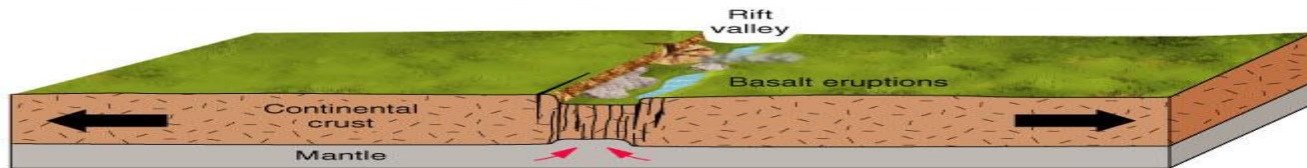


- Collision: Occurs when two plates collide, neither sinks

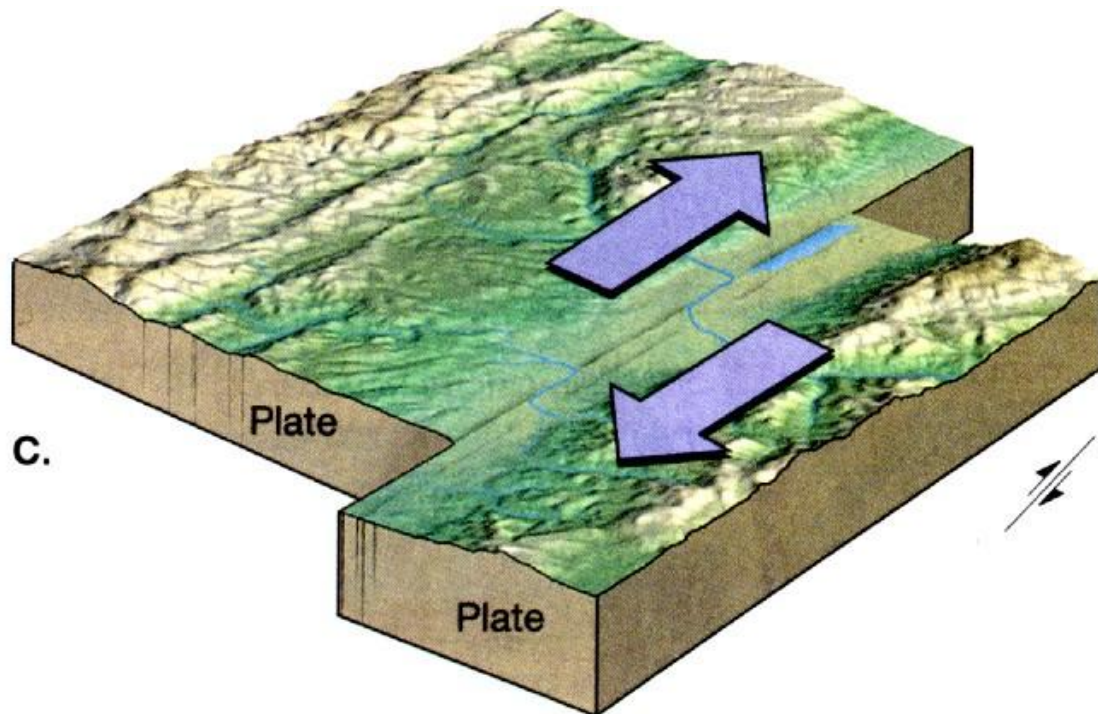




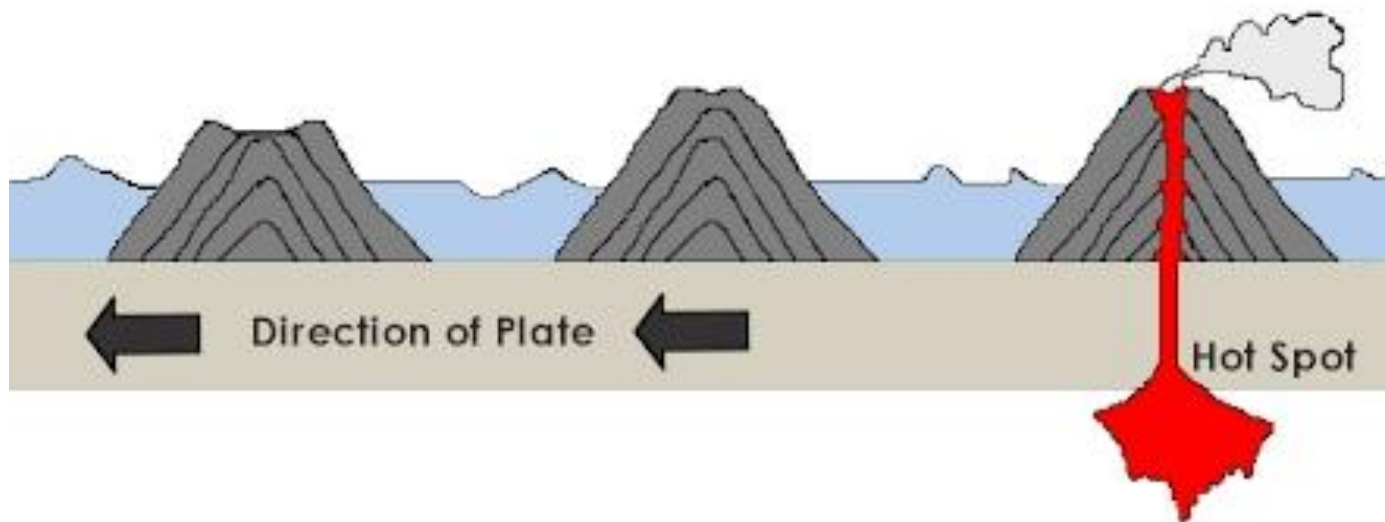
- Divergent: Two plates spread apart- main divergent boundaries are located in the center of oceans



- Transform: Two plates sliding past each other- occurring in California

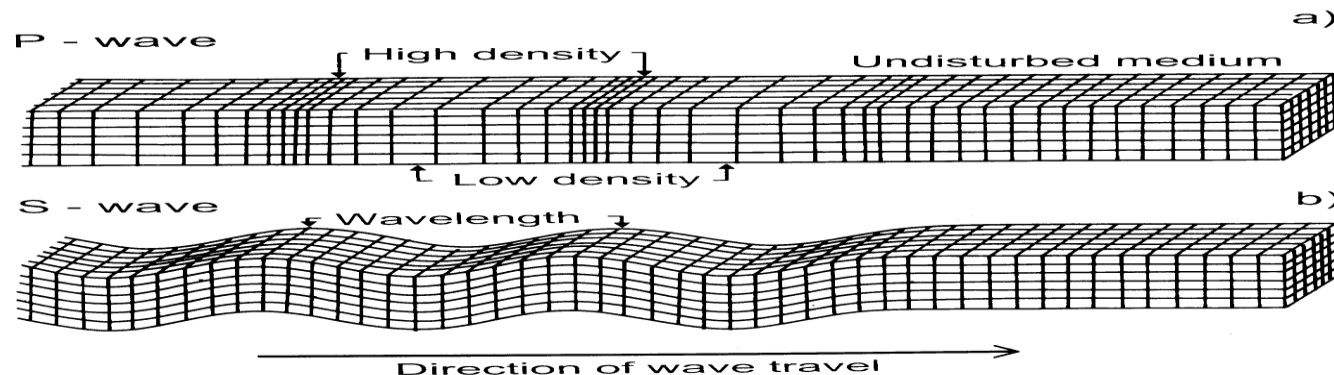


- Hot Spot: A volcano that occurs in the middle of a plate- Hot spot stays in place while the plate moves over the hot spot

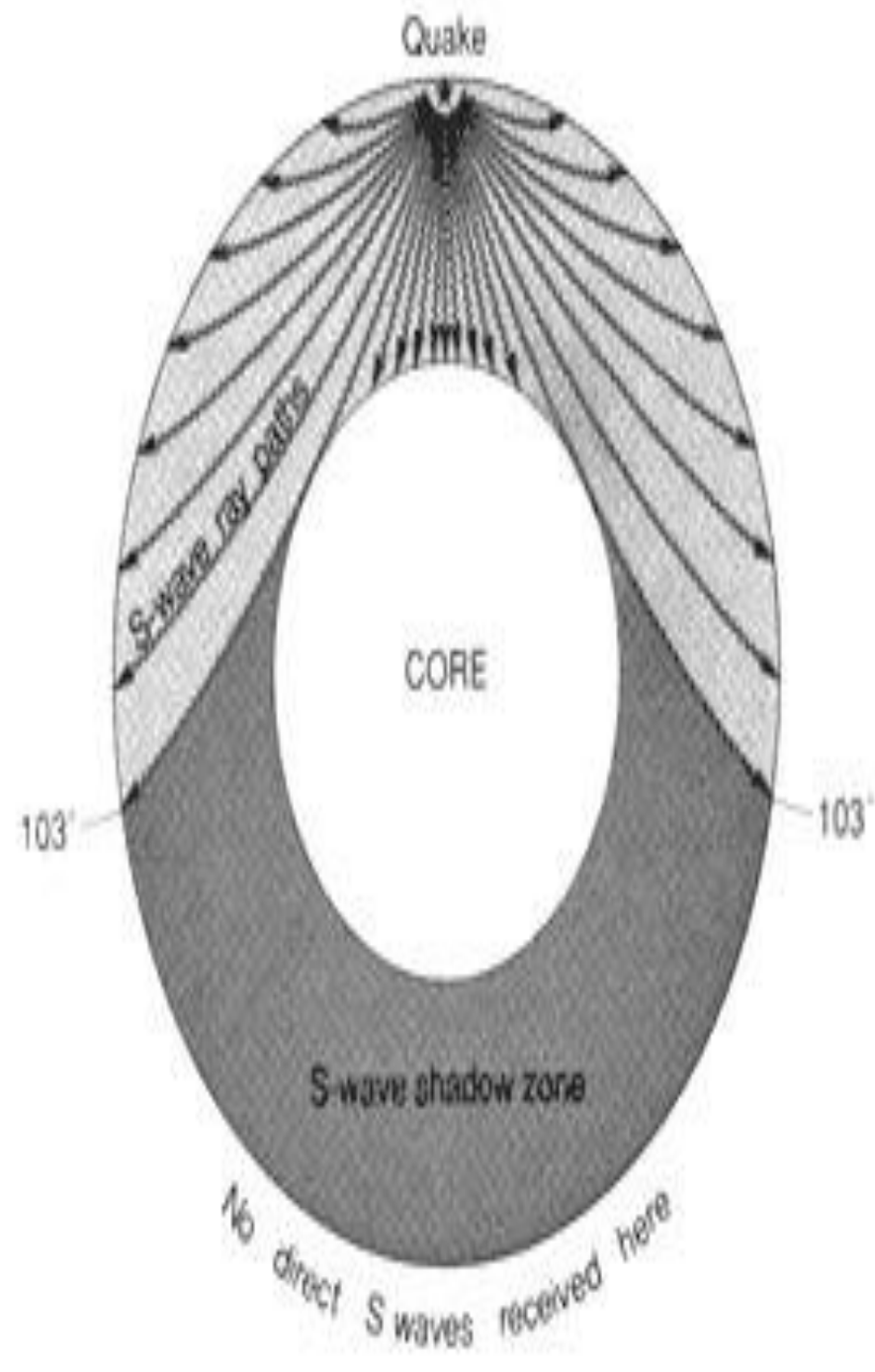
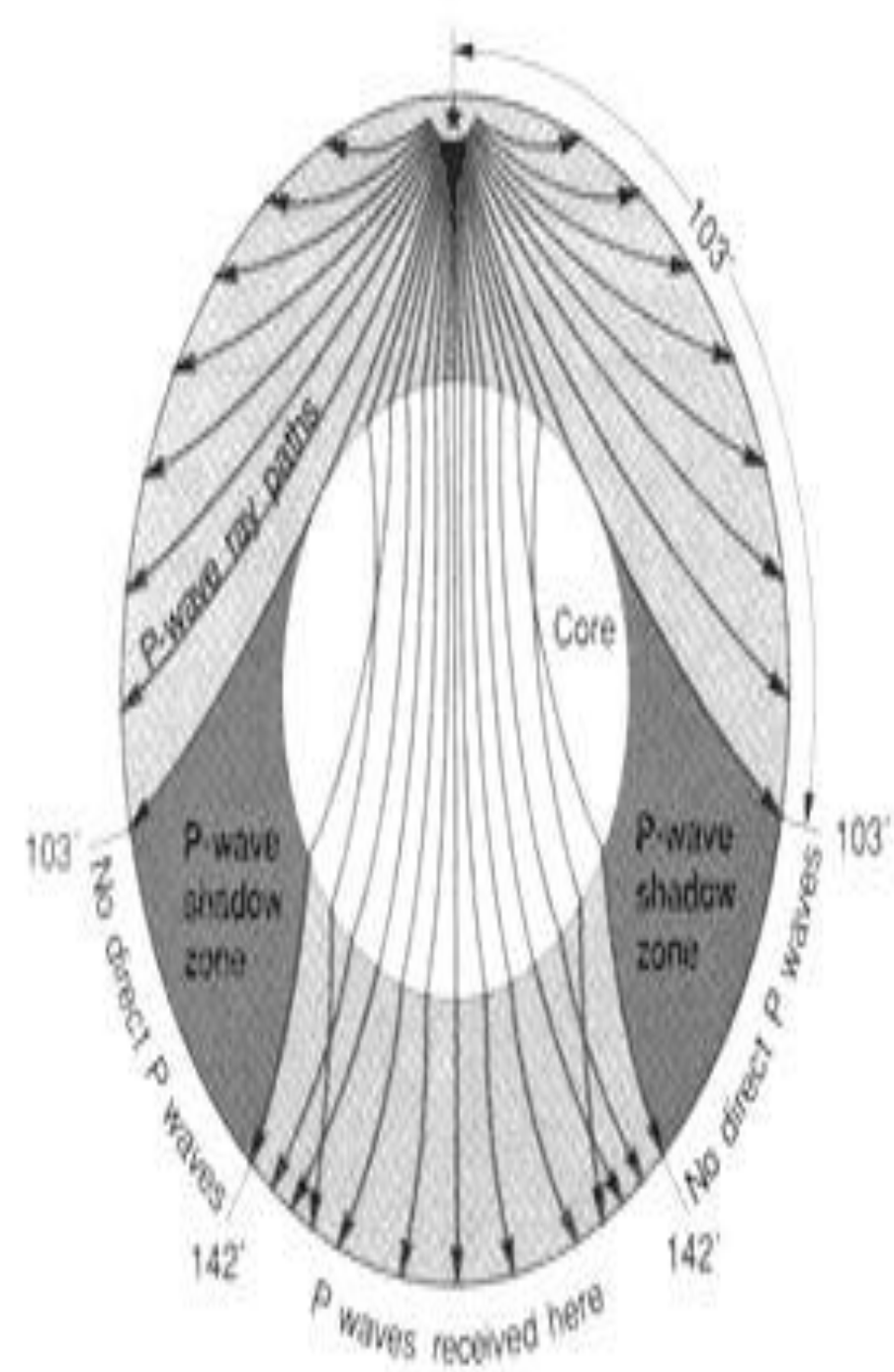


# P-Waves and S-Waves

- P-Waves: First to arrive- can travel through solids, liquids and gases. Move side-to-side
- S-Waves: Second to arrive- can ONLY travel through solids- move at right angles to direction of movement



- Shadow-Zone: Area opposite of epicenter that does not receive p-waves or s-waves



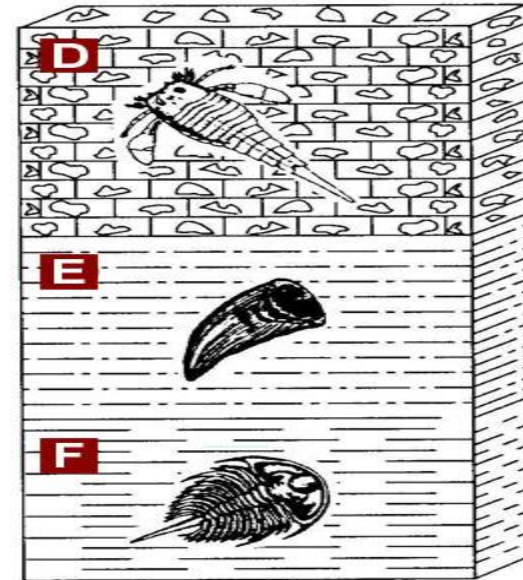
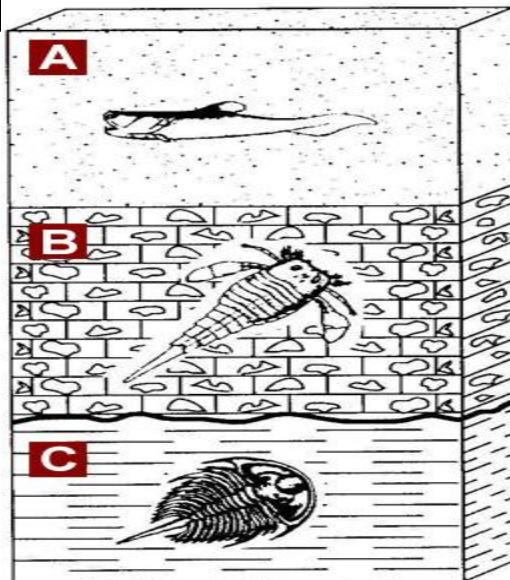
# Establishing Geologic Time

- Oldest rocks are on bottom and youngest on top as long as they haven't been disturbed
- Rocks are deposited in flat, horizontal layers in a water environment- if folded or faulted, something has changed them
- Something has to be there before anything can happen to it
- Something within a rock has to be older than the rock itself
- Unconformities are gaps in the geologic record, typically caused by erosion, tilting, and faulting
- Index Fossils: Widespread, short geologic time in existence, commonly found- help give a more exact age



# Correlation

- In this diagram, B and D are the same age, as well as C and F. Layer E is missing from the first group, as shown by the unconformity. Layer A may not have been deposited in the second column.



# Half-Life

- The amount of time it takes for half of a radioactive element to turn into a stable element
- Half life is a constant and is given on page 1 of the ESRT- nothing will change the half life of a substance, although half-life varies between substances
- Use carbon for anything that comes from a plant or animal
- Use Uranium or Rubidium for anything from Earth's early geologic history- it's half life is too long for relatively recent events, but long enough for older events



Time 0

Original radioactive parent

After  
1 million years

1/2 Remaining

1/2 Decayed

After  
2 million years

1/4

3/4 Decayed

After  
3 million years

1/8

7/8 Decayed

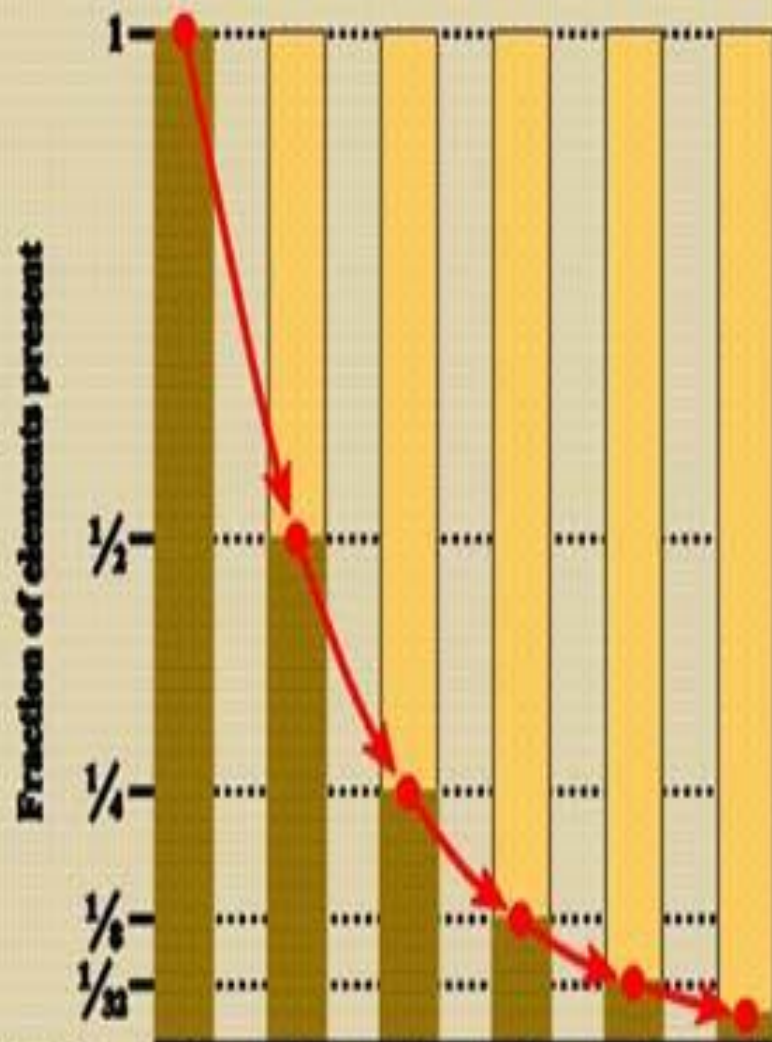
After  
4 million years

1/16

15/16 Decayed

etc.

## Radioactive decay of $C^{14}$



Number of half-lives: 0 1 2 3 4 5  
Years of time passed: 5,730 11,460 17,190 22,920 28,650 34,380

Carbon-14 parent isotope Nitrogen-14 daughter product

# DON'T FORGET THE ESRT!

- It can be your best friend on the Regents and give you answers or clues to 40% or more of the test!

