

Name: _____

Study Guide – The Moon

Vocabulary:

Moon Phase: is the shape of the bright part of the Moon.

Satellite: an object that revolves around another object.

Gravity: force that causes objects to be pulled toward the center of all other objects.

Craters: bowl-shaped impressions on the Moon's surface.

Maria: the dark patches seen on the Moon which are really lowlands covered by rocky soil.

Axis: the imaginary line that passes through Moon's (and Earth's) center.

Lunar Eclipse: when the Moon moves into Earth's shadow – this shadow darkens the Moon.

Solar Eclipse: when the Moon moves between Earth and Sun casting a shadow on part of the Earth.

Tides: tides are caused by the pull of Moon's gravity in Earth.

Phases of the Moon:

You should be able to correctly label the phases of the moon and describe each phase.

New Moon: occurs when the Moon is positioned between the Earth and Sun. The new Moon is invisible and completely dark.

Full Moon: occurs when Earth is positioned between the Sun and the Moon. The entire face of the moon is lit (illuminated).

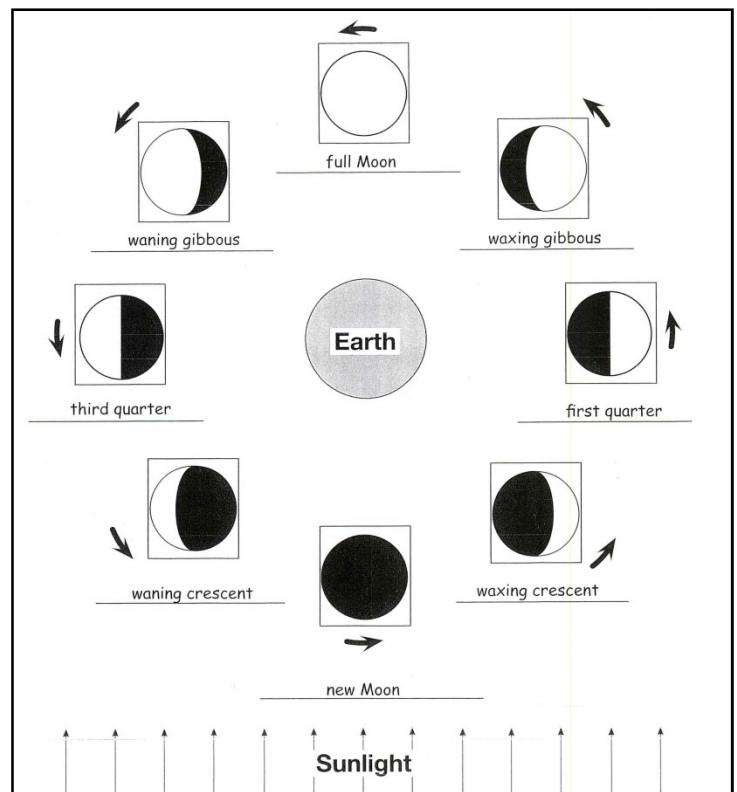
quarter Moons: occurs when half the Moon is half shaded or half illuminated.

crescent Moon: is any phase of the Moon that has less than half of its face illuminated.

gibbous Moon: is any phase of the Moon that has more than half of its face illuminated.

Waxing: When the face of the Moon is getting brighter.

Waning: When the face of the Moon is getting darker.



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Short Answer Questions:

1. **How long does it take Earth's Moon to complete one lunar cycle?**

28 days, or 4 weeks, one month

2. **What is a new Moon and what causes it?**

It is a phase of the Moon that occurs when the Moon is between Earth and the Sun. The new Moon is invisible because the Moon's dark side is toward Earth.

3. **What is the difference between a waxing Moon and a waning Moon?**

The waxing moon becomes brighter or more illuminated appearing bigger; a waning moon become darker, less illuminated, appearing smaller.

4. **What is the difference between a crescent Moon and a gibbous Moon?**

A crescent Moon shows less than half of the Moon illuminated; a gibbous Moon shows more than half of the Moon illuminated.