

Lesson Check: Eclipses

1) A lunar eclipse occurs when Earth's shadow falls on the Moon.

- True
- False

2) A lunar eclipse only occurs during a new moon phase. _____

- True
- False

3) A ____ occurs when the Moon moves directly between the Sun and Earth and throws a shadow on Earth.

- A)** solar eclipse
- B)** lunar eclipse
- C)** waning gibbous
- D)** waxing gibbous

4) When the shadow of the Moon appears on Earth's surface a _____ is occurring.

- A)** solar eclipse
- B)** new moon
- C)** lunar eclipse
- D)** astral eclipse

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5) The longest a total solar eclipse lasts is about how long?

- A) 1 minute
- B) 7 minutes
- C) 30 minutes
- D) an hour

6) Why don't solar eclipses occur every new moon?

- A) The Moon's orbit around Earth and Earth's orbit around the Sun are not the same speed, so the three bodies only line up during the full moon.
- B) The Moon's orbit around Earth and Earth's orbit around the Sun are not in the same plane, so the three bodies only line up occasionally.
- C) The Moon's orbit around the Sun and Earth's orbit around the Sun are not in the same plane, so the three bodies only line up occasionally.
- D) The Moon's orbit around Earth and the Sun's orbit around Earth are not in the same plane, so the three bodies only line up occasionally.

7) Eclipses occur when the Sun, the Moon, and _____ line up perfectly.

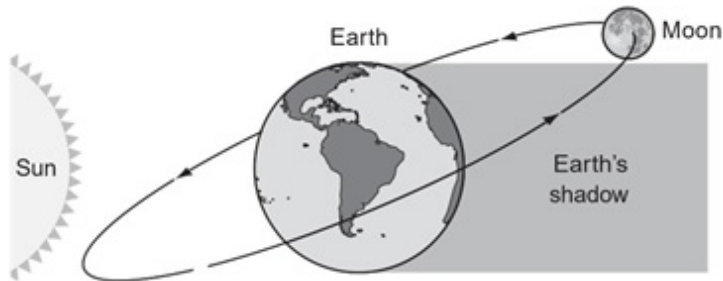
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8) What is the first stage of a lunar eclipse?

9) Describe a lunar eclipse.

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10) Lunar eclipses occur about every 2.5 years. Full moons occur once or twice each month.



Use the diagram of the Sun-Earth-Moon system to explain why lunar eclipses occur less often than full moons.