

RADIATION & the ATMOSPHERE

NAME _____

Partners _____

Directions: give the best answer to the following.

- The atmosphere has four layers, which are separated by interfaces, all ending with the suffix "_____."
- The layers are divided up based on _____ patterns.
- The layer we live in is the _____.
- Water vapor, dust and weather occur in the _____.
- Very little weather occurs in the _____.
- Temperatures can reach 1,000°C in the _____.
- There's little _____ in the Thermosphere, but its high temperatures are caused by _____ & _____ light striking air molecules.
- More insolation is received at the (Earth's surface / outer atmosphere).
- The one wavelength that is mostly *not* absorbed, reflected or scattered in the atmosphere is _____.
- Harmful _____ radiation is absorbed by _____ in the _____.
- The Earth re-radiates _____ wavelengths, which are absorbed by _____ and _____ in the _____.
- The amount of radiation reflected by clouds depends on the _____.
- The lower the angle, the _____ insolation reflected and the _____ absorbed.
- Polar areas tend to be cold primarily because of the presence of _____ and the low _____ absorbed by the atmosphere, which _____ the atmospheric temperature.
- Volcanic dust, water droplets, ice crystals and pollutants are examples of _____.
- As the concentration of aerosols in the atmosphere increases, the amount of _____ increases, and the amount of insolation reaching Earth's surface _____.
- How can a volcanic eruption lower world temperatures?

- Explain how melting snow and evaporating puddles can lower the air temperature.

- Give three reasons why land heats up and cools off more quickly than water.
A. _____
B. _____
C. _____
- Insolation reaching the Earth's surface can either be _____ or _____.
- EM energy radiated by the Earth's surface is called _____.
- (Short-wave / long-wave) radiation mostly passes through the atmosphere and reaches the Earth's surface. (Short-wave / long-wave) radiation doesn't pass through, but is mostly _____.
- When short-wave energy travels through the atmosphere, is absorbed by the Earth, is re-radiated into the atmosphere as longer-wavelength infra-red, and is trapped there by the gases _____ and _____, this is called the _____ effect.
- What is the effect of a car windshield on short-wavelength energy?

- Why does the temperature inside the car rise above that of the surrounding air? _____

- Over the course of a year, the Earth (is / isn't) generally in radiative balance, (meaning incoming and outgoing energy are equal).
- From year to year, the Earth (is / isn't) in radiative balance, because average temperatures _____ from year to year.
- When measured over decades, the Earth (does / doesn't) appear to be in radiative balance.
- Measurements over thousands of years indicate that the Earth (is / isn't) in radiative balance.
- Evidence that the Earth is not in radiative balance over the very long term includes _____.

31. Page 11 of the E.S.R.T. shows the "Average Chemical Composition of Earth's Crust, Hydrosphere, and Troposphere." Most of the Troposphere is composed of two gases, _____ & _____; their percentages are _____ & _____, respectively.

32. Page 15 of the E.S.R.T. shows "Selected Properties of Earth's Atmosphere." According to this chart, as altitude increases, atmospheric pressure _____.

33. The concentration of water vapor varies from about _____ g/m³ to about _____ g/m³ in the Troposphere.

34. Why do you think very little weather occurs in the layers above the Troposphere?

35. The troposphere is about _____ km thick. Its temperature averages about _____ °C on the ground to about _____ °C at the interface with the Stratosphere, called the _____.

36. The Stratosphere is about _____ km thick. Its temperature averages about _____ °C at the Tropopause to about _____ °C at the interface with the Mesosphere, called the _____.

37. The Mesosphere is about _____ km thick. Its temperature averages about _____ °C at the Stratopause to about _____ °C at the interface with the Thermosphere, called the _____.

38. The Thermosphere is about _____ km thick. Its temperature averages about _____ °C at the Mesopause to above _____ °C at about _____ km in altitude.

39. Describe the temperature pattern from the ground all the way to the top of the atmosphere.

40. The hottest temperatures are in the _____.

41. The coldest temperatures are in the _____.