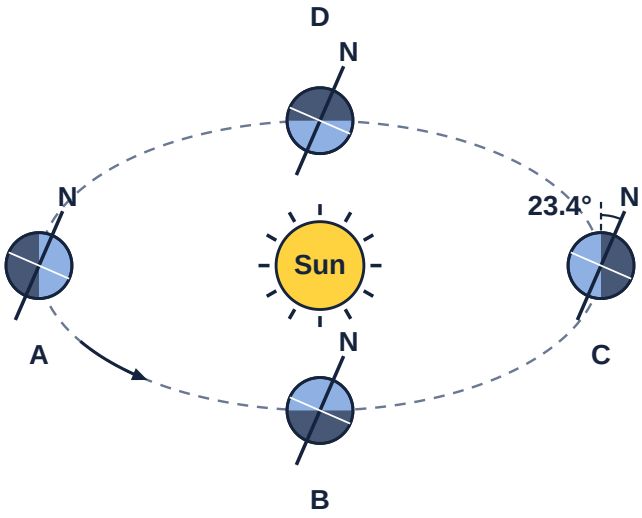
Name _____ Date _____

The four seasons and Earth's tilt

For students: the diagram shows Earth at four places in its orbit around the Sun. Write the Northern Hemisphere season for each letter. Use the word bank. Then answer the questions.



Word bank fall spring summer winter

A _____ **B** _____

C _____ **D** _____

Answer the questions

1. What causes the seasons? _____

2. In June, is the Northern Hemisphere tilted toward the Sun or away from it? _____

3. How long does Earth take to travel once around the Sun? _____

4. True or false: summer happens because Earth is closest to the Sun. _____

5. When it is summer in the Northern Hemisphere, what season is it in the Southern Hemisphere?

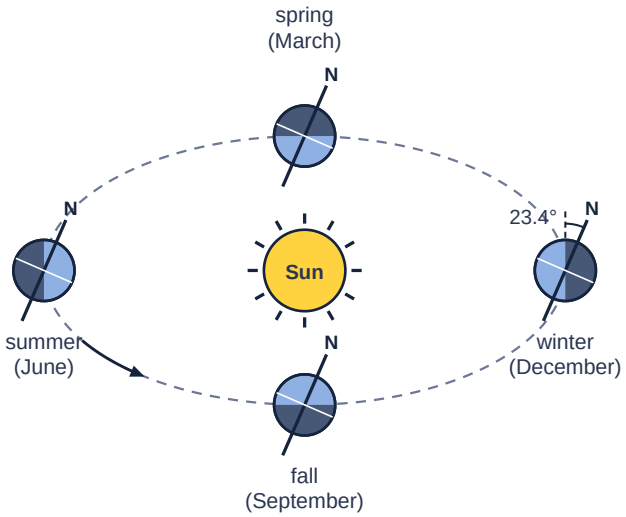
_____

Not to scale. Earth's axis is tilted about 23.4 degrees. The seasons on the diagram are for the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere the seasons are the opposite.

Sources: NASA Space Place, What causes the seasons? (spaceplace.nasa.gov/seasons); NASA Science, Earth: facts (science.nasa.gov/earth/facts).

 Name _____ Date _____

Answer key: the four seasons and Earth's tilt



A summer

B fall

C winter

D spring

Answer the questions

1. What causes the seasons? **The tilt of Earth's axis**

2. In June, is the Northern Hemisphere tilted toward the Sun or away from it? **Toward the Sun**

3. How long does Earth take to travel once around the Sun? **About one year (365 days)**

4. True or false: summer happens because Earth is closest to the Sun.

False. Earth is closest to the Sun in January.

5. When it is summer in the Northern Hemisphere, what season is it in the Southern Hemisphere?

Winter

Not to scale. Earth's axis is tilted about 23.4 degrees. The seasons on the diagram are for the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere the seasons are the opposite.

Sources: NASA Space Place, What causes the seasons? (spaceplace.nasa.gov/seasons); NASA Science, Earth: facts (science.nasa.gov/earth/facts).