

| Name: | Laboratory Section: |
|-------|---------------------|
| Date: | Score/Grade:        |







## **LAB** EXERCISE

# Earth-Sun Relationships and Daylength

## **Lab Exercise and Activities**

# SECTION 1

## Earth-Sun Relations—Seasonality

| 2. | On the equ    | inoxes, th | e subsola  | ar point is at the equator, and the circle of illumination     | ı runs thro    | ugh  |
|----|---------------|------------|------------|--|----------------|------|
|    | 90            | _°N and _  | 90         | °S. Therefore, the far north and south latitudes of the circ   | cle of illum   | ina- |
|    | tion are      | 90 °       | away fron  | n the subsolar point. On the June solstice, the subsolar point | is at the Tro  | opic |
|    | of Cancer at  | 23.5       | °          | N, and the circle of illumination passes through               | <b>66.5</b> ∘N | and  |
|    | 66.5          | _ °S. Whic | h latitud  | es does the circle of illumination pass through on the Jun     | ne solstice?   | On   |
|    | February 26   | the subsc  | olar point | is at 9°S, and the circle of illumination passes through $\_$  | 81             | _ °N |
|    | and <b>81</b> | °S.        |            |  |                |      |

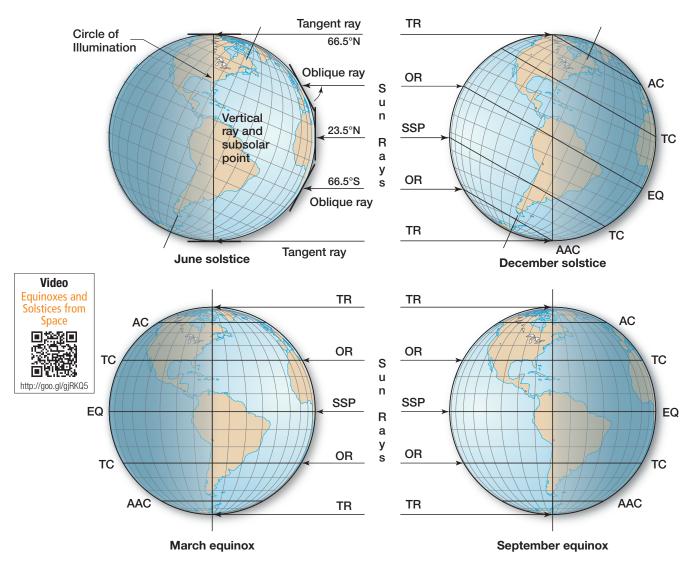




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#### **Applied Physical Geography: Geosystems in the Laboratory**



▲ Figure 5.1 Earth—Sun relationships





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# SECTION 2

## **Daylength**

 $\textbf{1.} \ \ \text{Complete Table 5.1 (below), filling in the daylength at selected latitudes.}$ 

| <b>TABLE 5.1</b> Daylength—the time between sunrise and sunset—at selected latitudes for the Northern Hemisphere |      |             |  |      |  |           |  |      |           |      |      |           |
|--|------|-------------|--|------|--|-----------|--|------|-----------|------|------|-----------|
| Winter Solstice<br>(December Solstice)<br>December 21–22   |      | r Solstice) | Vernal Equinox<br>(March Equinox)<br>March 20–21 |      | Summer Solstice<br>(June Solstice)<br>June 20–21 |           | Autumnal Equinox<br>(September Equinox)<br>September 22–23 |      |           |      |      |           |
|  | A.M. | P.M.        | Daylength  | A.M. | P.M.   | Daylength | A.M.   | P.M. | Daylength | A.M. | P.M. | Daylength |
| 0°   | 6:00 | 6:00        | 12:00  | 6:00 | 6:00   | 12:00     | 6:00   | 6:00 | 12:00     | 6:00 | 6:00 | 12:00     |
| 30°  | 6:58 | 5:02        | 10:04  | 6:00 | 6:00   | 12:00     | 5:02   | 6:58 | 13:56     | 6:00 | 6:00 | 12:00     |
| 40°  | 7:26 | 4:34        | 9:00   | 6:00 | 6:00   | 12:00     | 4:34   | 7:26 | 15:00     | 6:00 | 6:00 | 12:00     |
| 50°  | 8:05 | 3:55        | 7:50   | 6:00 | 6:00   | 12:00     | 3:55   | 8:05 | 16:10     | 6:00 | 6:00 | 12:00     |
| 60°  | 9:15 | 2:45        | 5:30   | 6:00 | 6:00   | 12:00     | 2:45   | 9:15 | 18:30     | 6:00 | 6:00 | 12:00     |
| 90° No sunlight  |      |             | Rising Sun                                       |      | Continuous sunlight                              |           | Setting Sun  |      |           |      |      |           |

**2.** Estimate the approximate length of daylight for the following locations:

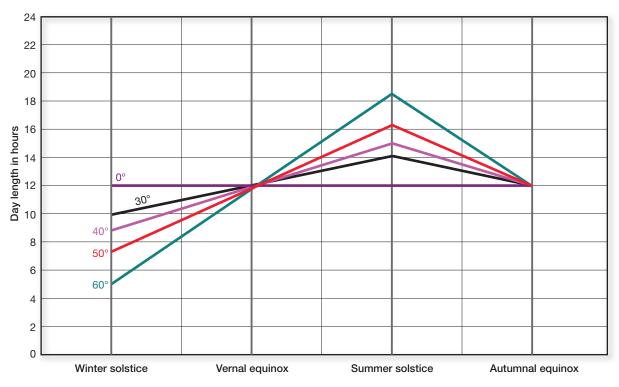






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3. Complete the following graph, using the values for daylength calculated in Question 1 for the following latitudes:  $0^{\circ}$ ,  $30^{\circ}$ ,  $40^{\circ}$ ,  $50^{\circ}$ ,  $60^{\circ}$ , and  $90^{\circ}$ . Use a different color for each latitude. The line for  $30^{\circ}$  has already been done for you.



▲ Figure 5.2 Daylength and latitude

**4.** Explain how changes in the Sun's angle above the horizon and daylength vary with the seasons at the equator,  $30^{\circ}$ ,  $60^{\circ}$ , and  $90^{\circ}$ . What is the general relationship between latitude and the amount of seasonal change?

Seasonal changes in daylength increases with increasing latitude. The equator has 12 hour days throughout the year, and the poles have 24 hours variation in day length from summer to winter.





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