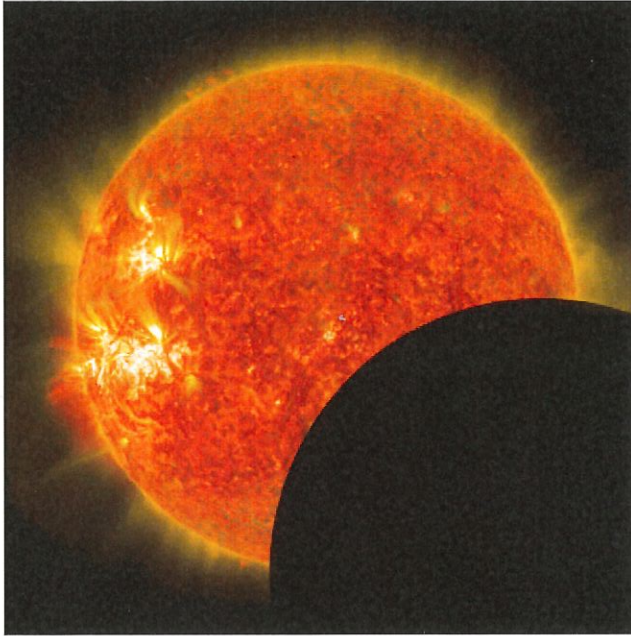


Task cards A - solar eclipses

A



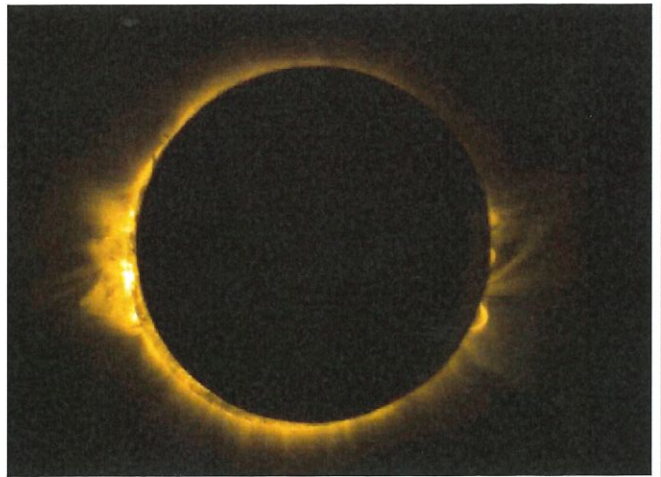
A



A



A



Task cards A - lunar eclipses

B



B



B



B



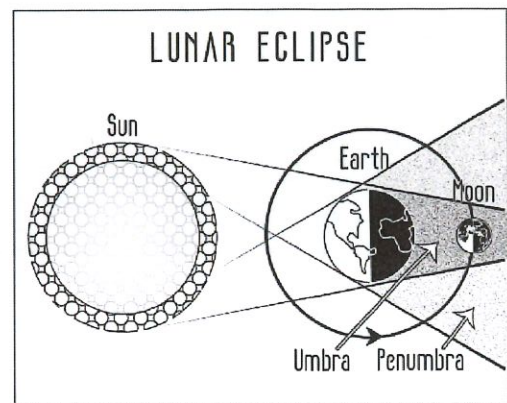
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## What is an Eclipse?

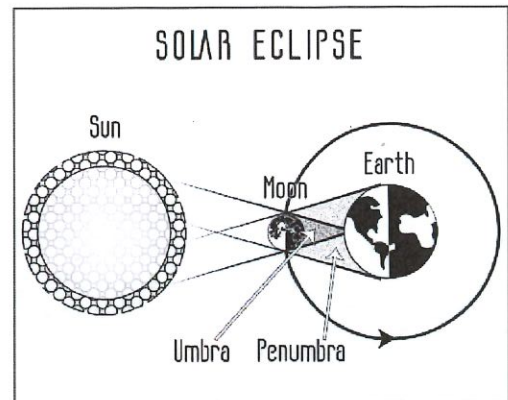
Have you hear the work “eclipse” before? An eclipse is an astronomical event (event that happens in the sky) when an object in the sky moves into the shadow of another object.

There are two types of eclipses. Eclipses don't happen very often because the sun, the Earth, and the moon need to line up perfectly. Therefore, each type of eclipse happens about twice a year.

A lunar eclipse happens when the full moon passes through the Earth's shadow. Because the Earth's shadow is large the eclipse can last a few hours. This type of eclipse is visible from over half of the Earth (where ever the moon is above the horizon). During a lunar eclipse some light refracts, or changes direction. This causes the moon to look a dull red color.



A solar eclipse occurs when the moon is between the Earth. This is when the moon is in its new moon phase and can't be seen from Earth. In this position, sometimes the moon blocks the light from the sun by casting a shadow on Earth. Sometimes this shadow is partial, hence it's called a partial eclipse. Other times, the shadow completely covers the Earth and is called a total eclipse. The moons casts a small shadow. Because of this, a solar eclipse is only visible within a narrow band across the Earth. A total eclipse only lasts a few minutes.



Which type of eclipse are you most likely to see? \_\_\_\_\_ Why?

\_\_\_\_\_