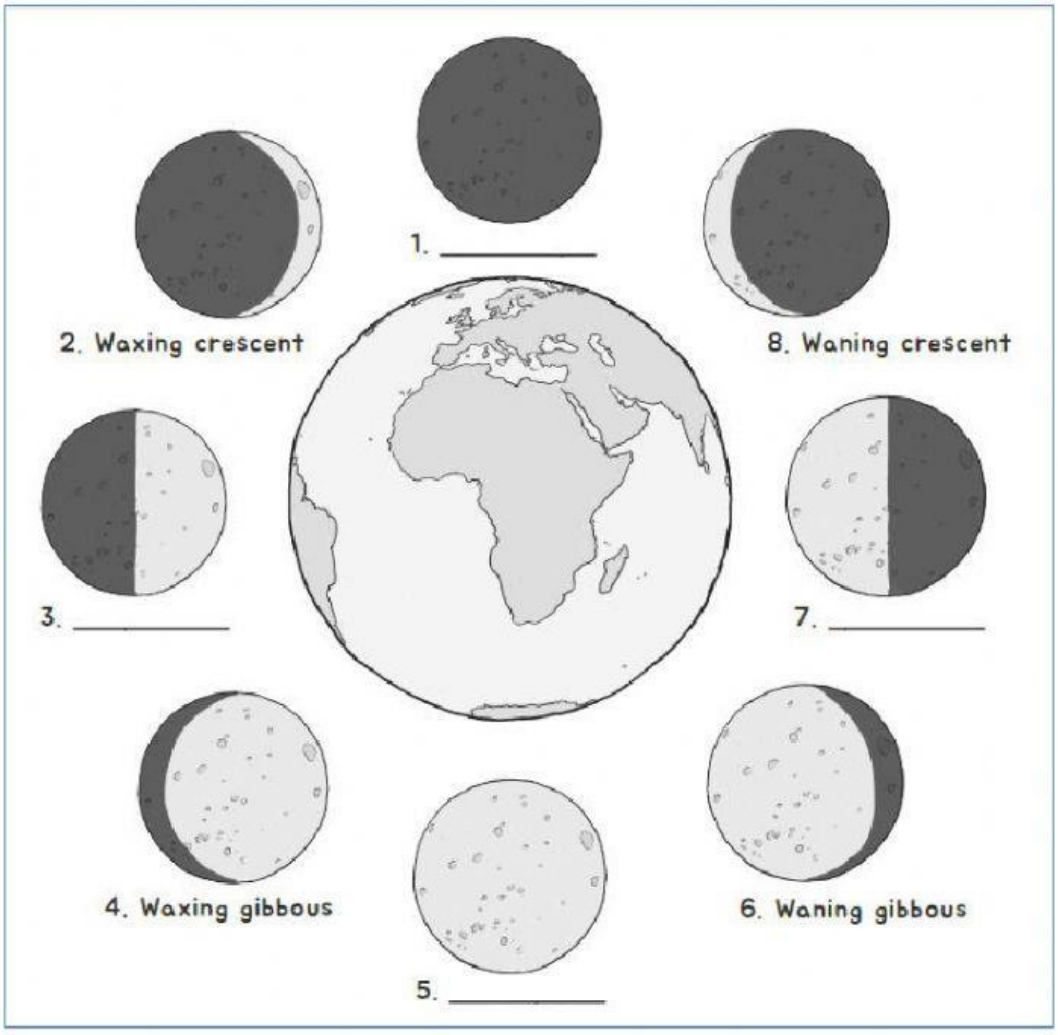
The Moon: A Natural Satellite

The Moon is not a planet, but a natural satellite that circles the Earth. The Moon reflects light from the sun, like a mirror. As the Moon orbits Earth, sunlight hits different areas of the Moon, making it visible. These changes are called **phases**.

At the **New Moon** phase, the Moon is very hard to see because it's between the Earth and the sun, and it is not lit up. The Moon becomes visible during the **Waxing Crescent** phase, but we can only see a small piece of it. During the **First Quarter** moon, you can see half of the moon. The Moon looks like it is almost full in the **Waxing Gibbous** phase. When there's a **Full Moon**, it is fully facing the sun causing it to appear fully lit up. Then, the **Waning Gibbous** phase is when the moon begins shrinking and we can see all but a small sliver. In the **Last Quarter**, you can see half of the moon again. The last phase before a **New Moon** is the **Waning Crescent** phase, which is when the Moon appears as a small crescent shape again.

A) Label each phase of the moon below using the information from above.



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B) Choose one option to answer the questions about lunar eclipses.



1) What is a lunar eclipse?

When the Moon passes in front of the Sun

When the Earth casts a shadow on the Moon

When the Sun is blocked by another planet

2) What color will the Moon sometimes appear during a lunar eclipse?

Yellow

Red

Purple

3) When does a lunar eclipse happen?

During new moon

During a first quarter moon

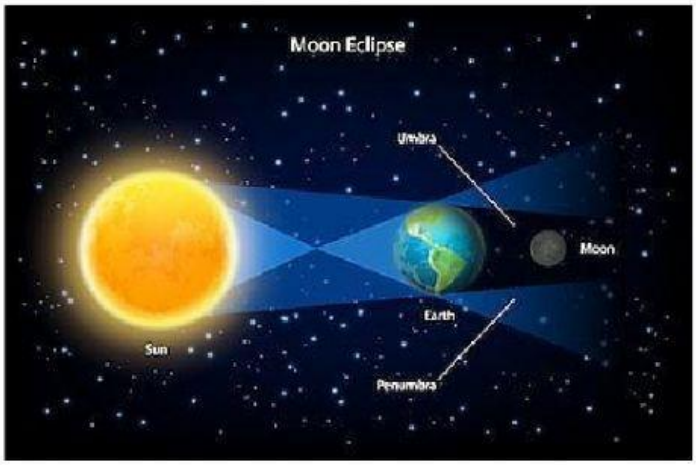
During a full moon

4) How long can a lunar eclipse last?

for a few hours

for a few days

for a few minutes



LIVEWORKSHEETS