

## **Roland-Story Natural Resources Class**

## Meteorology Unit Chapter 2 Study Guide



| Name po   | oints earned |
|---|--------------|
| =   | ble points   |
| Explain how annual variations in the earth-sun distance account for s temperature changes.        | easonal      |
| 2. Why does the amount of solar energy received at Earth's surface charangle of the sun changes?  | nge when the |
| 3. List four characteristics of the summer solstice for the Northern Hem the Southern Hemisphere. | isphere. For |
| 4. What is meant by temperature? Heat?  |              |

| 5. | Describe the three basic mechanisms of energy transfer. Which mechanism is least important meteorologically?                          |
|----|---|
| 6. | What is the difference between convection and advection?  |
| 7. | Compare visible, infrared and ultraviolet radiation. For each, indicate whether it is considered short wavelength or long wavelength. |
| 8. | In what part of the electromagnetic spectrum does solar radiation have the highest intensity?   |

| 9.  | Describe the relationship between the temperature of a radiating body and the wavelengths it emits.                   |
|-----|---|
| 10  | . Why does the daytime sky usually appear blue?   |
| 11. | . Why may the sky appear to have a red or orange tint near sunrise or sunset?   |
| 12. | . What factors influence albedo from time to time and from place to place?  |
| 13. | Explain why the atmosphere is heated chiefly by radiation from Earth's surface rather than by direct solar radiation. |

| 14. Which gases are the primary heat absorbers in the lower atmosphere? Which one is the most influential in weather? |
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| 15. How does Earth's atmosphere act as a 'greenhouse'?  |
|   |
| 16. What is responsible for absorbing the largest portion of incoming solar radiation?                                |
| 17. What is the atmospheric window? How is it 'closed'?   |
| 18. What two phenomena are driven by the imbalance of heating that exists between the tropics and poles?              |
|   |

| 19. Refer to figure 2-6 and calculate the noon Sun angle on June 21 and December 21 at 50 degrees north latitude, 0 degrees latitude (equator) and 20 degrees south latitude. Which of these latitudes has the greatest variation in noon Sun angle between summer and winter? |  |
|--|--|
| 20. How would our seasons be affected if Earth's axis were not inclined 23.5 degrees to the plane of its orbit but were instead perpendicular?   |  |
| 21. Define the following terms by using the web site at <a href="www.rsffa.com">www.rsffa.com</a> , go to Meteorology link and play the hangman game.  |  |
| a. Albedo  |  |
| b. Equinox   |  |
| c. blackbody radiation   |  |
| d. conduction  |  |

| e. | convection                |
|----|---------------------------|
| f. | electromagnetic radiation |
| g. | electromagnetic spectrum  |
| h. | greenhouse effect         |
| i. | infrared radiation        |
| j. | kinetic                   |
| k. | light scattering          |
| 1. | longwave radiation        |
| m. | perihelion                |
| n. | advection                 |
| 0. | potential                 |
| p. | revolution                |
| q. | rotation                  |
| r. | shortwave radiation       |
| S. | spring equinox            |

- t. solstice
- u. Tropic of Cancer
- v. Tropic of Capricorn
- w. ultraviolet