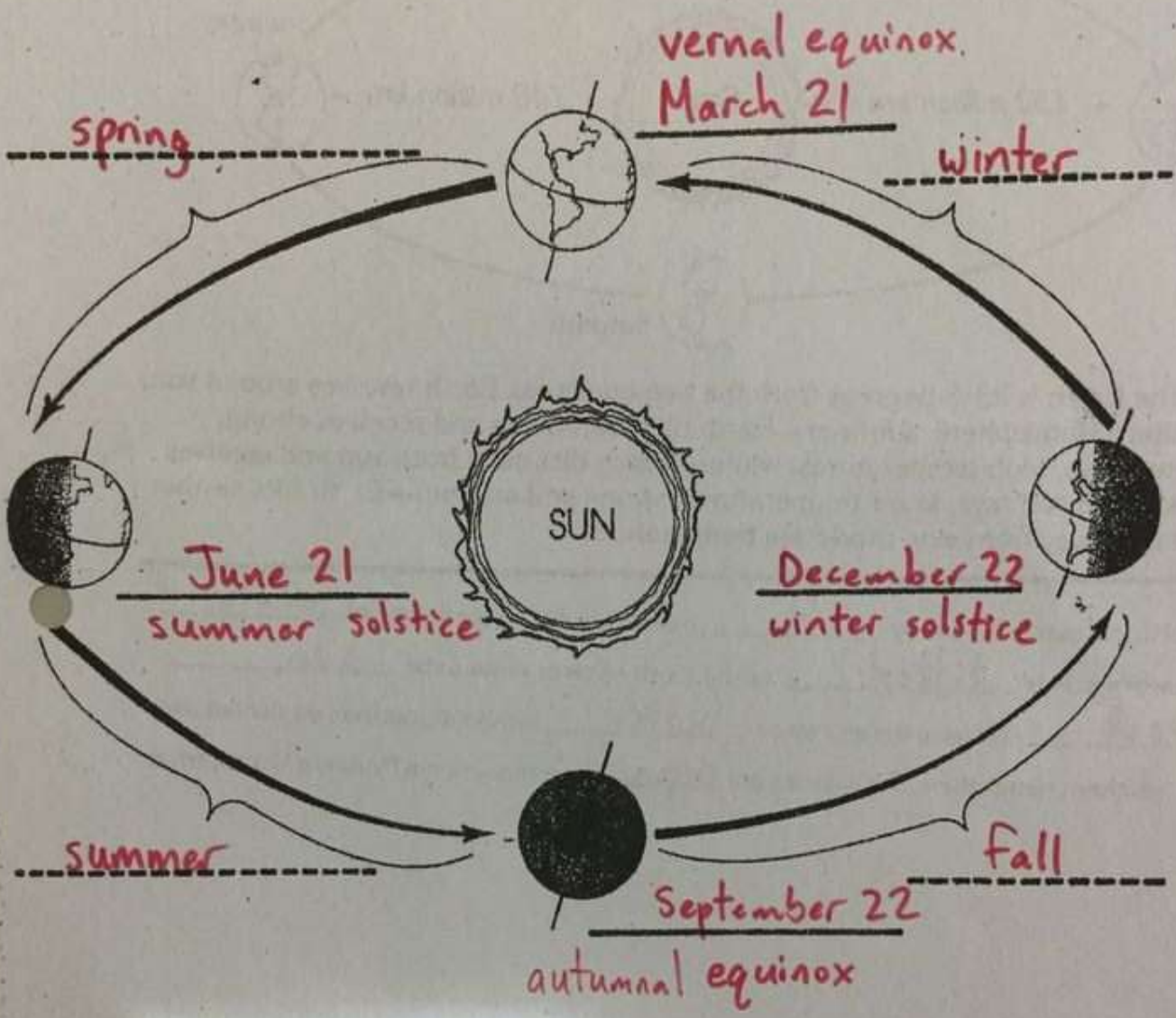
The Seasons

Name_____

The diagram below shows the Earth's position in its orbit on four different dates. On the solid line label the equinox dates. On the dotted lines name the season for the Northern Hemisphere.



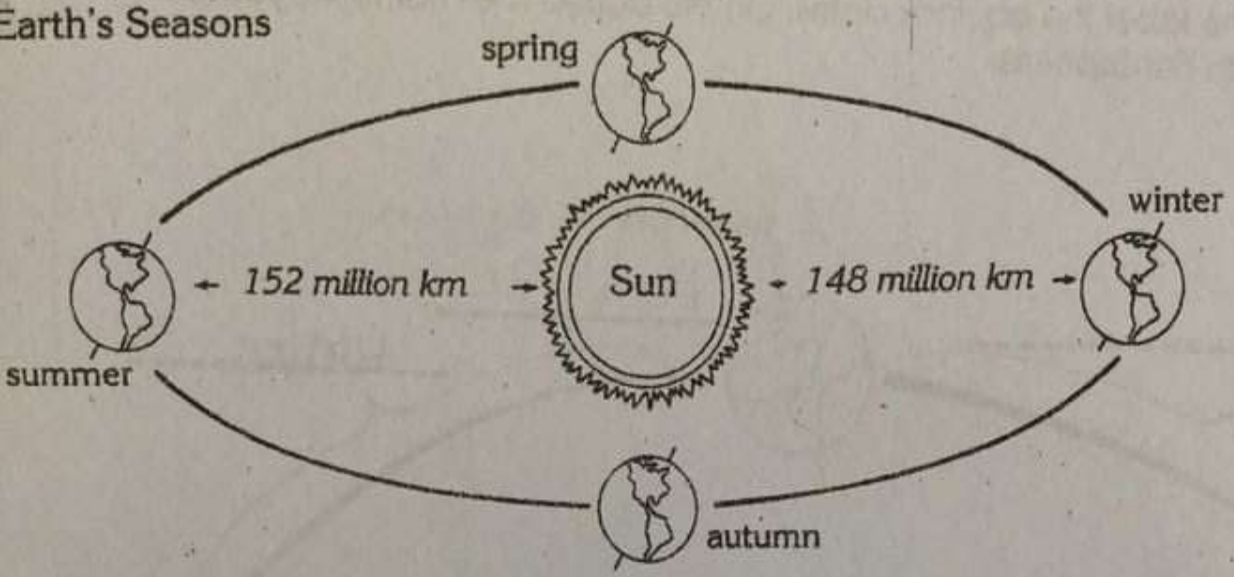
WORD BANK

March 21	December 22	spring	fall
September 22	June 21	winter	summer

Name _____
Period ____

Earth's Seasons

Earth's Seasons



Tilt of the Earth is 23½ degrees from the perpendicular. Earth revolves around sun. In Northern Hemisphere: summer—Earth tilts toward sun and receives strong, direct sun rays, high temperatures; winter—Earth tilts away from sun and receives weak, slanted sun rays, lower temperatures; spring and autumn—Earth tilts neither toward nor away from sun, moderate temperatures.

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1. The Earth is closer to the sun by 4 million km during the season of winter.
2. The Earth's axis is tilted as the Earth revolves around the sun.
3. Direct rays from the sun cause hotter temperatures than do slanted rays.
4. In the Southern Hemisphere, the seasons are opposite those in the Northern Hemisphere.